

Andrew Lees Trust 'Projet Radio'

**The Status of Associated Radio Stations of South
Madagascar**

Steven Lellelid 2006

Forward

The following analysis is based on a report made by two Projet Radio (PR) technicians, R.Harri, Anto R. on their mission to the partner radio stations over the period 04 to 23 December 2005. Their report contains common questionnaires completed for/by each station, thus, so as not to duplicate that work, this report will group the stations by their common responses to those questions. At times this reviewer has added comments from his own experience with these stations. The following table lists all of the stations visited, being most if not all of those associated with ALT-PR.

ID_Sta	Name_Brief	Radio Station
1	Cactus	Cactus Ambovombe
2	Fanilo-Amp	Fanilo Ampanihy
3	VKD	Vorokodohodo Tsihombe
4	MBS-fd	MBS Fort-Dauphin
5	Soatalily	Soatalily Tulear
6	Kaleta-fd	Kaleta Fort Dauphin
7	MBS-tlr	Malagasy Broadcasting System (MBS) Tulear
8	FA Betioky	Feon'ny Atsimo Betioky
9	Fanjiry	Fanjiry FtD
10	Kaleta-Abs	Kaleta Amboasary
11	RCA	RCA Ankililoaka
12	Mazava	Mazava Ankililoaka
13	Linta	Radio Feon'ny Linta Ejeda
14	Menarandra	Menarandra Bekily (Radio Télévision Menarandra)
15	Ravenara	Ravenara Amboasary

Analysis ty Question

The first question is not on the questionnaire per se but is rather a synthesis of the whole report for each station. It looks at the vitality and identity of the stations as portrayed in the sum of their answers to the questionnaire. Here you will note an apparent anomaly : Fanjiry of Fort Dauphin, is listed among the most vital and also the most dependent. Its dependence is in its attitude toward ALT PR and the PCID while it's vitality is in the physical status of the station, equipment and staff.

Question 0	Station
FEATURES	
Most vital, capable, equipped	Cactus, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry, RCA, Linta
Struggling	Fanilo-Amp, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, Mazava, Menarandra
Seek wide coverage	Cactus, FA-Betioky, Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, MBS-tlr, RCA, Menarandra
Capable with PC and technical	Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry-fd, Ravenara,
Computer novices	Kaleta-fd, Kaleta-Abs, RCA, Linta, Menarandra,
Govt sponsored or run	MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr
Keen on local language, traditional, cultural	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Fanjiry-fd, Kaleta-Abs, RCA, Mazava, Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD, MBS-fd
Dependent	Fanjiry
Poor	Menarandra

Of course the MBS's and Soatalily stations are government supported so are expected to be on the list. RCA is sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church. The Linta is linked to the Ejeda hospital, so energy is free of charge and it was also endowed with a full package studio with sound editing capability from ALT PR as was VKD of Tsihombe, both new stations. But the Linta is actually struggling with staff

turnover and poor experience with the computer and less with sound editing. Still it has the widest coverage of all the stations.

Struggling; Radio Fanilo Ampanihy, although it figures high for station vigor, being a team of well motivated volunteers, is put on the list for it's main complaint of being in competition with the local govt station in Ampaniny which has a frequency too close to Fanilo's, thus the higher powered, and better situated government station snuffs out the signal from Fanilo to much of its listening area.

The others listed under struggling, are mainly of inexperienced staff. But Mazava (Ankililoaka) and Menarandra (Bekily) are so listed in that they are stations of those respective Districts. Menarandra complains that it can't support the heavy JIRAMA (power utility) invoices yet it needs the power for it's 300W transmitter to serve that mountain divided district.

Those desiring wide coverage are the stations which believe they have a mission to the extended rural area they feel responsible to serve. Thos not on this list are more urban oriented. VKD is an anomaly in that while it boasts of being a station for the rural person, it won't exert the energy to raise its antenna though all the equipment is on had to do so, though at least half of the listening area once boasted has been truncated by the lowering of the antenna pair.

Some of the reported computer novices are undergoing local training, or are waiting for a PR person to visit and impart some more training.

Virtually all of the stations attest to attempting to meet the needs of their listening audience by using their respective dialects. Only Linta and Menarandra didn't make mention of that though both have several different dialects to address.

