

## Uhuru wa wanahabari.

Tangu uvamizi wa shirika la utangazaji la Standard humu nchini swali la kama kweli uhuru wa utangazaji upo humu chini, umekidhiri. Swali hili ni nyeti na inatubidi kama wananchi wa Kenya kulitizama na kulikagua..Je ni kweli yakwamba wanahabari wanaaweza kuandika chochote humu nchini ?

Liwe ama lisiwe, shirika la Indymedia, pamoja na Prometheus Radio Project liko humu nchini, lengo lao kuu likiwa kuanzisha vitambo vya utangazaji kama radio na vifaa vingine ili kuhakikisha uhuru kamili kwa wanahabari.

### WSF 2007: The Place To Be (continued from p.1)

Under banners calling for peace and justice around ten thousand people came together to listen to speeches from activists from various countries. The opening was exciting and vibrant as more and more people showed up for the live performances of local bands, and other cultural activities. Not a few were seen dancing and enjoying the great atmosphere of people in movement.

The World Social Forum (WSF) is a platform where social movements, Non-Governmental Organizations, Community and Faith Based Organisations and

Uhuru huu ukiwa, habari mbalimbali za wanaoona kanakwamba hawashugulikiwi zitapata kupepe-rushwa ili maono yao yapate kuangaziwa. Pia ni kweli yakwamba kazi zitajengwa na vijana wengi watapata kutumia vipawa vyao hivyobasi uvivu na uhalifu utaweza kurudi chini. Pia katika anga za siasa mambo yatabadilika kwa kuwa wanahabari wataweza kutan-gaza habari bila ya mapendeleo ama hofu. Haya na mengine mengi yatapata kushugulikiwa .HONGERA INDYMEDIA! - Anita Kasera / Maseno University

Unions meet and discuss alternatives to profit-driven policies and the capitalist global order. The World Social Forum was first held in 2001 at the peak of neoliberal globalization when we were told that there were no alternatives to corporate power. Grassroot movements met in Porte Alegre, Brazil to counter the meetings of the World Economic Forum, a club of the wealthiest and most powerful countries and companies world-wide. It was there that they coined the slogan, which has the power to unite millions around the globe: Another World Is Possible!

- Fabian & Mpumi / Kenya Indymedia Center



Members of the Independent Media Center Convergence worked with the Proactive Youth Group in Kangemi.

## Independent Media Converges in Nairobi for WSF 2007



The Indymedia Convergence (IMC) began on the 13th of January in Nairobi, Kenya . The IMC brought together over 30 independent media activists from all over the world, including journalists from Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa, the U.S.A, France and Germany. The convergence created a platform for sharing ideas, skills, knowledge, various media technologies. Practical experiences in the struggle for free, open and independent news production were gained by all participants. Radio and broadcasting skills were facilitated with a lot of enthusiasm by activists from

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### The Place To Be: Nairobi World Social Forum 2007



After the polycentric World Social Forum in Bamako in 2006, Kenya is hosting the first full global forum in Africa. Thousand of people from all over the globe are meeting for six days in Nairobi's Moi stadium. Their vision: to make another world possible. The opening was marked by a march from Kibera Africa's most famous slum to Uhuru Park in downtown.

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**Radio Huru at WSF: 107.9 FM**  
now through the end of the WSF

### Maseno University To Go ON AIR

Like many media institutions, Maseno University's now renowned Communication and Media Technology department began about a decade ago as a starved department. However, it has seen meteoric growth both in staff and equipment strength that has seen it the envy for aspiring cub journalists.

This success is attributed to several liaisons

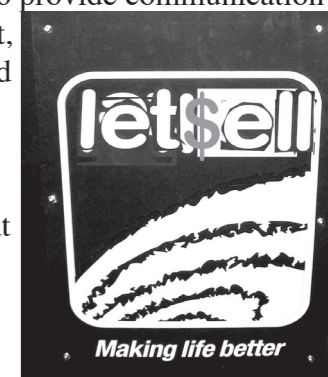


mounted by the department with several media organizations: both national and international. One such is the Prometheus Radio Project

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### Another Network Is Possible!

For the 7th time since 2001 tens of thousands of people are meeting this year to discuss their visions. But for the first time, this 'new world' will be organized with the help of communications giant, Celtel. The secretariat approached the cellular giant to provide communication support. Overnight, the WSF mobilized thousands of new subscribers for the corporation. This is the first time that corporate sponsorship has been solicited on such



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## Ugandan Delegates are beginning of Independent Media in Uganda

Some of the members of the Mission For Youth Rights are currently attending the World Social Forum through Independent Media Africa Convergence. This interaction organized by Indymedia seeks to exchange skills as Low Power Sound radio stations and audio skills as well to generate knowledge about freedom of press and the independency of media in Africa as a whole.

