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**TWR ASIA  
MINISTRY  
PROGRESS  
REPORT 2015**

# INTERNATIONAL TRANSMITTING SITES



## ABOUT TWR

Since its beginnings with just one small radio station in Morocco in the 1950s, TWR has grown into a media movement — speaking hope to millions of people in 230 languages and dialects every day.

Over the radio waves, these words of hope cross distances — both geographical and ideological — to reach people behind closed doors with the message of salvation through Jesus.

TWR partners with churches, other ministries and content owners to provide relevant programming, discipleship resources and dedicated workers to communities around the globe.

Whether using high-powered mediumwave, shortwave or FM radio, streaming content to Internet users or visiting face-to-face with listeners, TWR leaves a lasting spiritual footprint.

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TWR broadcasts in more than 230 languages and on more than 2,000 local AM, FM and other outlets worldwide. Highlighted areas approximate radio coverage from TWR's mediumwave/AM and shortwave transmitters.



## COLLABORATING ACROSS THE REGION

Broadcasting the gospel over the radio is a simple concept that takes a lot of technical support.

Engineers and technicians in Guam and Sri Lanka — two of TWR's shortwave and medium wave transmitting stations — work each day with the large antennas and complex equipment it takes to send radio waves across thousands of kilometers to listeners in places such as China, North Korea and India. Producers and program

developers throughout Asia work to produce programs relevant to the listeners in their countries. And support staff in Singapore, India and Hong Kong work to do just that — providing IT support and financial resources, as well as working out agreements with content owners.



For one program to go out, it takes a team effort. And that collaboration becomes especially important when responding to situations like the 2015 earthquakes in Nepal. After feeling the first earthquake in India, TWR Asia's director of broadcast operations swung into action, contacting the director of the South Asia region and coordinating with the Guam team to begin broadcasting disaster relief programming in English.

Over the week following the earthquake, the Nepal and India teams were able to produce disaster relief programming in the Nepali, Hindi, and Bhojpuri languages. The team also traveled to meet with listeners, finding out their needs to produce programs relevant to their experiences.







## "It pleases [God's] heart when his children collaborate."

TWR'S CHINESE MINISTRY DIRECTOR

It often takes internal teams in partnership with churches, volunteers and other ministries to accomplish the work.

To share the hope of Christ with the unreached people groups (UPGs) in China takes a network of internal teams and external partnerships. The Chinese ministry team is working on the SON-Lift project, producing 60 dramatized Bible programs depicting the life of Jesus and translating the program into 15 languages to reach more than 100 of China's UPGs.

Production work spans many countries, including Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan, where production teams have been translating and producing the first three languages — Mandarin, Cantonese and Hakka — of this project. Volunteers help distribute audio players to these UPGs.

"God seems to have reserved specific roles for different organizations or individuals to fill," said the director of the Chinese ministry. "The message is clear — no one organization or individual alone can complete

the task of reaching UPGs. The SON-Lift project is a beautiful picture of God leading people with different skill sets to continue to play their part. It pleases his heart when his children collaborate."

There are a lot of details that need to be worked out to share the gospel using mass media. TWR has faithful team members who work hard to ensure the programs are produced and broadcast. One such team member worked through several nights to complete production of the programs to China's UPGs.



It takes fundraising efforts around the world by TWR's offices in other regions to support the work. And it definitely takes a lot of prayer.

Prayer for the Guam team members as they fix an antenna following Typhoon Dolphin. Prayer for negotiations with government officials as well as other broadcast outlets. Prayer for the health of team members who have fallen ill in the middle of a big production project.

It takes a global team composed of people with different talents and knowledge as well as a lot

of grace from God to daily share the good news of Jesus over the airwaves, on the Internet and through SMS. It's challenging work, but it's exciting to see what God can do through TWR.

And it's worth it when TWR hears from listeners whose lives have been changed by the programs.

"The only place where I get my peace and hope is your radio programs," a listener in TWR's PANI (Pakistan, Afghanistan and Northern India) region told a staff member. The listener is blind due to diabetes and has other

health issues, but he asked his children to make a small pool for him to baptize himself. He wants his children to know he loves the Word of God.

"I listened to the program for a long time," he said. "I understand that Jesus is the Savior of the world. I am in love with him and his teachings so I decided to baptize myself and live for him."

**"The only place where I get my peace and hope is your radio programs."**

A LISTENER FROM THE PANI REGION



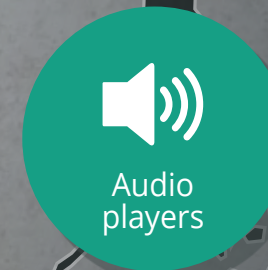


In South Asia, engagement with TWR through its **mobile phone** ministry exceeded 640,000 calls received. Listeners in this region interact with TWR through mobile phones more than they do through any other means.