Grasp Of The Training

This question pertains to the technical training given by ALT-PR earlier in the year. The training included light maintenance and how to detect and resolve system difficulties.

Question 1	Stations
Regular maintenance	Cactus, Soatalily, Fanjiry
Good assimilation and applied	Cactus, MBS-fd, Soatalily, RCA
Needs or recvd refreshing	Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, FA-Betioky
Poor assimilation	Kaleta-fd, Linta
No operating problems	MBS-tlr
New or re-training	Linta, Menarandra

The first two responses are quite similar though only the three indicated make a point to practice regular station and equipment maintenance. The alternative is to await an alarm condition, thus it becomes repair and not maintenance. Both Kaleta-fd and Linta had staff changes which explains their low assimilation of the training—those trained were no longer on staff. Menarandra is a new member and has not been trained either through the PCID or by the team last year.

Maintenance performed or surveyed

This refers to maintenance performed by the station since the training or that realized by the PR technicians while on this mission.

Question 2	Stations
Resolve minor breakdowns	Soatalily, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry
none	Cactus
UPS calibration	Fanilo-Amp
Balance xmitter	MBS-fd

Question 2	Stations
Maintenance brought in	Soatalily, Fanjiry
Old equipment	KaletaAbs, RCA
Reduced power output due to Jirama	Ravenara
Station overhaul	Linta

Soatalily and Fanjiry are older stations with older equipment which is deteriorating from the elements: Soatalily from heat, and Fanjiry from salt. Cactus was still running well with no ticks. The Unlimited Power Supply (UPS) of Fanilo is critical for the constant brown-outs of the weak Ampanihy power utility. Kaleta Amboasary and RCA also complain of having old equipment, but Kaleta-Abs went through a time of poor station management, and what was new then was damaged by poor handling and no maintenance. Ravenara met with me last week to complain of their JIRAMA (power utility) woes and whether there was any hope of assistance through ALT PR or the PCID, either by some level of subsidy, or a grant for a power alternative like solar, wind or generator. VKD suffers the same way.

Changes in Circumstances

Cactus's no-fault station (per the above question) will explain their ability to keep abreast of the maintenance and technical difficulties that surface. Soatalily has gone into TV, while the Kaletas and Linta have new personnel—which explains the above decrease in apparent grasp of that taught earlier. Personnel permanence or longevity is a key station stability issue and accounts for the poor maintenance seen at two of those listed and fosters the apparent rapid ageing of equipment.

Question 3	Stations
Keeps abreast of technical issues	Cactus
TV editing	Soatalily
New personnel or leadership	Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, KaletaAbs, Linta
New transmitter	Fanjiry, Menarandra
Moved premises	RCA, Ravenara

Fanjiry and Menarandra boast new power for broadcasting, while RCA and Ravenara moved, one for the better and the other for the worse—that is, RCA moved to a larger room to buy quietness but purchased it with echo.

Improvement Of Capacity

The stations able to “perform some repairs” often indicates they have access to help. Fanilo is an older station with many experienced staff. The government stations, MBS and Soatalily shine with salaried full time staff and a budget for training and software as well as equipment.

Question 4	Stations
Has capability to do some repairs	Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, Fanjiry
Good station management	MBS-fd
New tech skills	Soatalily
New software	Soatalily
Need computer training	Kaleta-fd, KaletaAbs, RCA, Linta
Sound editing on computer make programs	MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, VKD-tsb
Motivated but need experience	Menarandra
Have trainer	Ravenara

For sound editing VKD does only rudimentary editing if any, but mostly records live and simply adjusts the volume by computer thereafter. Menarandra needs more training than experience, as it has never been trained by PR nor does it have access to expert help due to its remoteness.

Adopting Other Systems in the Studio

Cactus, VKD-tsb, Mazava, Linta are the only ones to make that claim, though what systems they adopted will be seen in the following table. It can be seen that their understanding of “systems” varies considerably. To one it’s a new setting to another it’s HIV awareness or taking the step to communicate with two more people groups. To VKD it’s a management measure to track maintenance.

