

A TIME FOR HOPE FOR THE DOWNCAST



update

JULY/AUGUST 2009



FEBA Radio brings hope to rural South Africa

FEBA South Africa has been piloting a local radio ministry project called **Time for Hope** to supply FM radio stations in the rural areas with quality Bible-based social development programmes. This project was launched in response to intensive research by UK-based Trend Research Associates with the aid of learners from the local secondary school at Tumahole, Parys. This research indicated that a great percentage of residents of rural communities suffer teenage pregnancies, joblessness, poverty, and suffer the effects of HIV/AIDS.

The aim of the **"Time for Hope"** project is to produce quality social development radio programmes to address socio-economic problems from a Christian perspective. Programmes feature members of the rural community sharing about their daily socio-economic difficulties and how they struggle to overcome the challenges. Pastors and leaders participate in a panel discussion to address people's despair and desire to rise above their circumstances by stressing the need for life-change as a first priority. Also experts share advice on how to convert personal skills into unique job opportunities.

"Our ultimate aim is to provide and restore real hope in the lives of suffering people in rural communities around South Africa. There is such a need in the rural areas of our country," says **Rev. Frik Veldman**, National Director of FEBA South Africa, "and these include spiritual needs, financial needs, social needs—really too many to mention; which is why we at FEBA feel burdened to address these socio-economic challenges through our radio programmes."

And transformational these programmes are, says station manager of **Naledi FM, Mr. Nkgwedi**: "These programmes are life-changing and very relevant to the concerns of the people in my community."

Partnership with the community FM stations holds forth promise of a better tomorrow for impoverished people. Though the project is still very much in a developmental stage, it is gaining momentum with the recent addition of more stations buying into the programme. No less than four community radio stations in the Free State Province have enrolled in the Time for Hope partnership programme:

- **Naledi FM** – Senekal- Eastern Free State- Contract signed and programmes being supplied.
- **Radio Qwa Qwa** and **Mosupatsela FM** – negotiations almost complete.
- **Lentswe Stereo** - Pray that the partnership will be concluded soon. Located in Tumahole, near Parys, approximately 70,000 Sesotho and Xhosa speaking listeners tune in for their daily news and entertainment.
- **Karabo FM** – In the town of Sasolburg – Negotiations are ongoing.

Bruce Dube, FEBA South Africa's **"Time for Hope"** Project Coordinator, is understandably excited about the good response received from the Christian community for the project. "We want people to rise above the current situation by looking at their lives from a biblical perspective. This is what FEBA Radio stands for and we are proud of it," says Bruce.

PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray for volunteer announcer, **Phumeza Mkhambi** who works alongside Bruce to produce programme contributions for the regional Sesotho-based radio stations.
- Pray for **Bruce Dube** as he coordinates the project with FEBA staff and builds relationships with FM station managers.

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(97/05938/08)



FEBC PHILIPPINES

61 Golden Years and Blessed as Ever!



Sixty One years ago two young Americans, **Bob Bowman** and **John Broger** fresh out of Bible college and with a burning passion for the lost founded the **Far East Broadcasting Company**. They saw the potential of radio for the ministry when there were very few available means of sharing the Word of God to people in the Philippines and in what was known then as the Far East.

From the first broadcast over **KZAS** (now **702 DZAS**) on **June 4, 1948**, the Lord has continually provided the increase in this radio ministry. In 1949, broadcasts to China began. What once was a closed door became an opportunity to share the Gospel to millions of Chinese trapped behind the Bamboo Curtain. When the Communist government took over in China, John Broger's attempt to set up a radio station in Shanghai, was curtailed. Consequently, programmes in different Asian languages and dialects, such as Burmese, Thai, Indonesian, Hmong and many others, were added to the broadcast schedule of the Philippine base. Today, FEBC Philippines has shortwave broadcasts in at least **63 languages** that reach not only **China** but the rest of **Southeast Asia**.

The radio ministry within the Philippines also grew. In 1964, **1062 DXKI** in **South Cotabato** became the first local station established outside Manila. As of now, we have opened **eight radio stations** that cater to the spiritual needs of countless Filipinos both in the country and in other places around the world through the internet



Dr. Bob Bowman with Bible behind the microphone, Philippines, Circa 1948.

"The very purpose of this journey into the Orient is to lay the foundation for the establishment of a master radio transmitter. It will carry the message of Christ's power to save [the] millions of people in those far eastern lands who have never known the Saviour we love and adore".
Dorothy Broger (1946)— Wife of founding member, John Broger



Founders of FEBC, Bob Bowman and Jim Broger (1945)



'Christian Radio City' Manila, Philippines where some of FEBC's first programmes were produced

Cagayan Valley Project - Philippines

A BRAND NEW DAY DAWNS FOR LUZON

broadcasts of **702 DZAS, 1197 DXFE** in **Davao** and **1233 DYVS** at **Bacolod**. There are also a number of language programmes that we air on commercial stations for listeners who are not normally reached by any FEBC station.