# SOUTH ASIA REGION

MEDIA PLATFORMS  
ACROSS THE REGION







## SOUTH ASIA REGION

Update by Andrew Sundar, International Director

God is sovereign. No matter what obstacles man creates, his Word will reach the people.

In South Asia, TWR faces many barriers to spreading the gospel. Ministry is possible in this region only by the grace of God.

By his grace, in 2014 more than 2,000 listeners gave their lives to Jesus in India, Nepal and Pakistan.

To engage listeners beyond media, TWR teams form listener and prayer groups, as well as visit listeners at

home. TWR and its partners in the South Asia region interact with more than 1.9 million listeners, mostly through letters and phone calls.

God enabled the Sri Lanka ministry to expand its FM broadcasts, and the Nepal ministry to increase the reach of its broadcasts. The ministry continues to develop its audience in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Northern India.



By God's grace, the ministry in India continues to expand its phone ministry in the Tamil, Bengali and Nepali languages.

TWR South Asia is also developing an urban outreach through smartphone and social media usage to reach the youth in India, as well as other cities in South Asia.

The goal is to find out the topics the youth are facing, such as suicide, and persuade them to rethink their decision. The ministry will offer counseling to youth, over email or by phone.

Another major development for the South Asia ministry is producing gospel content in the Urdu

language for audiences with Islamic backgrounds. The South Asia ministry is partnering with experts to develop a radio series for this audience.

The 15-minute program will be broadcast daily to help educate them about Jesus and the gospel.

“First of all I would like to congratulate TWR for starting the new radio programs. You have such a good collection of programs! **It is through you that I came to know that the Bible is not a fictional story but the truth.** Secondly, it was very astonishing for me to forgive those who afflicted us.... Wherever I am, I never miss your programs.”

A LISTENER FROM THE PANI REGION







“Everyone wanted my husband and me to divorce, but I prayed to God and He really answered my prayer. God is great! He continues to bless me day by day in the midst of pains and challenges. **I am very grateful to God that I can listen to your women’s radio program. I learn many things from it, and I pray that God will use this program to help other women learn many things about God and life.**”

A LISTENER OF *WOMEN OF HOPE* IN NEPAL

The Nepali people were devastated this year by two major earthquakes. In response, TWR began broadcasting disaster relief programming, which was well received by station managers and listeners. The Nepal ministry will continue the programming for a year, and it will transition

from counseling-style programs to gospel-centered programs, as the needs of the people change.

The ministry in Nepal also plans to increase the number of gospel programs airing over FM stations.



Please pray for:

- The Lord to send laborers who can help develop the ministry in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, and India.
- Content developers and partners to be empowered by the Lord to shape effective broadcast content.
- Praise the Lord for using radio broadcasts in South Asia to open doors for the gospel.

“Just hearing a radio program in my own language brought me such joy. I soon began getting more and more interested in the message as well. It was the first time I heard about Jesus Christ and his good news for mankind.

**As I kept listening, several of my doubts and questions regarding God and our existence were being answered, and I eventually accepted Christ as my Savior.”**

A BIBLE PROGRAM LISTENER FROM INDIA



In Southeast Asia, engagement with TWR through **SMS/text messages** exceeded 65,000 responses received. Listeners in this region interact with TWR through SMS/text message more than they do through any other means.



## SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION

MEDIA PLATFORMS  
ACROSS THE REGION



FM & SW  
radio



Audio  
players



Internet  
ministry





## SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION

Update by Frederik Makitan, International Director

*I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.* 1 Corinthians 3:6–7 (NIV)

On a daily basis, the Southeast Asia ministry has the opportunity to plant and water seeds of God's hope to people from many different backgrounds. While TWR doesn't know every name, God does. And lives are being transformed.

The Southeast Asia ministry is developing new evangelism and discipleship programs. For example, the Indonesia ministry is

producing *Figure*, a new program communicating the person of Jesus in layman's terms.

This program will be broadcast over FM stations across Indonesia and made available on other relevant media platforms.

The ministry hopes to replicate the program concept in other countries across Southeast Asia.

While the ministry faces challenges, God has sent faithful workers to carry out the on-the-ground ministry and develop programs.

One of the goals is to have the country teams grow into independent organizations that continue to partner with TWR, but are self-sustaining and have their own board of directors.

