




Inform.
Educate.
Inspire.





Equal Access was founded to create positive social change for millions of underserved people across the developing world.

Inform. Educate. Inspire. is more than our tagline, it reflects the continuum of change achieved by our beneficiaries through interaction with our innovative media and community engagement services.

Inform — the simple act of receiving vital information at just the right time can profoundly impact the course of one's life. We provide practical life-changing information that helps people help themselves.

Educate — without education that develops essential life skills and a belief in one's personal power to affect change, individuals struggle to apply new information in ways that yield positive results. Our programs foster human development and personal empowerment.

Inspire — even with adequate information and education, it often takes the social cohesion and courage derived from group dialogue and peer support to mobilize significant change. Our leadership trainings and community empowerment activities compliment our media programming - driving the continuum of positive change by inspiring individuals and communities to achieve shared goals.

Our Approach

Equal Access' ability to inspire positive social change is rooted in the universal tradition of storytelling. At a time when our world is experiencing unprecedented challenges, we are the media makers and community action facilitators working to ***change the story***

united in the belief that education, human development and dialogue are essential to solving critical challenges and improving lives

passionate about using the power and reach of interactive media and community action to inform and inspire the voices, stories and movements driving positive change

dedicated to inspiring individuals and communities to realize their highest potential

With gratitude for your support, we share the stories, voices and movements of beneficiaries who have become more informed, educated and empowered through our programs and act as "change-makers" in their communities. For every story and voice featured there are millions more...

Please join us and be part of this transformation.

“These radio shows are one hundred percent useful! It is so important for farmers to know the specific time of reaping. We learned that we shouldn’t reap the wheat whenever the wheat plant becomes yellowish—the reaping process should be delayed until the wheat plants become completely ripe. I also learned about how to control plant disease which will not only help me but other farmers too. I will be glad if you broadcast more and this helps all of the farmers across the country.”

Lutfullah from Parwan, Afghanistan

“I bought 140 Kg onion and I didn’t know how to store and keep it. I used the method which I learned from your farm radio show and now every day I am checking the onion storage. If I didn’t call in to your radio program, I would never know how to store onions and keep them safe from diseases. As we do not have many agriculture experts in Afghanistan that is why I suggest and request that if possible continue these programs and inform us about all agriculture issues.”

Abdul Samad from Mazari Sharif, Afghanistan

“I have gained new knowledge about fish feeding from your show Success Starts with You. Now I can produce fish feed myself without spending too much money buying feed from the market. You really did help me to get success in my business, which is helping me improve my living standard.”

Fish raiser from Kratie province, Cambodia

A photograph of a young boy standing next to a large black water buffalo in a field of dry grass. The boy is wearing a grey jacket and pants, and is holding a small object in his hand. The buffalo has large horns and is wearing a decorative headband. The background shows a blue sky with clouds and mountains in the distance.

Improving Living Standards through Radio and SMS

About the Programs

Equal Access (EA) creates positive social change on the most critical challenges affecting people in the developing world including women's & girls' empowerment, youth life skills & livelihoods, human rights, health, civic participation & governance and agriculture & economic development.

By combining the power and broad reach of innovative media with direct community mobilization, our beneficiaries receive life changing information and education and are inspired to overcome daunting challenges and improve their lives.

Women's & Girls' Empowerment

With untapped and unacknowledged potential, millions of women and girls across the developing world are subject to oppression and denied human rights simply because they are female. Whether forced into childhood marriage, denied access to education, trafficked into the sex trade, raped as a tool of war, victimized by domestic violence, or prevented from full participation in civil society, women and girls have too long endured assaults to their dignity, intelligence and power.

Youth Life Skills & Livelihoods

By 2020 the world's population under 30 will reach 4 billion – with the majority of these youth living in the developing world. In least developed countries where Equal Access fulfills its mission, youth under 30 already comprise more than 50% of the population. Weak governments, dysfunctional education systems and a lack of employment opportunities leave youth without the skills or resources to fulfill their potential – increasingly vulnerable to discouragement, extremist influences and violence.

Human Rights

The experience of rural and marginalized people struggling to survive through persistent conflicts, recurring human rights abuses and exploitative situations is rarely heard or documented. Often tolerated as the norm, human rights abuses based on caste, gender, religious, ethnic or social divisions continue unabated and unaddressed.

Civic Participation & Governance

Widespread illiteracy, weak governments and post-conflict scenarios leave individuals and communities without the information or skills they need to protect their rights, demand accountability of their governments or participate more fully in shaping their societies. Likewise, new leaders and governments often need training on transparency and how to be accountable to their constituents.

Agriculture & Economic Development

Every morning around the world children are waking up hungry. Parents are struggling to ensure there is enough food for their families and young people are struggling to find ways to make ends meet. With more than half of the workforce in developing countries working in agriculture – a majority of which are women – adoption of more sustainable agricultural and livelihoods practices are essential to address global poverty and reduce suffering.

Health

With severely limited access to basic information on a range of health issues and services, millions of rural and underserved communities across Asia, Africa and the Middle East struggle to make informed choices or receive the care and support needed to foster health and save lives.

Equal Access is *Changing the Story.*

Every day, whether gaining new knowledge of their rights by listening to our serial radio dramas and trusted chat show hosts, mobilizing social change at community discussion groups, or acquiring leadership skills at our trainings, millions of women and girls are transforming their lives and their communities. With our help they are claiming their inherent power and dignity – able to migrate more safely, resist traffickers, reduce child marriage, recover from and reduce violence, and be heard.

EA pioneered the use of an integrated, participatory media and youth engagement model produced *by youth for youth* to empower young people and address the root causes of violence and alienation. In each country, our program addresses these root causes by providing education on 10 vital life skills through a nationally broadcast interactive youth-led radio series, leadership trainings, new media and SMS engagement, discussion groups and civic activities. Recognizing youth for their enormous potential, we elevate young voices, build self-esteem, provide livelihoods training and empower them as social change agents worldwide.

Our dynamic media and community action initiatives provide essential knowledge of basic human rights and how to protect them. Modeling tolerance and respect by emphasizing listening and dialogue, local solutions and direct access to support services, even the most marginalized are not only heard, but able to affect positive change.

Our groundbreaking programs provide civic education through serial dramas, roundtable discussions and interviews for millions across each country, while our targeted trainings build the capacity of local leaders and government officials. We bring elected officials, community leaders, local journalists and everyday citizens together for town hall forums to discuss issues and achieve collective solutions. By combining informative media shows with targeted trainings and public forums, a more informed and engaged citizenry holds leaders accountable, and newly trained leaders are more responsive to their constituents.