Mission for youth rights is a civil society organization that operates in eight districts in Uganda. The center has been in existence since 1998 with a vision to improve on the welfare of the youth through carrying out programmes and projects which are geared at empowering youth. The focus is also to improve their socio economic status and the dissemination of information regarding human rights in Uganda. More work emphasizes on establishing a network of organizations that fund youths empowerment programmes in Uganda. Some workshops and projects that the society has accomplished are tailoring, skill training and carpentry.



photo: Jacques-Jean Tiziou / www.jjtiziou.net

The youth in Uganda has expressed the difficulty of media and information accessibility in their country, and the IMC convergence is one platform to discuss such issues. Through this interaction the youths have learned skills such as audio, web designing and visual production. Some of them have been already spotted with mini-disks, holding interviews with participants at the World Social Forum.

Safina Nakato and Farida Nassanga interviewed National Union of Informal Economy Workers Organization (NUIEWO) from Uganda. The interview raised issues on how the vendors are badly treated by the government in Uganda. The Union also highlighted the need for independent media because the current mainstream does not feature them. Mr Ali Kayongo the chairperson of Nakasero Market said "there is a need for independent media, it will air out our views and enable us to access information".  
-Safina Nakato / Mission For Youth Rights

**Indymedia Kenya:**  
<http://kenya.indymedia.org>

## Independent Media Convergence (continued from page 1)

Prometheus. They facilitated the building of antennas, transmitters and all components related with the setting up and running of a broadcast radio station. Techniques were also shared in the areas of audio and video recording of interviews and events, editing and post-production, photography, print media screen-printing, building a silk screen press, open publishing and web design. Another valuable experience was how to live together in a community, especially training on consensus decision-making and trying out facilitation. Happening on the eve of the first ever WSF in Africa, the convergence focused on building lasting alternatives for the development of real tools for media production in Africa. The convergence also presented an opportunity for IMC to go out to the townships and slums off Nairobi to learn from and support the struggle for free expression and access to the media there. Connections were established with groups of young people, students and community

centres. In Korogocho, Kangemi and Kasarani, activists engaged in progressive community work and got training and media tools from Prometheus. In Africa, independent media and freedom of expression signify a great step forward towards real liberation of the people.  
- Charles Mutenga / Indymedia Zimbabwe



photo: Jacques-Jean Tiziou / www.jjtiziou.net

## Maseno University to go ON AIR

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that works very closely with the department to ensure independence of the media for effective communication for attitudinal change.

Currently, Prometheus Radio Project has donated radio equipment for Low Power FM (LPFM) to Maseno University. According to the chairperson of the department, Dr. Judith Attyang, "this will take media training in the contemporary Kenyan scenario to a new level".

Mr James Oranga, a radio specialist, was upbeat about this, stating that "this state-of-the art equipment will provide a new platform for students to graduate with hands-on experience that will be an added advantage for Maseno graduates". Mr Charles Othina, also a lecturer in Media department, said that "this is a dream come true and the department is now geared towards serious and meaningful liasons with the local community through the radio".

The Prometheus Radio Project was created in 1998 by former pirate radio operators to promote the re-emergence of community radio and the democratization of the airwaves.

## Another Network Is Possible! (continued from p. 1).

scale by the WSF. Celtel's marketing man on site, Robert, says "Celtel does a lot of good. We are happy to support the Social Forum."

A lot of WSF participants have another perspective on the cellular business. They criticize the involvement of big companies, in what they say is a corporate WSF that excludes many locals because of high prices. A demonstration of at least 100 participants angrily knocked on the doors of the WSF planning committee in Kasarani on Monday afternoon, demanding from the WSF free entrance for all willing participants, cheaper food and water prices and free sleeping places in the Youth Camp. Mr. Moi, one of the protestors explained: "We can't accept that a bottle of water is sold three times more expensive than normal."

The water supplier Grange Park is another private company that's profiting from the well-meaning visiting hordes. Vendors of their half-litre bottles of water have been contracted for the six-day duration of the Forum. Surely the extra cash isn't reflected in their wages. Rhoda Waitthika, a saleslady for Grange Park, says that she is paid KHS300 per day. Vendors for



photo: Jacques-Jean Tiziou / www.jjtiziou.net

Being a university in a rural region bedevilled with a plethora of issues, the radio station comes in handy to not only entertain but also educate the locals on development matters in their local languages.

Radio is a personal medium that can be listened to while at the same time attending to other chores. It is also the best companion to anyone. When exploited fully, the radio will surely make a difference in the people's lives as community groups articulate their problems themselves. This is what Maseno aims to achieve with the anticipated radio station.

- Media Students, Maseno University

Softa, a soft drink company, get paid even less.

But there is one thing that Mr. Moi really doesn't like. The most expensive food stall, right in the ring around the stadium and workshop spaces, was given to the catering company of Kenya's internal security minister Mr. John Michuki. While his policemen are keeping the doors closed for poor participants and little vendors, his hotel catering company is charging 400 Shillings for a sandwich. "One-woman-businesses could cater for the WSF participants for as little as 40 Shillings per meal. The little business and the participants would gain", he explains.

At the same time the "involvement of the poor" becomes mere symbolism. As Kibera resident Ruth told us, she had been invited to march from Kibera on the opening and closing day of the WSF, but she never knew that there was a whole forum happening in between. Others have been provided with t-shirts or promised a pair of shoes as incentives to demonstrate.

WSF chef organizer Prof. Oyugi met the protestors today. He promised to take their demands to the committee to decide.