



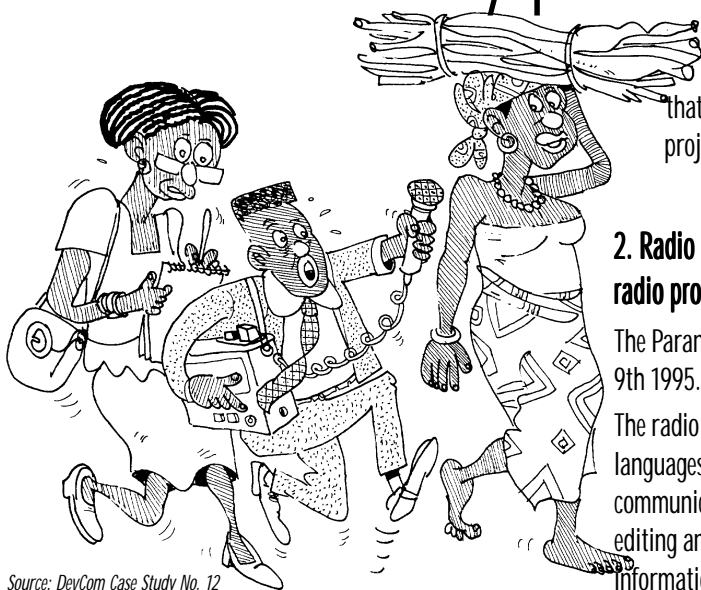
As MISSIO München, we would like to introduce three media and communication ventures, which play a major role in the wide range of projects supported by our agency: a training course in Africa; a radio station in Mali and an ecumenical publishing house in Papua, New Guinea.

1. Three month training course for IMBISA/AMECEA national and diocesan coordinators of social communication, IMBISA Centre, Harare, January 18th - April 18th 1999

IMBISA (Inter-Regional Meeting of Bishops of Southern Africa) and AMECEA (Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa) are two regional conferences of the Catholic Church in Africa. They have similar needs and face the same challenges in training people, helping to provide them with the skills and professional capacity to strengthen their human dignity and faith.

The AMECEA and IMBISA regions are well aware of the importance of both traditional and modern media in evangelisation, as well as of the scarcity of both personnel and finance. So they decided to join forces in the training of media personnel at national and diocesan level. The main objective of the course was to provide basic foundations in social and pastoral communication skills, theological criteria and guidelines for socio-economic and pastoral planning.

Each participant prepared a pastoral plan for his or her department in line with their diocesan pastoral plan. A follow-up programme will take place to support the participants and ensure



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that they are putting their new skills into practice in their pastoral and development projects.

2. Radio Parana in San/Mali: staff training, technical equipment and the production of radio programmes

The Parana communication centre in the diocese of San in Mali was inaugurated on September 9th 1995. It comprises of the radio station „Parana“, a training centre and a media centre.

The radio station is the main focus of the centre. It broadcasts for four hours each day in three languages: Bambara, Bore and French. Courses offered at the training centre include not only communication, but also cover development and social activities. The media centre has a small editing and printing unit (in three languages), which is used for literacy projects and diocesan information. There is also a small video library with some 200 titles.

All diocesan publications are printed at the Parana Centre. These include the „Eglise de San“ in French and Bore, the monthly diocesan journal, and all publications concerning literacy and pastoral work.

The radio programmes deal with such themes as health, agriculture, education, politics and women. Radio Parana is a christian radio station, aimed at everyone involved in development and pastoral work. There are four permanent staff members: a director, two trainers and a technician. The transmission range is between 80 and 100 kms. It is a very important medium in the diocese of San as it responds to the oral culture of African people. Only 3.5 % (26,665) of the population of San are Catholics. More than 52% (400,000) are Muslims, 5,000 are Protestants (0,66%) and the rest are Animists. Radio Parana acts as a bridge between the different religions, dealing with everyday problems which affect everyone.

3. Annual support for Word Publishing Company in Papua New Guinea

Word Publishing is a registered company under the laws of Papua New Guinea. The shares are held by the Roman Catholic Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Anglican Church and the United Church. The company began in 1970 when Fr. Francis Mihalic SVD launched „Wantok“. Today Word Publishing has three main publications: „Wantok“ (15,000 copies), a weekly in Tok Pisin, for rural villagers and urban workers; „The Independent“ (10,000 copies), a weekly in English, for decision makers at all levels, and „PNG Business“ (12,000 copies), a monthly magazine for management level business people.

Word Publishing's philosophy is to promote gospel values, by encouraging total human development to help people mature intellectually and spiritually. Its publications can assist them in seeking the truth, opposing injustice, inequality, violence and destruction of the environment.

Word Publishing as an ecumenical venture is a voice of the Christian Churches. It tackles topics of importance for the future of Melanesian civil society, such as youth, education, human rights questions, corruption and clearing of the rain forest.

For MISSIO München, as for its partner agencies in the ecumenical consortium of donors, the support of an independent and free press in Papua New Guinea is a priority issue.

Barbara Pauli, MISSIO München / Foreign Dept.