At Far East Broadcasting we truly praise the Lord for using our broadcasts as part of the spiritual journey of many listeners. The programmes have evangelized, disciplined, nurtured and edified many people.

"In a nutshell..." says **Dan Andrew Cura**, President of FEBC Philippines, **"...our effort is to evangelize more unreached and tribal people groups, and even those from gateway cities, so they, too, will become believers of the living God. This is the essence of missions radio. More than preaching to the church, the FEBC broadcasts are geared at evangelizing the lost – no matter where they are"**



(Picture credit: FEBC Philippines)

1. Satellite Image of the Cagayan Valley showing location of the new station
2. President of FEBC Philippines, Dan Andrew Cura, recounts how God led FEBC to Santiago City near the Cagayan Valley, site of the new broadcast station
3. Dan Andrew Cura prepares to lower the time capsule at the groundbreaking ceremony January 29, 2009
4. The early morning ceremony was graced by Santiago City Mayor Amelita Navarro, FEBC Philippines, Board of Trustees member Bishop Reuben Abante, volunteer programme producers and hosts, and local church pastors and leaders in Santiago City.

OUR SUPPORTERS WRITE:...

"Today I celebrate my 87th birthday and how I thank my Heavenly Father that I am alive and able to still write to you. I thank my Father for the wonderful testimonies because of the great work that you do. May the Lord greatly bless your ministry and may scores and scores of souls be saved as a result!" Mrs F Kotze – Pretoria.

"We consider it a tremendous privilege to intercede before our Heavenly Father for FEBA and FEBC's ministry..." Mr and Mrs HJ Taljaard - Benoni

"Dear FEBA Radio, ...I am so glad to hear that your radio is broadcasting [to the Yawo of Malawi] as it is very difficult mainly for unreached people living there [to hear the Gospel] I trust that your radio messages will be a great blessing to these people who live in this rather desolate place..." Mrs. R. Burnett - P.E.

PLEASE HELP US TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNICATION WITH YOU!

We endeavour to improve our contact with you, our valued supporter! To receive occasional news snippets via email and/or text message we request that you please contact our administrative staff on telephone (012) 335 5708/764 or via e-mail at febasa@corpdial.co.za to furnish us with your e-mail address and/or mobile telephone number. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

After more than six decades of dedicated radio ministry, church leaders in the northern region approached FEBC to establish a transmitter in the hard-to-reach Luzon region. The collaboration led to the establishment of **1143 DZMR** in **Santiago City, Isabela** to reach at least 4 million people representing 14 people groups situated in the northeastern part of Luzon.

FEBC Philippines President **Dan Andrew Cura** led the FEBC family, together with volunteer programme producers and church pastors, in the groundbreaking ceremony for the future studio building of 1143 DZMR Santiago at Santiago City on January 29, 2009.

In his greetings, Dan acknowledged the way the Lord has orchestrated certain events that led to the groundbreaking. "God works in mysterious ways..." said Dan "...As early as the late '90s, the FEBC leadership was looking toward establishing a station in another city in the province of Isabela. For some reason, however, the plan fizzled out and the burden of reaching northeastern Luzon with a viable Gospel broadcast seemed to take a backseat." But when he took over as president almost six years ago, a new location became available.

Among the significant items included in a time capsule laid to ground was a copy of the Ilocano Bible and Ibanag New Testament, as well as a

Portable Missionary Radio. When 1143 DZMR Santiago begins its operation the middle of this year, there will be programmes in Ilocano, Ibanag, Itawis and Kalanguya. The goal is to broadcast in at least 14 local dialects and languages to reach more people groups especially in the mountainous areas of the Cagayan Valley and Cordillera regions.

As we move on toward another year of missions radio, we encourage you to be more actively involved in this ministry. May you be challenged to intercede for the listeners that they too will have a fresh encounter with the Lord Jesus. And may you also continue to support the work of FEBC Philippines through your resources.

"What God planned [long ago] is now coming to pass. In heaven, we will see thousands of people from this region who will say, 'I heard about the Lord over the radio in FEBC.'"
Rev. James Bastian, volunteer producer.



This is a historic day for us. We've waited a long time for this radio station!
Rev. Mark Ritchie, Santiago City.



5. January 29, 2009. Ground breaking Ceremony attended by:
 - FEBC Phils. BOT Bp Reuben Abante
 - Isabela Vice Governor Ramon Reyes
 - Rev. Mark Ritchie of Santiago City
 - DZMR Volunteer Programmers
 - Sefton Village Bible School students
6. The Cagayan Valley – Luzon region of Northern Philippines