Through informative media programs that provide access to industry experts and best practices, EA is educating farmers and local entrepreneurs on how to run successful farms and agricultural businesses. With our help they are raising more and healthier animals on less, preserving harvested crops, saving money responsibly and building expertise in sustainable farming practices. These skills are helping feed their families, raise them out of poverty, fuel economic development and ensure food sources will be available for generations to come.

Every day, our popular radio and TV dramas and chat shows combined with mobile SMS, street theater performances, community outreach activities provide vital information and education on HIV/AIDS, malaria, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, family planning, nutrition and sanitation—supporting communities to protect and advance their health.



Sesame Street Afghanistan

Equal Access, in collaboration with Sesame Workshop (the non-profit educational organization behind Sesame Street), is producing and broadcasting an original radio series *Baghch-e-Simsim* or *Sesame Garden* in Afghanistan based on Sesame Workshop's TV series of the same name. Featuring the Muppets from Sesame Street, original Afghan children's songs, games and stories, *Sesame Garden* is engaging and educating young children across the country. *Sesame Garden* is designed to educate children while raising awareness and motivating new behavior on the part of parents and caregivers. With 92% radio ownership and large-scale listenership, especially in rural areas, radio is a trusted vehicle holding great potential to bridge critical gaps in children's cognitive, social and emotional education. In consultation with the Afghan Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Affairs, *Sesame Garden* is produced and broadcast in Dari and Pashto.

Each episode features:

- A letter and number of the day
- An adventure story and game led by Muppets and children
- A segment that follows an Afghan family modeling positive interactions between parents and children
- A caregiver tip delivered by childhood education experts and/or real parents



Drawings by Afghan children in response to listening to *Baghch-e-Simsim* (Sesame Garden) radio series.

“Sesame Workshop is proud to work with Equal Access to create a radio series that not only seeks to educate and prepare children for a lifetime of learning, but does so in a way that utilizes the most impactful and effective form of media in Afghanistan. With less than two-thirds of Afghanistan’s children enrolled in primary school, Baghch-e-Simsim provides content that is critical to children’s education countrywide.”

H. Melvin Ming, CEO and President of Sesame Workshop



“It is the first time that I listen to a radio program with my daughter and I felt so happy when she asked me about some segments of your program. I will definitely listen to all your radio programs with my children and I am sure that they will enjoy and learn something from these programs.”

Mother, Balkh Province

Youth Voices from Worldwide Programs

“We really enjoy Let’s be the Best Together and it changes how we live. You shed the light on youth issues and develop youth skills so we can be pioneers in future areas of life. We hope for tangible solutions to the problems our society is suffering from. Listening to the program encourages us...we learned how to have meaningful discussions and how to work together within the framework of society.”

Youth listening and discussion group participant, Hadramout, Yemen

“Chatting with My Best Friend is addressing adolescent’s mental, physical and emotional development issues in our Nawalparasi district and across our whole country. We listen to the program in a group and, after the program is over, we discuss the issues raised in the program. This has made it easier to address various youth issues like drug abuse and HIV/AIDS in our communities. Chatting... plays a very supportive role for volunteer peer educators like us...”

Dauntari Educator’s group, Nawalparasi district, Nepal

“We listened to the Youth Boulevard episodes on advantages of growing crops out of season. This prompted our three clubs to work together to plant crops in a local nursery in order to fight the problem of desertification. We also started to make our own products to treat the plants, rather than waiting for the state to provide these products for us, or using chemical ones. These programs help us take charge of our lives and work together... they teach us, and guide us in our lives.”

Dan Inna, president of a listening club in the Maradi region of Niger

“Before I didn’t like to speak in public – I lacked courage. But after listening to the show, I became a confident and hard-working student. The program taught me how to work in a team, and I also gained more experience sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas with other friends.”

Poeuk Airin, high school student participant in Equal Access in-school youth life skills media and outreach initiative, Cambodia



Step by Step: Empowering and Engaging Women in Pakistan

Voices for Peace

Pakistan's Northwest region, particularly FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province is one of the most at-risk parts of the country. These Pashto-speaking communities, often characterized as ungovernable and controlled by insurgents, suffer from ongoing conflict, collapsed peace talks, worsening socio-economic conditions, and targeted recruitment of youth by insurgent groups. Women are particularly vulnerable. Often illiterate, women spend a majority of time at home and are subjected to illegal extremist radio programming dominating the airwaves. While marginalized, women have great influence within their families to discourage or encourage participation in extremist activities. To empower women and provide a trusted forum for dialogue on alternatives to violence, Equal Access produces the radio series *Step by Step (Kadam Pa Kadam)* combined with mobile SMS interactivity and community listening and discussion groups. Everyday, millions tune in to lively discussions on women's rights and their role in society, a peace building serial drama and youth features on positive civic engagement - interspersed with Pashto poetry and traditional songs. 40 Equal Access Community Reporters (50% women) gather "voices from the field" while women and whole communities gather to listen to *Step by Step* and discuss issues raised within the context of their daily lives. Through these discussions, SMS feedback and the wide popularity of *Step by Step* with millions across the region, women are less isolated, more represented and inspired to make positive changes in their homes and communities.

Did You Know?

- Among a random sample size (650), 50% of the people of FATA are regular listeners of *Step by Step* —Source TNS Aftab, Karachi Research Firm
- Listener club participants revealed that previously they were unaware of women's rights in the context of Islam and Pakistan's Constitution; and now they are aware of Women's Rights and the vital societal role women play in bringing peace and development
- For approximately 2 cents (\$.002) per listener, Equal Access' *Step by Step* provides vital livelihoods, peace-building and civic information every week to more than 4 million people in NW Pakistan

Less Isolated through Group Discussions



"My name is Naila, and I am a regular listener of radio and love to listen to *Step by Step*. At the age of 20, I was exceptionally busy in the household chores as many other housewives who married after finishing school. One day I tuned to a radio channel broadcasting *Step by Step*. I could not resist listening to all of it - to its very end. I later found out about the *Step by Step* listeners' club in Charsadda. I joined and now take part in all activities around the radio programs.

I have come to know about many things in the outside world through *Step by Step*. It gave me the realization to think about my life and how to live it better. It's not only me who listens --- almost all of the ladies in our family like to hear this program. Their obsession with this radio show changed their perspective about women working outside the home.

Before when I decided to use my education and abilities to become a teacher, my family strictly opposed the idea. But *Step by Step*'s interviews with women got my families attention. The women interviewed had jobs in different sectors and were living a successful, happy life with their families. It was the emphasis given to the contributions of women to their families and the positive role they can play in community development that changed my family. *Step by Step* gradually convinced my family to allow me to join a profession and bring benefits to our home just as the women in the interviews.

I now teach in a private school in my town. It's not only that I am earning for myself and contributing to home expenses, I am so happy that I am transferring my knowledge to younger ones, which is my contribution to the society.

