

## Report

# Workshop on Using Internet to Deliver Audio Content



**24 – 26 June, 2011**  
**Caritas Development Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh**

**Organized by**



**Rupantar**  
**Khulna, Bangladesh**

**Supported by**



**Commonwealth Educational Media Centre**  
**for Asia-CEMCA, Delhi, India**

**Objective: To give hands on knowledge on how to use internet to Deliver Audio Content and stream audio (live) for Community Radio Broadcasters in Bangladesh.**

Rupantar organized an internet based workshop titled **Using Internet to Deliver Audio Content** from 24 – 26 June, 2011 at Caritas Development Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh. A total of 23 participants from 12 organizations (Community Radio broadcaster) joined the workshop. However, Coast Trust and NSS will operate online radio only. Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia-CEMCA supported Rupantar to organize it.

*Mr. Kalinga Athulathmudali*, Specialist on Internet Radio from Sri Lanka facilitated the workshop along with *Mr. Arpan Guha Thakurata*, technical expert on audio from Delhi, India.

The workshop started with a formal opening ceremony and *Dr. Zahangir Alam*, National Project Director, Community Rural Radio, Ministry of Agriculture Bangladesh, chief guest of the session opened the workshop. Mr. Mizanur Rahman Panna, Director, Rupantar Institute of Folk Theatre and Mr. Saifuddin Sabuj, Community Radio Specialist were also present in this session.



### Session

Mr. Kalinga said, unlike the traditional radio station which depends upon the power of the station's transmitter and the available broadcast spectrum, Internet Radio is not limited to any geographical location or power.

He also told that it is one of the many online music services that mirror the emergence of streaming technology and recent advancements in audio software and hardware.



The sessions delivered practical and technical knowledge of streaming audio/video through internet. It can be done in two ways. First & easiest way is to make Audio files ready to upload. The compressed format like MP3 is the most popular, but any kind of files can be delivered through a website or an FTP site.

The second way is to flow Audio/Video files from the internet directly to the user's sound card. Streaming makes it possible to deliver a continuous broadcast over the internet live. (see Annex 2)



Facilitators discussed that being interactive, web radio allows listener's to control and choose the content being played & Interaction is carried through text messages, e-mail, forums and chat. Internet radio websites offer live and on demand audio programs. It offers a great variety of music and clarity of signal is also far better than the terrestrial radio.

In addition to that, it has the advantage of measuring the audience, directly setup by broadcasters.

He also said, live streaming of Community Radio is very much possible using open/free steaming websites.

### **Technical requirements for Internet Radio**

Facilitators demonstrated technical requirement (see Annex 3) and showed setting up a work station for Internet radio practically.

#### **Technical equipment:**

- Dedicated Computer with encoder software.
- CD players, microphones and audio mixers.
- Ripple software which copies audio track from a CD onto a computer's hard drive.
- Assorted recording and editing software.
- Outboard audio gear (equalizer, compressor, etc.)
- Digital audio card.
- Streaming media server.
- 512 mb internet connection
- Server of High bandwidth

#### **Software (from Open source)**

- Winamp with Shoutcast Plugin: MAC OS – Butt
- Shoutcast: Windows/MAC/Linux
- Audacity

#### **Required Internet Speed** for different medium to be used for Internet radio:

Real Player: 6 kbps

Interview/Dialog: 24 – 32 kbps

FM/Music: 54 – 64 kbps

CD quality: 96 – 128 kbps

Phone: 16 kbps

Facilitators provided hands on training using <http://ustream.tv> to broadcast programmes.

### Live Stream

The workshop participants were divided into 4 groups and produced 4 programmes for live streaming.

Later, they broadcasted live programme using *U Stream*. The demo *I Radio* can be listening at [www.kalingasblog.com/rupantar](http://www.kalingasblog.com/rupantar).



### I Bangla Radio Forum

Mr. Guha Thakurata proposed of forming *I Bangla Radio Forum* (Internet based) so that Bengali people can listen to Bangla programme worldwide. He also told that it would be a platform to bring together people of the same language at one base.

The following decisions were made upon discussion.

Website: [www.banglawave.org](http://www.banglawave.org)

Administer: Technical - *Kalinga Athulathmudali*; Supervision - *Arpan Guha Thakurata*; Content - *Sumon Francis Gomes, Rupantar*.

Content Convener: *Sharif Iqbal, Agriculture Information Service*

Member: BRAC, Proyas Manobik Unnayan Society, Nalta Community Radio & Hospital, Coast Trust, CCD Bangladesh, Agriculture Information Service, Broadcasting Asia, MMC, NSS, Srizony Bangladesh, Prokirti & Rupantar.

### Few primary rules and regulations were made through discussion:

1. Common welfare comes first. Growth of individual identity depends on our unity.
2. We will depend on group consciousness. Our leaders trusted servant. They do not govern.
3. We must remain self-supporting through our own contribution.
4. We are not alike with any sect, denomination, political organization, lest problem of money, property, prestige, divert as forum our primary purpose.
5. Language should be based in Bangla.