In 2014, TWR Indonesia achieved national partner status. The countries currently in this process are Cambodia and the Philippines. To prepare these teams for this shift, the Southeast Asia ministry is training and restructuring the leadership in each of the countries.

Over the past year, the teams have been mapping out strategies for future ministry growth and local fund development in order to mature into self-sustaining entities.

TWR Cambodia is going through a process of re-registering the organization, changing the board of directors and the operating board, as well as writing/revising the handbook of the organization and ministry.

The Philippines leadership team went through a second round of training over the past year, and the team met with candidates to establish a board of directors.

**“The words of God on the radio program give me insight and hope for the future... I believe Jesus can cure, save and bless my life.”**

WIRA, A LISTENER FROM BALI, INDONESIA



[bit.ly/wirastory](https://bit.ly/wirastory)





“Many thought that I would die anytime.  
**But things changed when my child turned  
on the radio. After five days of listening, my  
heart and mind were moved to pray, because  
God was there, so I called to him...** I surrendered  
my life to the Lord through listening to  
the radio program.”

JULIETA, A LISTENER OF *WOMEN OF HOPE* IN  
BONTOC MOUNTAIN PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES

Please pray for:

- TWR's broadcasts from the station in Batam, Indonesia, into Singapore.
- God to direct the development process of TWR's Vietnam and Myanmar ministries over the next three years. ■
- The re-registration process for TWR's Cambodia ministry to be completed smoothly.



[bit.ly/julietastory](https://bit.ly/julietastory)

In Northeast Asia, engagement with TWR through **social media** platforms exceeded 21,000 interactions. Listeners in this region interact with TWR through social media more than they do through any other means.



## NORTHEAST ASIA REGION

MEDIA PLATFORMS  
ACROSS THE REGION



FM & SW  
radio



Audio  
players



Mobile apps  
& Internet





## NORTHEAST ASIA REGION

Update by Samuel Tan, International Director

God has given the Northeast Asia ministry a sense of urgency to bring the gospel to unreached people groups (UPGs) in the region.

The Japanese are the second-largest UPG in the world, the North Koreans are one of the hardest-to-reach people groups, and China is home to more than 100 UPGs.

This region is a hard ground for bringing the gospel to the people and many people throughout the region have not heard about Jesus. But God has opened many opportunities for TWR to share in these lands.

In China, the SON-Lift project team launched shortwave broadcasts in four languages — Mandarin, Cantonese, Hakka Chinese and Yue Chinese. This integrated media strategy aims to reach 105 UPGs in China.

God has led over 60 passionate believers to serve him with TWR, including a music composer and producer, voice talents, program producer, script writers, editors, post-editors and prayer warriors.

As part of the project, the team is distributing audio players — such as radios and MP3 players — through partners, a group which includes local churches and organizations. The team is still actively seeking partners to reach more areas.

The team continues to look for partners to translate and produce the dramatized Bible programs into the 12 other UPG languages and offer them on integrated media,

including shortwave broadcasts, Internet webcasts and focus media. The Chinese ministry is conducting research and developing a digital media strategy. It is also finding ways to deliver content and services in China.

Seminary on the Air (SOTA) is a program providing seminary training to pastors and lay leaders. The SOTA ministry is in the process of creating new content for tablets,

which is a new format the team began working on in 2014. The students will be able to complete all their lessons on the tablet.

About 200 students have graduated from the program since its move to the online platform in 2013. Many believers are participating in the SOTA course — not only from China, but from overseas as well.

“One listener in China was blessed by the programs she heard on her SON-Lift audio player and agreed to go to church. **That Sunday, she put her faith in Jesus. Two other listeners also gave their lives to Jesus that Sunday.**

A FIELD WORKER FOR THE SON-LIFT PROJECT







“I treasure the *Blessing Japan* program, as listening to the radio is my life. It gives me peace so I make a point to listen. **I don’t know much about the Bible, but the program makes me realize it has some unchanging truth. I look forward to listening to it every day.”**

A SIXTY-YEAR-OLD JAPANESE LISTENER

In Japan, TWR began broadcasting three additional programs over FM – *Power of Gospel*, *Blessing Japan*, and *Praise and Worship*. Twelve FM stations agreed to air the gospel messages in the Northeast part of the country. TWR is partnering with pastors in Japan for the programs, especially *Power of Gospel*, which has local pastors boldly preaching the Word.

TWR is grateful God has sent Japanese workers to facilitate ministry development in-country and for providing financial resources. The long-term goal for the Japan ministry is to become self-sustaining

TWR is also developing a digital media outreach to the Japanese youth.