I can say proudly that *Step by Step* has made my heaven.

Thanks!
Naila

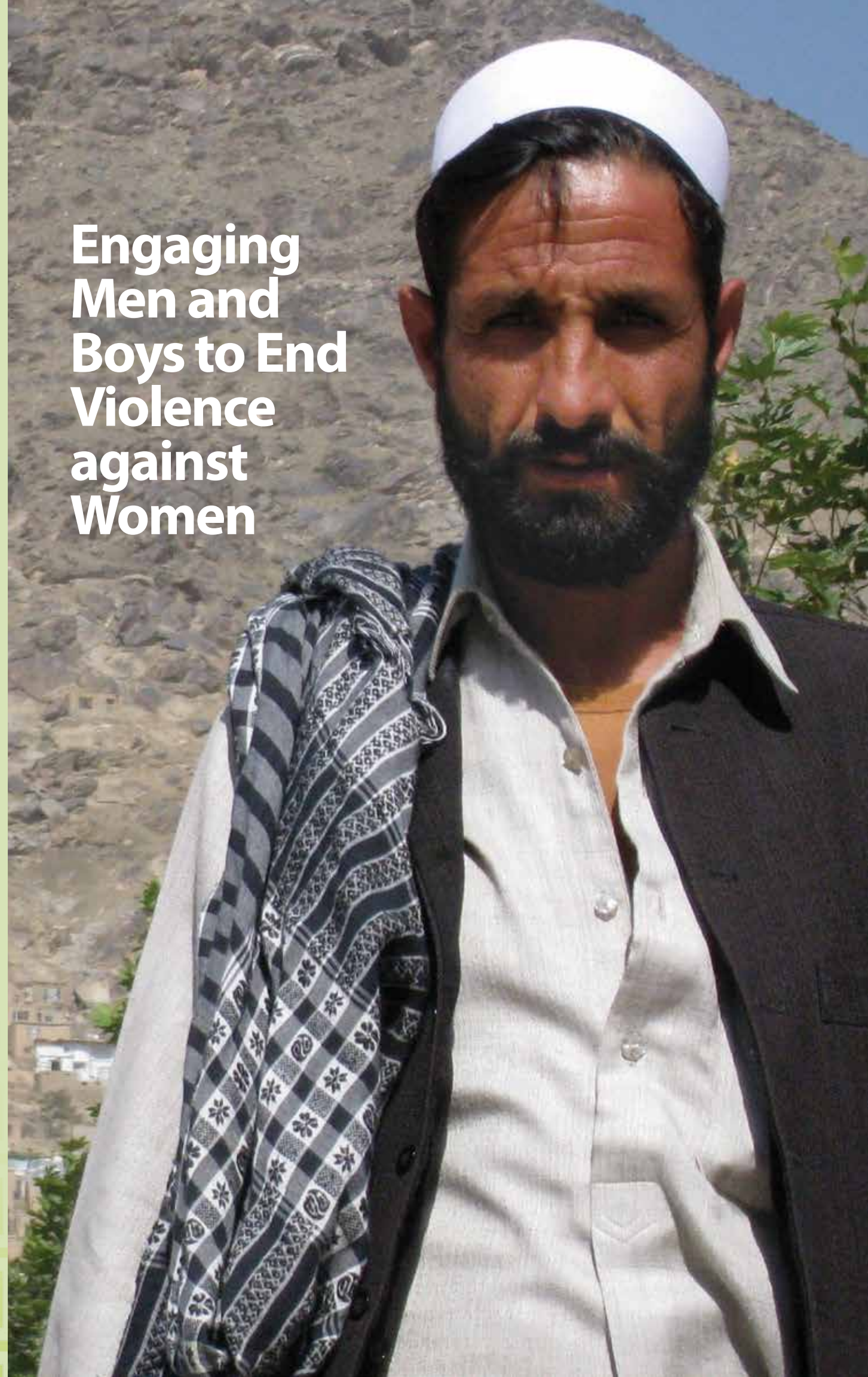
“I am a farmer brought up in a remote area of Balkh province. Two years ago we moved to the center of Balkh Province, Mazar-e-Sharif. I married when I was 15 years old and now have five children (two sons and three daughters). My eldest child is a 9 year-old girl. My wife is illiterate. Although she urged me many times to enroll my daughter in a school, I regularly refused and even beat my wife to discourage her from raising such issues.

One day I was working in Doctor Shekeb’s house while he was organizing a listening circle for the radio show Women’s Rights in the Light of Islam and he invited me to participate. When I listened to the first program of this fruitful circle, I became indebted to this course. So far, I have participated in seven sessions of this program which has CHANGED MY MIND!

I have come to understand that in Islam we are ordered to seek knowledge for men and for women. Women have rights to education and work and beating them is forbidden and we have to care for their rights. Not only have I enrolled my daughter in a girls’ school, but I have also encouraged my wife to go to a literacy course. I haven’t beaten my wife since I began listening to these programs and we are so happy. Many thanks to your organization for these programs.”

Khellaudin, listening circle member Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan

Engaging Men and Boys to End Violence against Women



The MEDIA Initiative, Nepal

Media Empowerment for Democratic Information Access

To strengthen the role of independent media as a strong foundation for Nepal's fragile but emerging democracy, Equal Access is implementing a strategic combination of activities which strengthen the media's capacity to resist threats and earn public and governmental respect by acting in the public interest. A key feature is the development and provision of online and mobile phone based social networking software and tools. Two online platforms created through this initiative are MeroReport (a citizen journalism network for Nepali bloggers) and MediaManch (an online social networking platform for the journalist community to improve professionalism, security and freedom of expression through open discussion among Nepali media workers). Combined with Nepal's first media legal defense fund, media monitoring and analysis, training on media laws and conflict sensitive reporting, this initiative is empowering journalists, citizen journalists and youth ensuring media and civil society play effective roles in shaping Nepal's democracy.

Project Activities:

- Training on media law and rights and working in conflict areas for more than 2,000 media workers including most-at-risk journalists
- Production and dissemination of a TV documentary, 24 radio episodes and 24 print investigative pieces addressing threats to and the role of independent media in Nepal
- Two online and mobile phone based platforms strengthening the professionalism and resources available to media workers and enabling citizen journalists to publish newsworthy accounts
- Online mapping with Ushihidi software enabling citizens to send SMS from remote areas to update journalists and the online community on conflict incidents
- Media monitoring and analysis tools to expose corruption, undue influence or unprofessionalism (and use of data to advocate for more reliable/accurate reporting on transitional issues)
- Establishment of a Media Defenders legal and pro bono support mechanism connected to a legal referral system for journalists – ensuring protection for journalists at risk and punishment for those who perpetrate violence against the media



To educate and train young people to leverage social media networks responsibly, Equal Access is conducting “social media surgeries” across Nepal and designing new platforms for professional and citizen journalists. Our informal “social media surgeries” train youth to use web and online platforms to communicate, advocate and collaborate. Youth learn technical aspects such as creating blogs, developing engaging content, using privacy settings and protecting their identity.