Question 5b	Stations
New editing studio	Cactus
Keeping maintenance records	VKD-tsb
Local dialect programs : adopting two new	Mazava
HIV/AIDS awareness ; improved working methods in studio	Linta

Type of System

This table somewhat clarifies the former, thus Cactus views the new studio as a Technical system while it’s column headings in the maintenance manual for VCK and program creation for Mazava in Ankililoaka. Linta is referring to the HIV/AIDS awareness methodology of using group discussion and interviewing as programming methods to get out the message.

Question 5c	Stations
Technical	Cactus
State of equipment, situation, seriousness of fault	VKD-tsb
Programs	Mazava
Discussion interview	Linta

New Programs In Development

The stations VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry, RCA, Mazava, Linta all report having made programs with a development theme. The names of some of these programs are listed below. Note that Kaleta FtD is added to the list just given by admitting she does not make programs herself but broadcasts those created by others.

Question 5d	Stations
Programs by others	Kaleta-fd
English teaching; local prog on development	VKD-tsb
Anosy Develops; Challenge	MBS-fd
Ondaty Salama: Health	MBS-tlr
Let's meet on Saturday	Fanjiry
Education is a heritage; Enough of burning forests	RCA
HIV/AIDS	Mazava, Linta

The following table will modify the above to describe what type of programs these are. VKD and MBS-tlr both create programs for health, while Linta and Mazava focus on HIV/AIDS awareness using the interview method while Linta also adds a serial. The others only give the subjects of those titles without hinting at the format of the programs.

Question 5e	Stations
Rural Eco, Social, Culture	VKD-tsb
Rural Development	MBS-fd
Various	Kaleta-fd
Health	VKD-tsb, MBS-tlr
Educational	Fanjiry, RCA
Interviews	Mazava
soap opera; serial	Linta

What advantages does the station have in working with ALT-PR?

The discussion now moves to the relational. Beyond the internal workings, maintenance, staffing, and programming, there demands the question of affiliations and how apposite are these interrelationships. This question deals with the ALT/Station link. ALT-PR has provided equipment and training as well as monthly programs. Also both the round tables organized by ALT-PR and the PCID partner meetings have fostered ties between the field organizations and the radio stations. The table below shows how the radio stations group around those items listed above.

Question 6	Stations
Equipment	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
Ready made programs	Cactus, MBS-fd, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Menarandra
Training	Kaleta-fd, KaletaAbs, RCA, Ravenara
Information	VKD-tsb, Ravenara
Favours working with other organizations	VKD-tsb, MBS-tlr

What advantage has the listening audience to this affinity of the station to ALT-PR?

Here “information” as in the table above probably refers to the content of the programs produced by the PCID partners and distributed to the stations by ALT-PR. As such it is quite akin to “Education and Training.” Cactus alone sees the need for these local language programs for the illiterate, probably because the majority of Androy which he serves the eastern part is unalphabetized.

Question 7	Stations
Information	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara
Education training	Cactus, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Linta
Varied practical programmes	MBS-fd, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs
Esp for the Illiterate	Cactus
Wide coverage	Fanilo-Amp
Opens Communication	Mazava, Linta

The wide coverage touted by Fanilo is due to the antenna and 250w transmitter they received from ALT-PR which together significantly boosted their range. The response of “opens communication” may refer to the “announces” offered by the stations to the public. These are personal messages aired by the station. But another way radio opens communication for the audience is by giving them a common theme to discuss, whether the news or a striking poem or song. For instance the AIDS song by Belindo is often referred to in conversations heard on the streets of Tsihombe, and also none more than the poems of Remañanatse articulated by Tohanay (eg. ‘Tobacco and Alcohol’).

Listeners' Reactions To Pr. Programmes

In response to this 8th question, the following 12 stations attest having received reactions from their respective audiences:

Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara.

The reactions:

The kinds of audience reactions received are presented below: The agriculture programs are favored due as much as to as format to their content. The FAFAFI (Agricultural Extension Service-FtD) has come a long way, having responded well to training done by ALT-PR, and is an example of the

benefits of the partner having a more permanent staff whose training can be built on as he gains experience. These programs are entertaining for their good use of dialect and the practicable lessons.