In 2015, TWR Korea celebrated 20 years of ministering to North Korea.

The Korea ministry is developing three new gospel programs to reach first generation believers, children and youth in North Korea. TWR praises God for sustaining this crucial ministry.

Please pray for:

- Media distribution efforts across the region, especially God's protection for those going to remote and sensitive areas.
- The SOTA team and students as they diligently work towards their goals.
- Spiritual revelation and wisdom in the newly developed Japan ministry. ■

**“Praise the Lord who gives us strength to live like three hundred soldiers of Gideon in this world.”**

A NORTH KOREAN LISTENER







Besides local FM radio, TWR also broadcasts using high-powered **mediumwave (AM)** and **shortwave** radio transmitters. These broadcast programs travel thousands of kilometers to those who lack access to the gospel of Christ.



## ASIA REGIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES



Asia Media  
Services



Broadcast  
Operations



Finance



Human  
Resources



IT / IS



Marketing &  
Communications



Resource  
Development



# ASIA REGIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Update by Aaron Tan, International Director

It's clear to see how God worked in and through TWR's ministry over the past 60 years. It's exciting and challenging to see where he's leading the ministry next, and necessary to trust him a day at a time.

◀ TWR organizes monthly prayer meetings at the Singapore office in support of the Japan ministry. Consider joining this group! Get more details at [twr.asia/prayforjapan](http://twr.asia/prayforjapan)

This was the case in 2015 as multiple disasters struck the region, the most major of which were the earthquakes in Nepal. Shortly after the first earthquake, the team in Asia swung into action to work with partners — raising support to

provide relief aid and radios, as well as offering emergency programs to help survivors. Programs for long-term emotional and psychological support were also prepared for broadcast to the Nepali people.



[twr.asia/prayforjapan](http://twr.asia/prayforjapan)



Typhoon Dolphin came through Guam and damaged a couple of antennas at TWR's shortwave station on the island. TWR is thankful for volunteers from local churches who helped lower the antenna, rebuild it, and raise it back up within a week.

TWR is excited about the missionaries joining the KTWR team on Guam over the next year. These men and women come with gifts and skills critical for keeping the shortwave transmitting site running smoothly.

Since the last report, the ARSS has continued to implement cost-saving measures and increased efficiency in its day-to-day operations. This frees up funds for other ministry efforts across Asia.

One of those measures is an antenna switch matrix, which allows TWR to minimize the loss of airtime. It's a device that enables the Guam team to use any of the five antennas, which face certain directions to reach specific countries, with any of the transmitters. This new capability allows for greater flexibility in program placement, which helps in contingency planning if one of the transmitters is not working.

*Volunteers from  
local churches  
worked alongside  
Guam staff  
members as they  
helped to repair  
the antenna  
damaged during  
Typhoon Dolphin*

**"It was encouraging and exciting to see so many people sacrifice time and energy to help with the difficult task of getting the antenna back up and running!"**

UPDATE FROM THE KTWR BLOG ([HTTP://KTWRDRM.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://ktwrdr.m.blogspot.com))





**"We are beginning to see the benefit of the solar panel array that we have been anxiously waiting to use.** Combined, the solar panels will allow us to generate about 300 kWh of energy on a nice, sunny Guam day. Over time, this will make a big difference in our energy budget."

ANDREW ORTON FROM THE GUAM TEAM

The first two phases of the solar panel project are complete, and TWR is already seeing a reduction in energy costs. Pray with TWR as it looks to implement the third and final phase of the project. With the lower energy costs the project provides, TWR will be able to channel the funds saved towards other ministry work in the Asia region.

The Guam team also installed a dummy load, which allows the engineers to more effectively adjust and test the transmitters for broadcasts to the coverage areas without actually broadcasting radio waves over the antennas.



TWR's broadcast outlets at Guam and Sri Lanka received hardware and software upgrades to improve content management and delivery. The new system helps TWR provide better quality control and reporting, while continuing to deliver Bible-based programming to Asia.

TWR is continuing to raise awareness about the lives God is changing through this ministry. Through the annual movie and golf events, TWR was able to create greater awareness and support for its Chinese and South Asia ministries respectively.

Please pray for:

- Missionary appointees as they raise their support to go to Guam, and for God to raise up additional men and women to address manpower needs across Asia — especially in engineering, project management and data analysis.
- Opportunities to build deeper and stronger relationships with existing and potential partners.
- God to provide ministry partners so TWR can reach more unreached people groups across Asia. ■

*Participants for the 2015 Golf Challenge event. Funds raised through this event were in support of TWR's outreach to South Asia.*



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