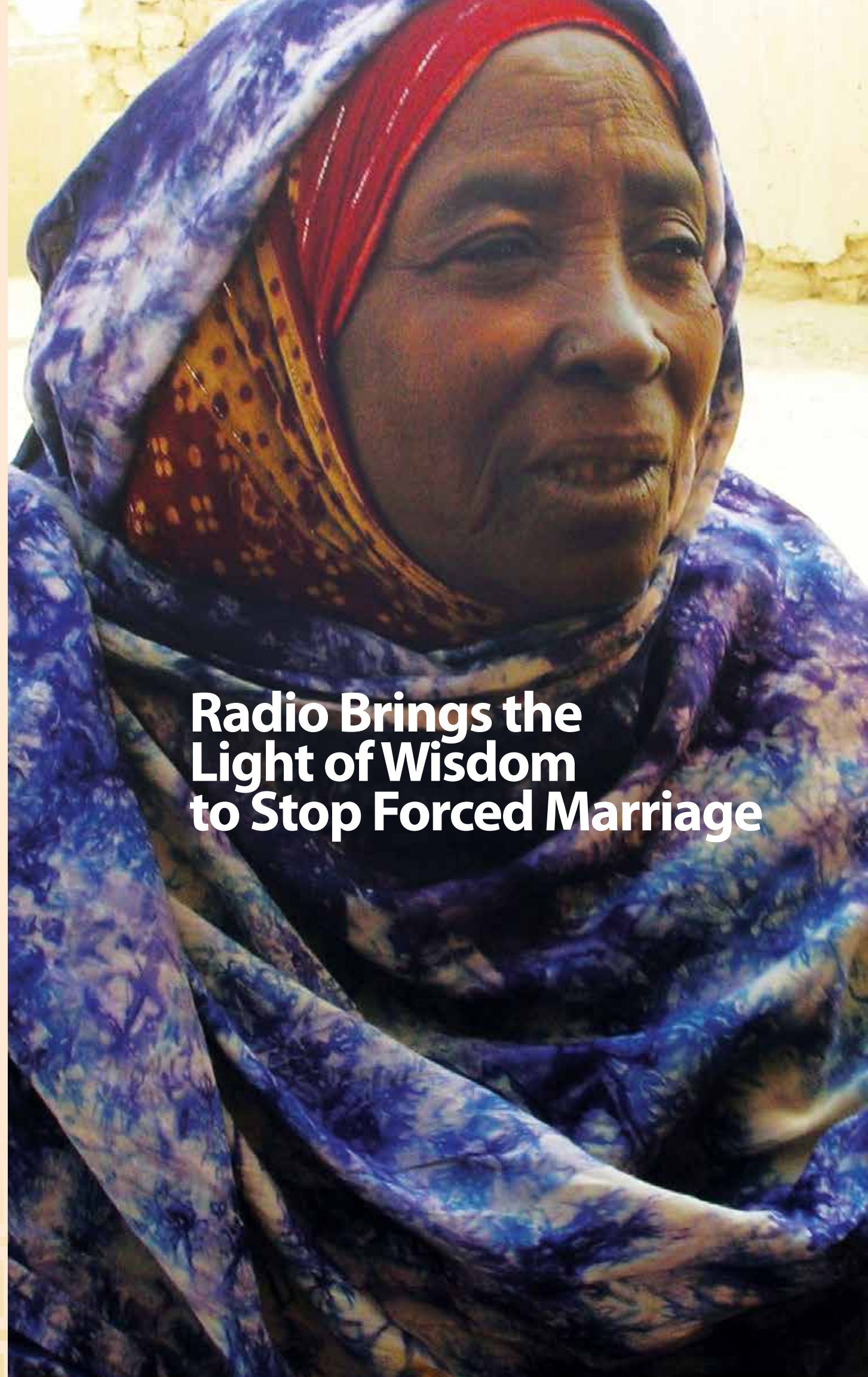


“I witnessed a great change in my brother due to your Hantsi radio drama. He has a daughter whom he wanted to marry off against her will. His wife and I tried to dissuade him, but he refused and threatened to throw her and his daughter out of the house if they disobeyed. By chance, I was at his house when Hantsi Leka Gildan Kowa aired the episode on forced marriage, which included live calls from listeners. Even though his radio broke while we were listening, we continued to listen through the wall to our neighbor’s house. The very next day, my sister-in-law told me that my brother renounced his decision to force his daughter to marry because the Hantsi radio drama opened his eyes to the great error he was about to make.”

Ouallé, president of a listening group in Tessaoua, Niger

The title of this Equal Access radio series, *Hantsi Leka Gidan Kowa* means “the sun’s rays that illuminate the hearth of the home”.

Radio Brings the Light of Wisdom to Stop Forced Marriage



Peace through Development in Chad and Niger

The African Sahel, one of the world's poorest regions, suffers from weak governance, ethnic and religious tensions, youth unemployment and increased vulnerability to violent extremism. As a key partner on USAID's Peace through Development (PDEV1) project, Equal Access is working to increase tolerance, address key drivers of conflict, empower at-risk youth with life skills and livelihoods training, and foster positive community actions which render superfluous ideologies that promote violence.

With six interactive radio series, millions of loyal listeners and active listening and discussion groups across Chad and Niger, we are fostering new understandings and dialogue among groups divided by tribal lines, religious beliefs, socioeconomic status, and other boundaries. With thousands of SMS and IVR messages, emails, radio call-ins, and letters, our media and community driven activities provide platforms to address grievances through peaceful means, while empowering every individual with a voice in national dialogues and local solutions.

"Promoting Solidarity gives everyone a say. I loved the episodes on extremism, neighborliness, and inheritance. Promoting Solidarity opened my eyes! Since I began to listen, I respect all different religions and I preach for peace. This program brings people together and unites them, and it fosters tolerance among communities. In my view there is nothing better than this. I ask that this program continue and be extended to all the regions of Niger."

Malam Abdou Amadou, Marabout and Preacher, Niger

Did You Know?

- The *Promoting Solidarity* radio series marked the first time that Muslims and Christians engaged in on air conversations on PDEV themes. In a chat/magazine format with Muslim and Christian co-hosts, 84 religious leaders participate and provide perspective, expertise, and credibility to the content



"Equal Access's work has been exceptional in terms of quality of work and communication of their work. The success of the media component of the award, including dissemination of peace programming to over 8 million persons in Niger, can be largely attributed to Equal Access's efforts."