Question 9	Stations
Agriculture programmes favoured	Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Menarandra
Other Dialects	MBS-fd, Soatalily
Healthcare	Kaleta-fd, Mazava, Menarandra
Re-broadcasting of progs: spec: Tobacco/Alcohol poem	Fanilo-Amp, Mazava
Appreciate the new briefer PR jingle	MBS-tlr

Soatalily and MBS broaden with “Dialect” in general: This includes the FaFaFi programs, the poems and songs of Androy and Anosy, and the number of PCID programs developed by the various other partners—the best are invariably those who have had the longest affiliation with ALT-PR. Related to the above is again the very popular poem on Tobacco/Alc mentioned above—a combination of good dialect and wit in a poem of good rhythm and rhyme. This poem can be heard at any time from Cactus in Ambovombe even a year after it was released.

The new “brief PR jingle” refers to the abridging of the PR signature that introduces each program. For even a single measure of Boba’s marovane (the tune most used) is enough to alert the audience of a ALT-PR production.

The Most Difficult Part Of Collaborating with ALT-PR

The stations, of course, were eager for their new equipment that was offered to offset air-time on their stations of ALT-PR programs. The wait was all the longer if a transmitter was involved (Cactus), but it’s a wonder why delays of equipment would irk MBS-fd who is so well endowed by the government.

Poor communication refers to contact by PR with the stations, where they often see the PR or ALT-Projet Energie vehicles pass without stopping in for a visit. This applies to the first 3 listed, but for remote Mazava and Menarandra the problem is that PR has very little cause to go that far afield unless it is for the station itself.

The shipment of the monthly program CD’s requires arranging vehicles or entrusting the CD’s to partners to deliver.

The question by Ravenara on AIDS is that they themselves don’t know how to answer. The health profession is under orders to keep secret the identities of HIV+ patients even if the latter is deceased as a result of AIDS. Thus there is no local “proof” that AIDS even exists in Madagascar.

Question 10	Stations
Equipment delays	Cactus, MBS-fd, RCA, Mazava
Poor communication as PR vehicles don't even stop	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, Mazava, Menarandra
Delay of CD reception	MBS-tlr, Mazava, Linta
Those who question the existence of AIDS	Ravenara
Unfairness of supplies equipment not priority	Fanjiry
Contract periods too long, equipment is broken by end of contract	KaletaAbs
None to report	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky

Fanjiry was expecting a computer for sound editing but received a CD deck which he probably already had, he is all the sorer for being one of the oldest of affiliates to the PCID and seeing his neighbor Kaleta-fd receive a computer though they have the least notion of how to use one. His pain surfaces again in question 19 where he laments his association with ALT-PR as being unbeneficial.

The long contract periods is another way of saying that the value of time traded is more than the security negotiated at the round table. Only the most poorly managed (profligate?) of all the stations however makes this claim.

The three stations in the last line of the table could see no point of difficulty in their relation with ALT-PR.

The Easiest Part Of This Collaboration (with ALT PR)

This question makes plain that not all stations complain of late program CD's, in fact more rejoice that they are so consistent and timely: the first two lines below are quite similar.

Question 11	Stations
Consistency of the deliveries	Ravenara, Kaleta-fd, Fanjiry, Menarandra
Timeliness of the programs	MBS-tlr
Very close communication	VKD-tsb, MBS-fd
Equipment	Linta, Menarandra

Among those grouped in line 3 is VKD who actually stated: “We have an excellent approach with each other”. Perhaps this could be the case even with protracted meeting events—their complaint in the previous question.

Linta and Menarandra are the two newest stations and affiliates.

Ideas And Suggestions For Future Collaboration

Note that those requesting training have had enough to know its value, while the two newest haven't. Others want a PR presence more available to them: VKD, Fanjiry, Fanilo, MBS-fd, and Mazava. This is akin to an apprenticeship—training from the ground up.

A continuation of the ‘round table’ is in the minds of those promoting an exchange of experiences (among stations). This is also a kind of training but positioned subsidiary to the above apprenticeship: as if to say, if we can't be apprentices then at least let us apprentices rub shoulders.