**Some major and vital discussions were taken in the workshop. They are-**

- Rupantar agreed to do the primarily works for website hosting and design;
- Meeting for Content development will hold on the first Tuesday of the month quarterly;

### **Draft layout (Content) of the website**

Home/Latest News/Media (Press, TV stream)/Events/Forum (chat)/Entertainment/Programme/Weather Forecast/Music/Creative writing/Journalism



## Annex 1

### List of Facilitators

Name	Organization	Address	Email	Contact No
Kalinga Athulathmudali	CEMCA	Sri Lanka	kalinga.a@gmail.com	94777254174
Arpan Guha Thakurata	CEMCA	India	arpan500@gmail.com	9582479358

### List of participants

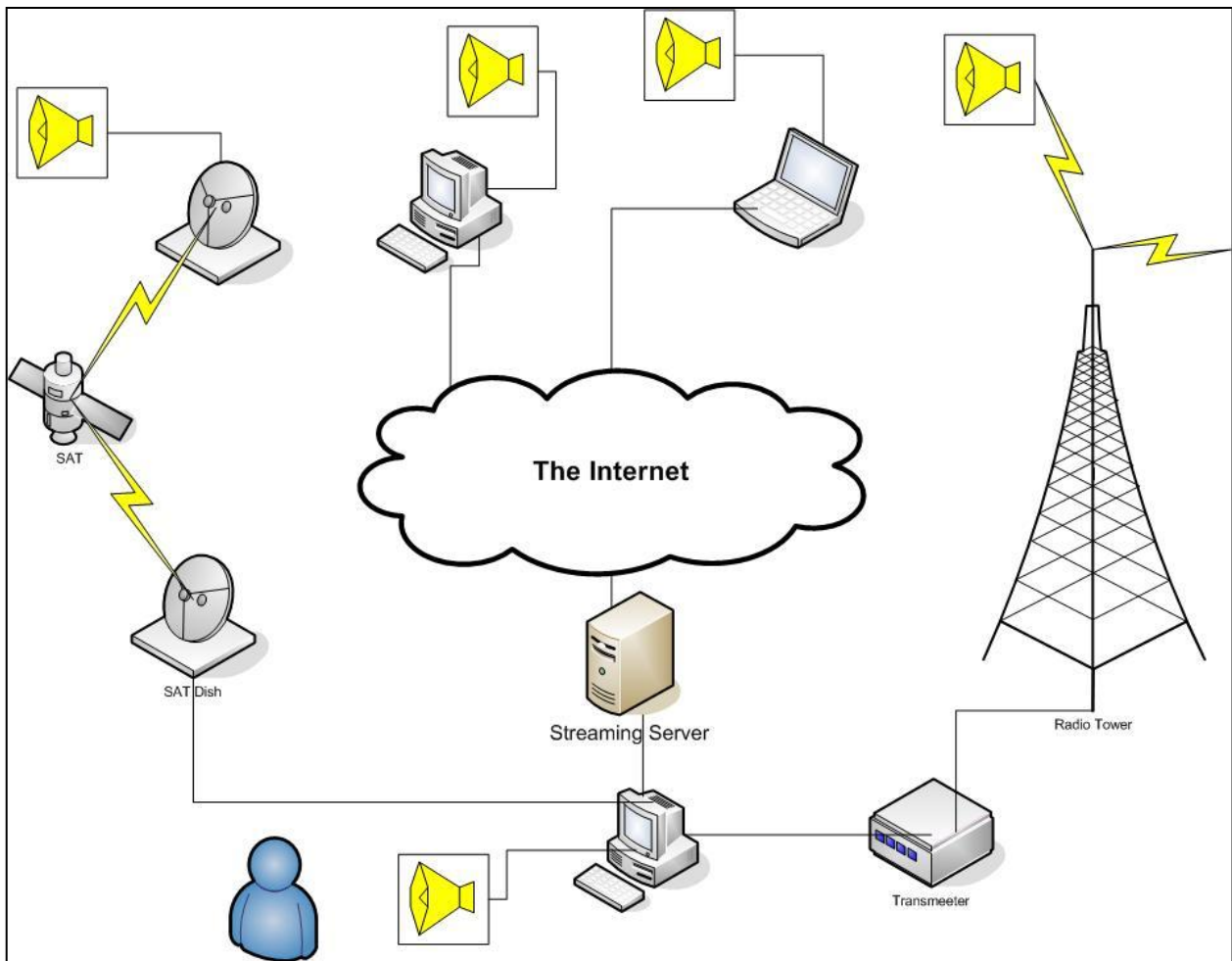
Sl. No.	Participant	Organization	Designation	Address	E-mail	Contact No
1	Dr. Zahangir Alam	Agriculture Information Service(AIS), Ministry of Agriculture	National Project Director	Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh	subornomail@gmail.com	01715 111486
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5	Animesh Mukherjee	Nalta Community Radio & Hospital	Producer News	Dakshin Sripur, Kaliganj, Satkhira	animesh.mukherjee20@gmail.com	01715 608977
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9	Md. Aminul Islam		Script Writer			
10	Md. Mushfiqur Rahman	NSS	IT consultant	Sweden Palace (1st Floor), Pallabi	nssngo@gmail.com	04452 56164 01712 896881

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12	Refat Uddin Ahmed	Broadcasting Asia	Technical Officer	Broadcasting Asia Advance Welfare Foundation House # 57/8 Panthopath (west) East Razabazar, Dhaka-120	refat41@yahoo .com	01911 359722
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17	Mahmud Hassan	Srizony Bangladesh	Producer News	111, Pabahati Road, Pabahati, Jhenidah, Bangladesh	info@srizonybd .org; srizonybd@gm ail.com	01914 715453 Tel : 88 0451 63264-6
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19	Sumon Francis Gomes				radio@rupanta r.org	01819 136547 Tel: 88 041 731876
20	Anthony Gomes		Technical person		anthonypgome s@live.com	01715 768206
21	Suvro Islam		IT Expert		suvro@rupanta	01710 317133

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22	Salahuddin Swapan	Prokirti	Director	Manikgonj House, 216 Shahid Syed Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka - 1000	prokirti@aitlbd.net	01827 118899
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## Annex 2

A diagram of transmitting/streaming Audio



### Annex 3

A diagram of setting up Internet work station