Kevin Sharpe- USAID COTR



Inspiring and Transforming Millions of Lives Story by Story



One third of all Nigeriens tuned into Equal Access peacebuilding programming every month according to a national survey of more than 2,000 respondents conducted by the independent survey firm Intermedia.



Equal Access constructed and launched 6 FM radio stations in rural Chad bringing critical information to remote populations for the first time and covering 3% of the land mass in one of Africa's largest countries.



Yemeni youth participated in 2,966 listening and discussion group sessions while 589 youth organized activities promoting religious harmony, moderation and tolerance, inspired by EA's youth-led interactive radio series with a reach to 4.2 million youth across the country.



400 rural Afghan female/male community, government and religious leaders were trained on women's rights in Islam; and EA produces and broadcasts human rights programming with a reach to 10 million Afghans.



Nepali media workers and citizen journalists flocked to two online communities focused on the role of media and the public voice in Nepal's democratic transition. More than 150 youth received social media training, becoming members of the new online communities.



520,000 Cambodians benefited from a weekly small business radio program targeting agricultural value chains. This radio series has now received private sector sponsorship.

Fostering Youth Engagement in Yemen—*Let's Be the Best Together*

Yemen is experiencing unprecedented challenges. With large-scale unemployment, food shortages and diverse tribal and political groups vying for power, it is critical to engage young people in driving positive change. Youth comprise more than 65% of the population and more than half are unemployed. Providing youth with life skills and livelihoods training and positive ways to engage with civil society is essential to Yemen's stability and a more positive future.

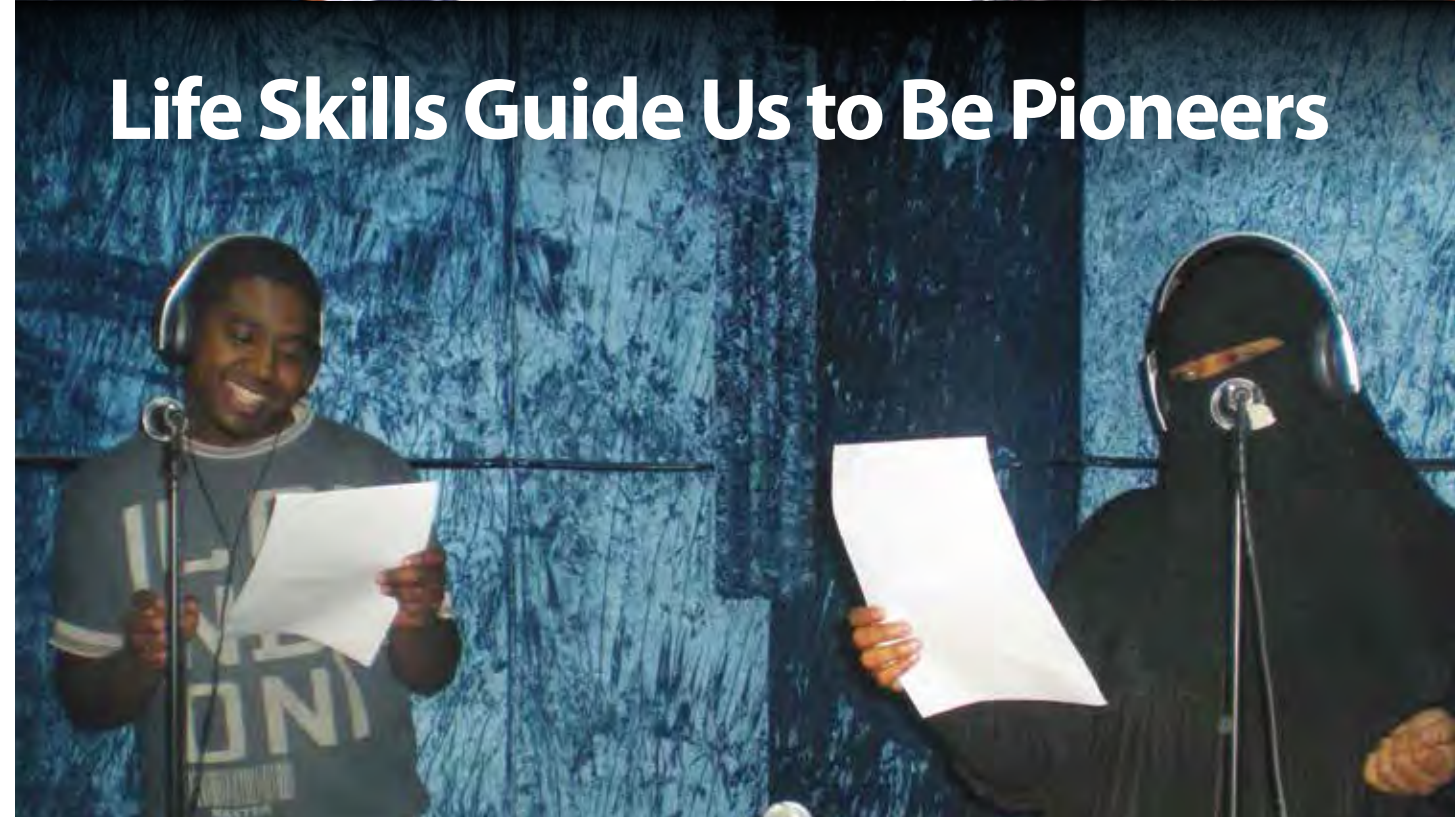
To empower young people with the tools they need, we continue to expand our groundbreaking *by youth for youth* radio series *Let's Be the Best Together* and leadership trainings for hundreds of youth, who in turn facilitate listening and discussion groups, roundtables and civic activities across the country. As groups mature, many conduct positive social actions. To encourage these activities, we award micro- grants to groups with creative plans that promote religious harmony, tolerance and a positive vision for their country. Through theatre performances, rap songs, videos, photography, painting and sports competitions, youth are finding their voice, overcoming challenges and working to create a new, more positive future.