Question 12	Stations
More technical trainings	Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, RCA
Nothing to say	Linta, Menarandra
Equipment	Fanilo-Amp, FA-Betioky
Recruit a tech to aid the staff or coop in Production	VKD-tsb
That this collaboration endure	MBS-fd
First a meeting with the Boss of PR	Fanjiry
Late CD's	Fanilo-Amp
Exchange of Experience ; accompany PR on missions	Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, Mazava
Rural development themes not just educational	RCA
Reelection of the bureau member of the rural radio network	Mazava

RCA, way up in Ankiliolaka, the most distant of all Stations from ALT-PR in FtD, also being a newer affiliate may not have received all of the rural development CD's issued, and also may not have a copy of the catalog of programs. But then it may be his definition: are not rural development themes educational as well in that they teach—how to raise tomatoes, how to catch a swarm of bees, how to protect yourself from HIV infection, how to concoct the 1:8 formula for dehydration, etc.

If something doesn't work, replace the person in charge. Perhaps the rural radio network Mazava is referring to, based out of Tulear, is not responsive to their needs.

How Much Interest Do You Have In Working In A Regional Radio Network?

Apparently this concept is unclear to the majority of the stations. Most can't even respond, some want it to be a way to get attention from ALT-PR. A few are polar with no explanation and only three are visionaries: seeing this as a way to reach out of their confining boundaries to bolster each other.

Question 13	Stations
No opinion	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs
That PR be more effective in reacting to the needs of its members	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp
Need exchange with each region	Fanilo-Amp, RCA, Mazava
YES	VKD-tsb
NO	Linta
Protection of Media and Journalist rights	Mazava
Build confidence between PR and our Station	Ravenara

Did You Have Exchanges With Other Radio Stations?

VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Fanjiry, Mazava, Menarandra, all said Yes to this question (no. 14)

If Yes, Then Of What Kind Of Exchange ?

The responses to this are quite shy if not abstruse. VKD alone allows to whom they exchange programs, but the others don't give any details.

Question 15	Stations
Programme exchange w/ Cactus	VKD-tsb
Advice about single wavelengths	MBS-fd
Management advice	Fanjiry
Training	Mazava
Equipment exchange	Menarandra

Was This Exchange Made Since The Round Table Organized By The Pr ?

Question 16	Stations
No	MBS-tlr
Yes	VKD-tsb
on World Education Day	MBS-fd
Technical advice exchange	Soatalily

Again the answers are curt, and interestingly only two of the stations having responded to question 14, while Soatalily adds having received technical advice.

Or Since The Beginning Of The Network?

Question 17	Stations
We were not there yet	VKD-tsb
Nothing	MBS-tlr
Advice	Fanjiry

Perhaps few stations know when the "network" was initiated, or if it was then it has not matured or become very active in that time. Only Fanjiry seems to have a notion of it, but his response is also very broad.

Are you ready to work closely with the local PCID partners, in the production of programs and the organization of the programming of the transmissions ?

Only Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, and Kaleta-fd are willing to respond positively to this, and the others don't respond at all. This is probably due to the fact that the centers in which these three stations work, there have been PCID members very active with the stations. It is surprising that no Tular station was willing to respond: evidently the PCID there is not strong or active. For the others, including VKD, the stations are not aware of any PCID members in their proximities, and even though VKD works with PCID member Objectif Sud of Ambovombe, it may not recognize this organization as being such.

How Ready are You ?

Here the rest open up apparently seeing an opportunity. All but two of the stations are positive. Now having affirmed their readiness a few add cautions: Four want to assure that service exchange is well defined. Actually it was well defined in the contracts they signed at the round table, but perhaps some feel short-changed on that. Linta has new personnel who don't even know how to answer. And for Fanjiry, among the veterans, see Question 10. Kaleta-Abs, unlike it's sister Kaleta-Fd, holds shy of being fully prepared, but is holding out for "the well defined contract"

Question 19	Stations
Quite	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, RCA, Mazava, Menarandra, Ravenara
It already is happening	FA-Betioky, Mazava, Ravenara
Exchange of fair service should be well-defined	Cactus, MBS-fd, MBS-tlr, KaletaAbs
We welcome any collaboration offer	Kaleta-fd, KaletaAbs
Nothing political please	Fanilo-Amp
Not if it is like PR	Fanjiry

What Is Your Long Term Vision For The Network ?

Actually, Fanilo has already addressed this question above and doesn't wish to repeat itself. The others here see it as providing and opportunity toward better professionalism, more interchange with other stations for a mutual benefit. Cactus perceives it as beneficial to the listening audience, while MBS-Fd would like to extend their efforts in the South to the rest of the world.

