



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Delhi Office

Cluster Office for Bangladesh,
Bhutan, India, Maldives,
Nepal and Sri Lanka

A World of Migrants *Khanabadhoshon Ki Duniya*

UNESCO has produced a series of 10 Radio Programmes which focus on creating inclusive urban spaces for migrants and are designed to build an urban understanding around their experiences and rights.

BACKGROUND

The primary focus of the Radio Programme series is to change the image of the migrant slum dweller from that of an unwanted intruder to a citizen with equal rights. The Radio Programmes attempt to disrupt the singular image of the underprivileged migrant as a suffering, needy and dependent person to a resilient and strong survivor and entrepreneur. The Radio Programmes create a recognition of migrants' entitlement to a dignified living and working environment in the cities they migrate to and address the migrants' experience of the city and the contribution that migrants make to the city.

Alternative narratives are used, for example: migrants as agents of development, migrants as upholders of cultural diversity, the migrant working woman, migrants as contributors to skill diversity and migrants as symbol of new aspirations.

PROJECT GOALS

To build an urban understanding and creating awareness around the rights of migrants and the challenges they face, and to change the public perception of the images of migrants through the medium of radio.

DESCRIPTION OF RADIO PROGRAMMES

The format of the 10 radio programmes is dramatized situations and portraits interspersed with short interviews and announcements of facts/statistics (All 10 Radio Programmes are available on the attached DVD, along with transcripts in both English and Hindi).

Each Radio Programme has a specific theme and an objective targeting a unique issue.

Radio Programme N.1 - The right to migrate: The programme contrasts how international migration is seen as desirable and internal migration is seen as problematic by the city dweller. The programme puts aspiration in context by juxtaposing the animated preparations before travel that migrants from both classes (lower and upper) undertake. The focus is on similarities to evoke empathy.

Radio Programme N.2 - The migrant as an entrepreneur: The lived experiences of migrants and their contributions to the place/city they migrate to: The ways in which they create opportunities and identities for themselves; the ways in which they create housing and water facilities for themselves.

Radio Programme N.3 - A life without migrants: Using satire and irony to draw out a number of everyday tasks that city dwellers take for granted that will come to a halt in the absence of the migrant community that is willing to take on the dangerous and difficult jobs.

Radio Programme N.4 - Disrupting the homogenous image: The child and his school; the woman and domestic work; the man in the factory/rickshaw (very short positive narratives)

Radio Programme N.5 - Belongings and un-belongings: How migrants' identities depend on cultural, social and other cooperation and dynamics in the city and the amount of othering they face. The city dweller is a part of this project.

Radio Programme N.6 - The working woman: Creating an equity of inequities. A portrait of two migrant working women from two different classes struggling for childcare.

Radio Programme N.7 - Agencies and Choices: Narratives of the brave choices that migrants make when deciding to leave adversity and how they bring change in their source areas.

Radio Programme N.8 - Migration and Change: The small and incremental changes in gender norms; how the experience of travel expands narrow traditional and caste based restrictive practices.

Radio Programme N.9 - What can we do?: Highlighting very small and doable things city dwellers can do to contribute, like don't haggle with the rickshaw puller, strike up a conversation, pay minimum wages, provide leave to the domestic help, etc.

Radio Programme N.10 - A did you know quiz with migrants and city dwellers alike on internationally acknowledged rights of migrants. It is done by asking people on the streets the questions regarding migration.

Social and Human Sciences (SHS), UNESCO New Delhi

Through the Gender Youth Migration Initiative (GYM) (www.unescogym.org), a UNESCO Online Initiative on Migration, UNESCO promotes the social inclusion of migrants (internal and international) in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the country, using a multi-track approach combining research, policy and advocacy. Since June 2014, the web-portal received 1.8 million page views from over 112,000 visitors belonging to 183 countries. A GYM Newsletter is issued monthly to 690 subscribers from across the world.

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