A few of many youth inspired activities:

- **SMS campaign:** 5,000 SMS text messages sent promoting social harmony and moderation
- **Writing competitions:** the top ten creative messages on social harmony and civic engagement were sent to 1,000 people via mobile SMS
- **Planting "tolerance" on a small piece of land:** people from all levels of the society, came together to plant diverse flowers on one plot of land
- **Theatre performances on social harmony:** original plays written and performed live and distributed on DVDs to reach more youth.
- **An Arabic rap song created and recorded:** promoting love, respect and mutual support
- **Wall paintings:** youth came together to paint messages of peace on the walls in their community and to clean up the town and make the streets look cheerful



Life Skills Guide Us to Be Pioneers



Our Team

Tahmina Jurat



Producer, Equal Access Afghanistan

Since childhood, I dreamed of hosting a TV or radio show. Because of my enthusiasm and my family's support, while I was still in school and even despite obstacles to girls working in media, I secured a job with National Radio Television Afghanistan. I traveled long hours to my work and my family faced the situation with me-- they couldn't allow me to travel alone. As I grew older, I faced objections from families who opposed me working outside, considering this to be a defect for a girl. I even faced situations on my way to school which made me return home crying. Despite it all, I found my courage. I continued and also contributed some funds to help support my family. It is this passion for media and my ability to persevere against adversity that I use each day to educate children and

teenagers, inspiring them to create even bigger achievements.

Prior to joining Equal Access, some of my achievements are conducting interviews with President Karzai, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Special UN Ambassador for Poor Children; and producing an educational campaign in which I was a teacher for all of Afghanistan.

When I joined Equal Access I felt so happy and fortunate. Equal Access has a sound environment. All members work as a family, kindly behaving and they praise and encourage me. When I face problems they help me, and this gives me good feelings and positive energy to keep improving.

Working as a producer for the *Sesame Garden* radio series is so joyful. The characters are so interesting and the creative process something wonderful. Now I am happy that I am succeeding and serving my country, especially Afghanistan's children. I hope my work brings positive change to children, parents and families. Inshallah, I try my best always to become better and to serve more.

Abdullah Al-Amin



Producer, Equal Access Yemen.

I am a young Yemeni born with a keen passion for music and radio, which guided me to join Aden's local radio station. My dream was to be a radio professional but I soon realized that it is not easy for a young Yemeni to achieve this dream without connections and influence. I was so disappointed that I changed my career and became a bank employee. The job was okay- but I was not happy inside. Then a glimmer of hope appeared when I saw that Equal Access Yemen was hiring. I joined as its very first employee in 2009 and my dreams were realized. Equal Access trained me as a radio producer, providing me with the skills and platform (the *Let's Be the Best Together* youth-led radio series) to connect with millions of youth and create positive impact in their lives. Everyday, I

read young people's SMS texts and letters and listen to audio feedback telling me their lives have changed for the better due to our radio show, trainings and community outreach activities.

Before *Let's Be the Best Together* launched, youth would say they had no trust in local radios and these stations had nothing for them. Now I hear them listening to our programs everywhere, even in the taxis and buses and they like it. We raise issues that young people care about and provide them with the life skills ways to solve problems. This brings me joy and I am proud of our whole team. We are offering something special that other radios don't offer. I look forward to the day when our programs will cover all governorates and islands of Yemen. I know that day is not far off.

Hari Paudel



Finance Manager, Equal Access Nepal

As a teenager in Nepal I saw many people living in poverty with very little opportunity to find good livelihoods. Many would reach to rich people in the community aspiring to work as a daily wager and many times as a bonded laborer. Seeing such poverty around me inspired me to grow up and one day become a development leader who would contribute to improving people's lives. My University degree opened the avenue for me to work at Equal Access. Here I learned how communications are used as a tool for development.

My work in the finance section has taught me that successful development efforts require robust administrative and financial functions. In a majority of organizations, finance functions

are not as noticed as program efforts. However, I am one of the few finance managers whose work is very highly respected and recognized. I feel, as I am a family member at Equal Access and work in absolute team spirit. We can express our views without hesitation.

I am proud to be a part of Equal Access which gave me the opportunity to serve the people of my country no matter how poor and how remote. Thanks to my all colleagues who helped me and inspired me to continue as a development worker.

Safia Illiassou

Producer and Field Focal Point, Equal Access Niger.



Since joining Equal Access in 2010, I have had the golden opportunity to contribute to positive change in the lives of millions of my fellow citizens. Through my work, I have become a sort of expert in fostering a culture of peace, tolerance and strength within my family and my community. I have learned to listen to and respect each and every person's opinions, and I have realized that the best way to live in harmony with someone is by learning to listen to them. This is where the idea of equality becomes very important. Equal Access has supported me to realize my dreams through the skills I've learned and the many exchanges I enjoy with project partners, from local radio stations and listening club members, to NGOs, youth organizations, and even political and religious leaders.

My life has been transformed in ways I never would have believed possible. I am now able to support not only my parents, but also to invest in my brothers' and sisters' future. Furthermore, the ownership I have over my work and the responsibility I have been given to represent Equal Access in professional forums and partner interactions has changed me and my outlook on the world. I was once a pessimist, but this "awakening of my spirit" has taught me to be open-minded.

Financials

Equal Access International is an independent nonprofit, charitable organization that is exempt from Federal Income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to Equal Access International for its' exempt purposes and mission are tax deductible. Equal Access International is also registered with the U.S. Agency for International Development as a private voluntary organization.

In 2011, Equal Access implemented its programs across eight countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, with support of a diverse range of supporters and partners including UN Agencies, bi-lateral and multi-lateral aid agencies, international development agencies, foundations and individual donors.

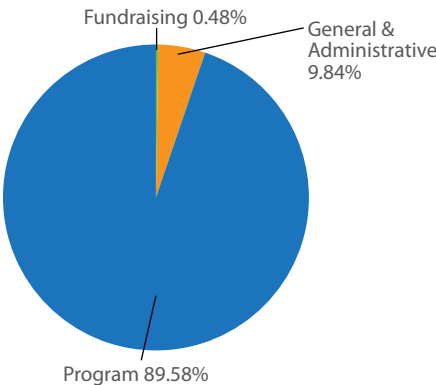
With a clear focus on the fulfillment of our mission, we have maintained a consistent level of General and Administrative costs over the past four years, while lowering our fundraising costs. Fundraising costs were less than 1% while 89.58% of every dollar went to Program Services and Support. Financial information presented in this report was drawn from the audited financial statements of Equal Access, which were prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Electronic copies of our audited financial statements are available on request.

Explanatory note from Controller

Equal Access International Condensed Financial Information for Year Ending December 31, 2011

Revenue	\$ 5,156,172
Program Services	\$ 4,178,523
Program Support	\$ 404,681
G&A	\$ 508,336
Fundraising	\$ 24,741
Total Expenses	\$ 5,116,281
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 39,891

Expense Allocation



Metrics

2011 Broadcast Reach: 91 million across Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Often radio is the most effective way to reach the vast majority of people in remote areas as well as urban centers while at home or at work. All our radio series now have two-way interactivity added though SMS and IVR systems and community reporter “voices from the field” segments. By networking radio stations together across each country to participate in the creation and broadcast of different radio series, Equal Access ensures that information is delivered at national scale and that even the most marginalized and isolated areas are included. To ensure that all people have “equal access” to information, we work to build the capacity of radio stations, set up micro-FM stations in rural areas and establish mobile SMS and IVR feedback systems so remote communities can join the dialogue in some cases for the very first time. In 2011, we also produced TV and video dramas, TV and video documentaries and TV spots in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Cambodia. In Nepal, we are reaching media professionals and citizen journalists via innovative real time internet portals.