Question 20	Stations
Nothing to say	Fanilo-Amp, MBS-tlr
Be more professional have a better understanding of the radiotelephony profession	VKD-tsb
Have more meetings with all the stations more communication	FA-Betioky
Reelection of office members for Independant network	Mazava
Development of the south	Cactus
The network should represent the South of Madagascar in other provinces or abroad	MBS-fd

What is the Long Term Vision of Your Station ?

Most want more sophistication, television and hi-tech. Others (line 3,4,7) envision improved programming and reach for the target populace. VKD wants power independence, and Fanilo wishes somehow to establish a base of income. FA-Betioky wishes to strive to the top: to be an example for all the rest. Though it is among the smallest of stations, it has the most self-esteem: they had been transmitting from their computer before most, and also FA set up it's own antenna after the model of VKD's.

Question 21	Stations
TV	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, MBS-tlr, Mazava, Menarandra
Modern technology (production studio)	Soatalily, MBS-tlr, Linta
Cultural and educational programs information	Kaleta-fd, Linta, Ravenara
Wider broadcast coverage	MBS-fd, MBS-tlr, RCA, Menarandra
Auto-financing	Fanilo-Amp
Power supply using solar panels	VKD-tsb
Broadcast to the three districts of the Anosy region	MBS-fd
be a pilot station in the south	FA-Betioky
Qualified employees	Linta

Other Supports Needed :

Training gets the high score with 11 respondents, and Equipment follows with one less. Six stations in lines 2-6 specify the type of training they desire.

Journalism may be a misnomer, as neither of these stations have had rural development programming training with ALT-PR where the basis of the work consists of teaching and not in the gleaning of information for the daily news. Even the interviews are other than for journalism, here the interview is structured to teach the listener what the expert is being led to address.

Now for all those requesting material supports, only half voiced what equipment they presently need.

Mazava perhaps has other sources of support.

Question 22	Stations
Training	Cactus, Faniilo-Amp, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, RCA, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara
in techniques and technology	Faniilo-Amp, FA-Betioky, Linta
journalism	Kaleta-fd, Menarandra
maintenance	Faniilo-Amp, FA-Betioky
To improve the quality of service	RCA
radio production	Linta
Equipment for:	VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara
Computer	VKD-tsb
Microphone	MBS-tlr
Electric power (e.g. generator)	Linta
Dictaphone	VKD-tsb, MBS-tlr
None	Mazava

Next Year's Priorities For The Station :

For RCA and Cactus, space is the first priority, but with that Cactus is then looking for some new equipment, but is non-specific. RCA on the other hand, wants help to that studio comply to standards.

Question 23	Stations
New building for the station	Cactus, RCA
Training	Cactus, Faniilo-Amp, Mazava, Linta
Auto-financing: money for time slots; training in financial mgmt	Mazava
more help to have the studio comply with standards	RCA
Equipment: see details below	Cactus, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, Menarandra, Ravenara
Pylon, cable	Ravenara
Antenna	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd
Mixer	Soatalily, Ravenara
UPS	Menarandra
Dictaphone	FA-Betioky
CD deck, microphone, Cassette deck	KaletaAbs
transmitter	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd
computer	Fanjiry, Menarandra
Develop other programs	VKD-tsb
Develop relations with other organizations NGOs associations	MBS-tlr
Fight against corruption	MBS-fd

Mazava, who we supposed above to have a clandestine means of support in fact wants training in financial management as it proposes to be self supporting, selling air time and using it's finances wisely, believing that to be the way out of dependence. Bravo!

Ravenara needs a high tower and Soatalily and Kaleta-Ftd are opting for new antennas. Other material requests are as listed, and as for Fanjiry's asperity, he is not yet willing to part with ALT-PR if he can yet hope for sound editing hard/software.

VKD and the MBS-tlr are looking beyond themselves to focus on program production, as well as relations with other partners to the end of informing it's audience. It isn't clear whether MBS-fd is thinking of cleaning its own house or the larger mansion we all share.

Next Year's Priorities For The Network :

Some are happy to make the roundtable an institution which they can look forward to each year. Soatalily wants to make it more "dynamic": does this mean to perk it up with side shows or to bring in some good trainers; or is this a call to the sister stations to be prepared to give and not just to receive.

Mazava might tell us more about the meaning of independent production studios: independent of whom? The ALT-PR facility is there to serve him, certainly a studio independent of ALT-PR would charge well for it's time. But then we saw Mazava is on a mission to make it on their own, and this is another expression of that same desire.

The no-responders need a vision.

Question 24	Stations
Regularization of the roundtable stations exchange of competence	Fanilo-Amp, Kaleta-fd, Mazava, Menarandra
Communication equipment BLU	Cactus, FA-Betioky, RCA
Strengthen member capacity	VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, FA-Betioky
Make the network more dynamic	Soatalily
Create independent production studios for the network	Mazava
Nothing	MBS-tlr
No response	Fanjiry, Kaleta-Abs, Linta, Ravenara

CDs Received From Alt This Year :

The majority of stations received the full allotment of regular monthly program CD's from ALT-PR. Mazava is a newcomer as suspected above. Apparently 7 ALT-PR-AIDS programs CDs were also sent out with most receiving these as well. Perhaps those stations not receiving one would inform PR of what they received that PR might forward the missing issues to them.

VKC produces an annual Rebeke Havoria (Festival of Jubilation) which features many local artists, beko singers, traditional dancers, etc. Last year it was very traditional but this year it was a quite western in instrumentation and style.

MBS has access to CNLS (HIV/AIDS awareness) and SanteNet (health related) programs. Actually we will see later that numerous of these stations subscribe to SanteNet.

Question 25	Stations
12 PCID CDs	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, RCA, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara
11 PCID CDs	MBS-tlr
8 PCID CDs	Mazava
7 PRS CDs	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, RCA, Ravenara
6 PRS CDs	Linta, Menarandra
5 PRS CDs	Mazava
1 VOROKODOHODO CD (festival rebeke)	Cactus
1 TCP FAO cassette	Cactus
1 ACORDS UADEL CD	Cactus
SANTE NET - All programs	MBS-fd
CNLS CD (negociation)	MBS-tlr
1 PAM cassette	KaletaAbs

How Many Programmes Were Broadcast ?

According to the table below all stations but three attest to playing all the CD's they received. It would serve well to determine whether Soatalily, MBS-trl, and RCA actually didn't air the CD's they received, or that the visiting technicians just didn't push them to fill in their questionnaires.

Question 26	Stations
All	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, Mazava, Linta, Ravenara
38 PRS programmes not counting the PR ones	Kaleta-fd, Menarandra
No comment	Soatalily, MBS-trl, RCA

Where Are The Broadcast Schedules ?

Question 27	Stations
Pre-established schedules	Fanilo-Amp, MBS-fd, MBS-trl, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
Random without any fixed schedule	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, MBS-trl, KaletaAbs, RCA, Ravenara
On the chart	Cactus, FA-Betioky
Yes	VKD-tsb
Pre-established schedule unless it was re-broadcast	MBS-trl
Specific broadcast time but no pre-established schedule	Fanjiry, KaletaAbs

The stations seem to be divided nearly 50/50 as to whether they use pre-established schedules for PCID programmes or randomise them. Cactus and FA are among the Pre-established as is VKD and MBS-trl as the programmes are issued at the same hour daily. Apparently those in the last line do somewhat the same though the response appears recondite—for how can specific broadcast times, which implies some certainty of the hour, and thus repetitive, not have been pre-established?

Which Programmes Were Not Broadcast During This Period?

Question 28	Stations
A few PRS programmes with damaged tracks	MBS-trl, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs
All provided power was available	Fanilo-Amp, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, Linta
FAFAFI (Agri), Environment	Ravenara
4 PCID CDs and 2 PRS CDs; not received	Mazava

The first line response begs that the ALT PR production facility have some way of verifying the CD's before they go out.

The whole south was suffering power shortages for extended periods, but the utilities seem to have stabilized now and even Tsb has regular power again.

Here Mazava clarifies that it did not receive the CD's in question. But Ravenara's response is somewhat cryptic—did they refuse to play those very popular programs, or is he reflecting that these programs were missing from many of the CD's issued in the period?

Which Programmes Were Better Adapted To Your Listeners?

The health programmes received the most responses. The 3rd line modifies the response to point to the Tobacco/Alcohol poem and the 4th line simply requires poetry, the obvious attracter more so than even music.