Person Days of Training Delivered

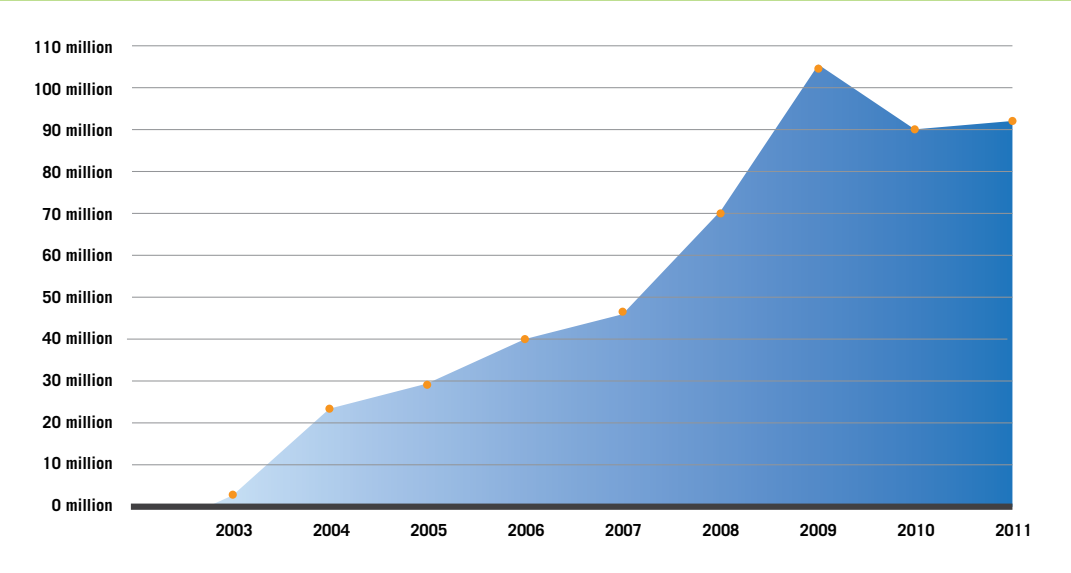
More than 43,000 person days of training were delivered in 2011. 103,000 people took part in an Equal Access training, listening group discussions, round-table forums or mobile theatre performances in 2011. We remain committed to complimenting our media programming with leadership trainings, grassroots dialogue and direct community mobilization activities to foster positive change.

Original Hours of Content Produced

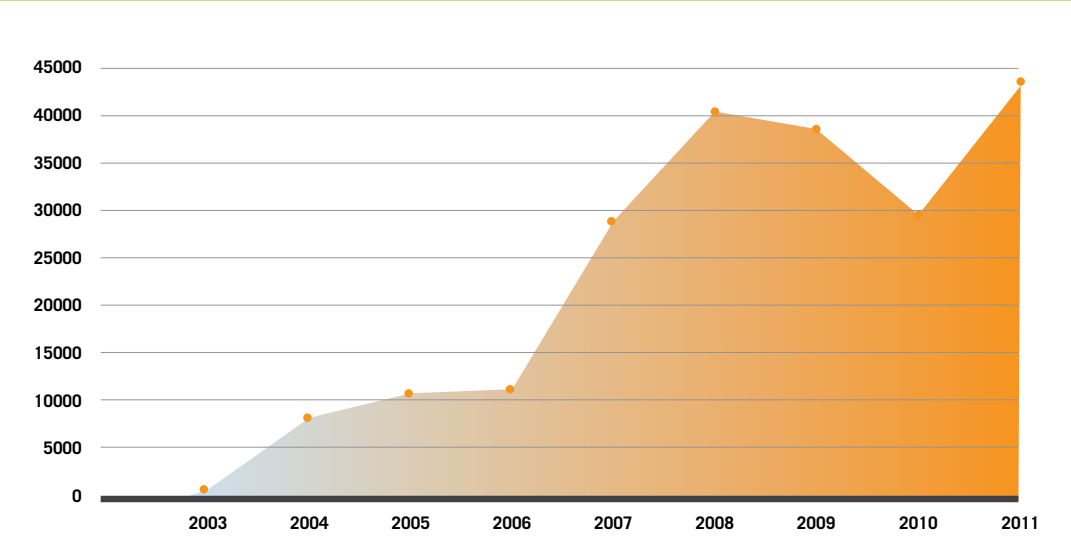
Over 1,700 hours of original content was produced in 2011. Each year, Equal Access content production continues its steady growth delivering hundreds of hours of life-changing information to more underserved communities. We produced award winning programming in 19 different languages, many of them minority languages. When broadcast, performed and or distributed in tandem with thousands of hours of training and direct community engagement activities, broader and deeper impact is sustained.

2011 Year Program Metrics

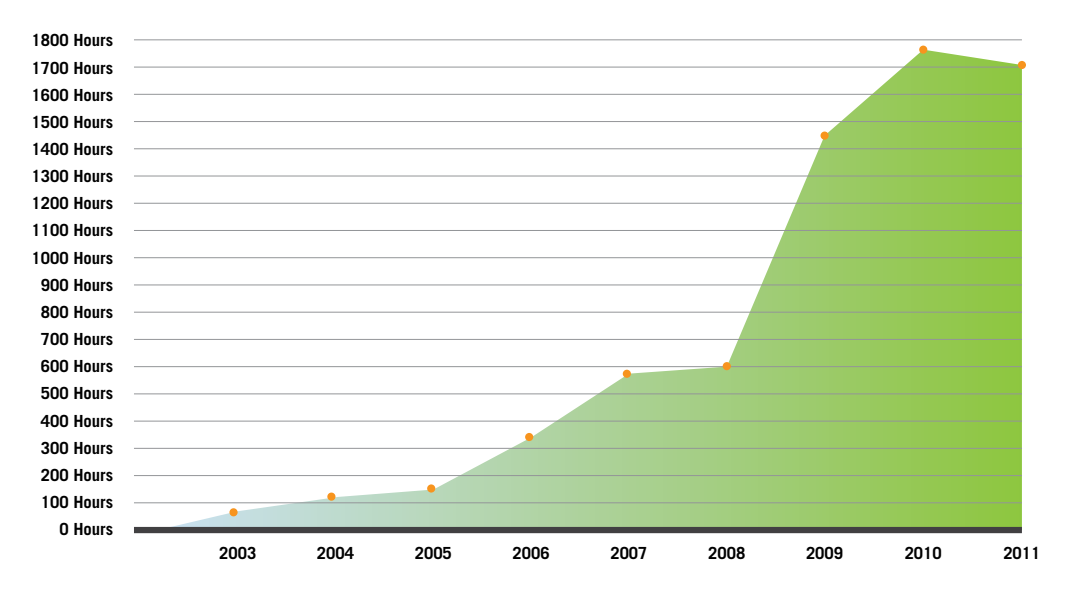
REACH - 91 million people



TRAINING – Over 43,000 person days



CONTENT – Over 1,700 hours



Thank You

On behalf of all the communities we serve, Equal Access would like to thank the institutions and individuals whose generous support makes our work possible.