The agricultural programs of FAFAFI are good at local dialect while being instructive, but necessarily can't effect as many people as health which concerns all. The comment by VKD of "average duration," suggests times of from 3-5 minutes per program. RCA excuses itself for being to new.

Question 29	Stations
Health programmes	Fanilo-Amp, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, Linta
HIV AIDS programme	MBS-tlr, KaletaAbs
Health (tobacco and alcohol)	Fanilo-Amp
Format : poem	Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, KaletaAbs, Mazava
Local dialect and average duration	VKD-tsb
Environmental (WWF)	Cactus
Energy project	Soatalily, MBS-tlr
Agriculture Programmes (eg. FAFAFI)	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, Fanjiry, Mazava, Linta
All	Menarandra
The station is brand new	RCA

Does the Station Conduct Follow-Up With Listeners From The Region ?

Over half of the stations report some kind of followup, while some, like VKD and Fanilo rely on comments from the audience. RCA needs some impetus.

Question 30	Stations
Yes	VKD-tsb, Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, Fanjiry, KaletaAbs, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
monitors the station's impact	Cactus
No but it is the listeners who come in	Fanilo-Amp
Yes and no	VKD-tsb
Yes (follow-up of PRS)	KaletaAbs
Not yet	RCA
Yes we carried out a direct poll	Fanjiry

Are There Requests For PR Programmes To Be Broadcast Again?

Most stations receive such requests and do replay programs. And even though Cactus failed to respond we often hear reruns of the Poems.

Question 31	Stations
Yes	Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, RCA, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
No (or no resp)	Cactus, MBS-fd, Soatalily, KaletaAbs

Which Ones Were Broadcast Again?

Question 32	Stations
Poetry: alcohol and tobacco	VKD-tsb, Kaleta-fd, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, RCA, Mazava, Ravenara
FAFAFI programme	Fanilo-Amp, Fanjiry, Linta, Menarandra, Ravenara
of TCP FAO	Linta, Menarandra
Husbandry: vaccination of zebus	Fanilo-Amp
Cultural programmes	VKD-tsb
AIDS prevention	Soatalily
PRS programme	Fanjiry
About health	Soatalily, Kaleta-fd, FA-Betioky, Menarandra

The majority of stations continue to replay the Tobacco/Alcohol poem as well as the FAFAFi programs. These two represent the epitome of good use of dialect the one as poem and the other in skit format. VKD is calling for the same thing under the title “cultural”.

Soatalily comes out of its silence to admit rerunning health and HIV/AIDS programs.

Did You Receive Other Training Organized By Organisms Distinct From PR ?

The stations Fanilo, VKD, MBS-fd, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry, Mazava, Linta, and Menarandra all report having had training outside of ALT-PR.

With Which Organisms Year To Date?

Question 34	Stations
Santénet (Health)	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
National MBS journalists' union	MBS-fd, MBS-tlr
Ministry of Healthcare	MBS-tlr, Mazava
MISONGA	Cactus
Unicef	Fanilo-Amp
The DIT	Soatalily
Pact	VKD-tsb
MCDI	FA-Betioky
Ministère de la communication (Ministry of Communication)	Fanjiry, Soatalily
Radio Don Bosco	Mazava
MAMI association	Cactus

Training For What?

One could do a cross-tab analysis of the this and the above table to decipher what each of those organisms listed above trained the station in, but the majority either deal with health or with

Question 35	Stations
Radio Production	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, VKD-tsb, MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Fanjiry, Mazava, Linta, Menarandra
Journalism	MBS-fd, Soatalily, MBS-tlr, Mazava
Health (incl HIV/AIDS)	Cactus, Fanilo-Amp, MBS-tlr, FA-Betioky, Mazava
Communication	Cactus, MBS-tlr, Fanjiry
Management	Fanilo-Amp, Mazava

radio program production. We would hope that as much developmental programming is being taught as journalism. But the most positive aspect of the responses of these last two questions is that our network of stations are almost all into other networks as well. An expected outcome of this is the amount of experience and knowledge can be pulled from these various stations at their round table meetings. Perhaps another day could be added simply to extract what new methods, techniques, and information they can compact for the benefit of the others. Perhaps this might ignite the kind of dynamism being sought by some for the Round Table