Institutional Supporters

- Asian Development Bank/ Ministry of Interior of Cambodia
The Asia Foundation
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited Royal Bank (ANZ)
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
BBC World Service Trust
British Council
British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO)
Canadian Southeast Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program
The Caroline Ramsay Merriam Fund
Creative Associates
Colombo Plan
DANIDA
Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI)
Edgerton Foundation
Embassy of the United States Kabul, Afghanistan
Embassy of the United States, Chad
FHI 360
GlobalGiving
Global Peace and Security Fund (GPSF) Canada
Internews /NAI
International Relief and Development (IRD)
Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)
New Solutions
Open Society Institute
Options
- Pact
Partnership for Child Development, Imperial College London
Partners for Development (The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria)
National Radio Kampuchea Cambodia
Sesame Workshop
Search for Common Ground
TetraTech DPK
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP)
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
UN Women
University Research Co., LLC (URC)
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
United States Institute for Peace (USIP)
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)
U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency
Vesuki, Inc.
Western Digital
World Education

Leadership Circle

- Robert Berg
Mary Beth Garber
Ronni Goldfarb
Richard & Lois Gunther
Mark Gunther and Anne Krantz
The Avram Miller Family Foundation
John and Lisa Pritzker Family Fund
James & Kathleen Tobin

Patrons

- Jefferson Asher, Jr.
Michael Bosse
Annette Brown
Jody Crane and Baker Hart
William H. Draper III & Phyllis C. Draper
Gary & Charlene Forbes
Thomas Gottlieb & Carol Kirsh
Andrew & Teresa Gunther
Dan & Katherine Gunther
Julie Gupta
Rudy and Janet Hurwich
Lisa & Charly Kleissner
Anil Lal
Eddie Lee & Square Two Design
Mark Rovai

Supporters

- Didi & David Barrett
Peter & Elizabeth Cohn Foundation
Luisa Engel
Andrew Gordon
Chester Haskell
Po Ho & Fung Yee Yeu
Steven Paul Okuhn MD
Alakananda & Dilip Kumar Paul
Saswati Paul & Nathan Krishnan
Janet & Richard Sitts
Lianne Sorkin
United Way

Friends

- Mary Ackley
Elizabeth Allen & Douglas Miller
Dinesh & Asha Bajaj
Henry Bamberger
Doug Bannick
Nilmoni Bhattacharya
Catherine Brady & Steven Kahn
Theodore & Linda Brown
Sheila & Atul Bramhe
Camille Cellucci
Fonda Charne
Nita & Gary Chesler
Susie Coliver & Robert Herman
Lynn Coopersmith
Catherine Costello
Janice Crebbs
Shirley Dean

- Diane deTerra
Tiffany DiMarco
Meena DSouza
Robert and Michael Ducharme
Lisa Ellis
Ernestine Elster
Linda Fardella
Edith Fien
Abigail Flores
Charles & Diane Frankel
Sydney Fulop
Paul W. Gardner
Richard Garza
Global Impact
Pranab & Manjula Ghosh
Barry & Karen Goldfarb
Joyce Goldfarb
Philip Goldfarb
Richard Goldfarb
Anand & Shilipi Samaya Gowda
Charles Gronbach
David Gross
R. Bradford Huss
Lucy Keating
Amy King
Terry Kramer
Wendy Lee
Ben & Krishna Lewis
Vidyut Lingamneni
Sky Delano
Christopher & Martina Mann
Natalie Manzino
Duncan Meaney

- Chuck & Janet Mercer
Metropolitan Arts Partnership
Mary & Peter Michel
Miller Company
Renee Montagne
Edwin & E. Philip Morgan
Laxmi & Venket Natarajan
Network for Good
Duncan and Eugenia McNaughton
Adam Noyce
Marcy Kates & David Oppenheimer
Camaran Pipes
Ganesh & Vasavi Ramachandran
Param Randhawa
Mark & Joan Reiss
Paula Rhoades
Aimeclaira Roche
Bratin & Raka Saha
Dorothy Sands
Diane Schlactus
Gabriele Shettle
Carol Silver
Marcia & Bernard Sosnick
Richard Sutherland
Scott Thompson
Myrella Triana
Malabi Venkatesan
Richard Williams
Marilyn Kraemer Winslow



Board Of Directors

- Mark Gunther, Chairman
James Tobin, Vice Chairman
Ronni Goldfarb, President
Robert J. Berg
Annette Brown
Amir Dossal
Mary Beth Garber
Tom Gottlieb
Julie Gupta
Saswati Paul

- Avram Miller, Senior Advisor
Ambassador James Michel, Special Advisor

Senior Management Team

- Ronni Goldfarb, Founder & CEO
Michael Bosse, Vice President Programs & Operations; Corporate Secretary
Lisa Ellis, Chief Operating Officer; Corporate Treasurer
Anna Huang, Controller
Puanani Forbes, Senior Business Development Manager
Dr. Anwar Jamili, Country Director Afghanistan
Borey Koy, Country Director MediaOne, Cambodia
Zara Mahamat Yacoub, Country Director Chad
Bharat M. Devkota, Executive Director EA Nepal
Abdoul Kader Mamane Idi, Country Director Niger
Irfan Younas, Country Director Pakistan
Binita Shrestha, Country Director Yemen

In addition, Equal Access has a staff of more than 120 individuals worldwide—more than 98% are host country nationals. Also we engage more than 170 Equal Access trained community reporters worldwide and 100% are host country nationals.





Equal Access
271 Austin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109 USA

Phone: +1-415-561-4884
Fax: +1-415-561-4885

Email: info@equalaccess.org

Website: www.equalaccess.org

Equal Access International Offices
San Francisco, CA, USA (Headquarters)
London, UK

Kabul, Afghanistan
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
N'Djamena, Chad
Kathmandu, Nepal
Mardan, Pakistan
Niamey, Niger
Sana'a, Yemen

Project Affiliate Offices:
Delhi, India
Vientiane, Lao PDR

www.equalaccess.org