



**Media News**  
Media Southern Africa <sup>w</sup>  
[www.niza.nl/medianews](http://www.niza.nl/medianews)

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**Netherlands institute for Southern Africa**

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## 1 The State of the Media

### The daily reality of Southern Africa

**“...and so they simply arrested all the editorial staff of the paper.”**

**“Mozambique undoubtedly has the most media-friendly constitution and press law among all southern African countries. Zimbabwe and Zambia(in that order) have the most hostile constitutional and legal framework for the media. The rest of the southern African countries fall somewhere between the two extremes.**

The point may be illustrated as follows: Recently in Mozambique, the state commenced legal proceedings against a provincial or district government official for harassment and abuse of a journalist. In Zimbabwe, on the other hand, the Executive and its Attorney General have gone out of their way to defend the indefensible, i.e. the kidnapping and torture of two journalists by the military for publishing a story which was not to the liking of the military. I understand that, in Zambia, the authorities were unable to identify the author of a newspaper story which was not to their liking, and so they simply arrested all the editorial staff of the paper.”

A veteran of journalism, Manyarara is in the front-line of the fight for freedom of expression in southern Africa. In the quote he sketches the complicated circumstances affecting the media in this region.

With the nineties came the birth of democracy. But what does democracy signify? For most media, it means no more than reporting about the winning election of a ruling political party. And for most citizens, it is no more than a trip to the polling booths every four years. For these reasons, media have a crucial role to play in the creation of an awareness of a country's current state of affairs. This would be events and occurrence's *outside* of election periods. Only with the creation of this awareness, can an impact be made on the citizens of a country.

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Quote of John O.Manyarara, retired judge of the supreme court in Zimbabwe and a veteran of journalism.

Always in the frontline of the battle for independent journalism in the region

## 2 NiZA and Media in Southern Africa

**For years, the Netherland institute for Southern Africa (NiZA) has been involved in the support of independent media in Southern Africa. Although the countries in the region cope with different circumstances one thing is clear: independent media needs to be strengthened to sustain democracy in Southern Africa.**

Last year the first experts began their missions and worked on request of one of NiZA's 47 partnerorganisations. The support ranges from support to an independent newspaper in Zimbabwe to the technical assistance for the first internetcafé in Angola's capital Luanda.

For the future NiZA chooses to continue this support through personnel expertise (funded by NiZA's backdonor PSO -Personnel Assistance for Development.) Furthermore, NiZA is able to assist 30 young students and young journalists to gain working experience at one of the partnerorganisations in Southern Africa.

Related links

[More on NiZA's Mediaprogramme](#)

[Summary](#)

[Experience Southern Africa: possibilities to work through NiZA](#)

[List of partners](#)

### Freedom of Expression

Freedom of expression is inextricably bound to media. In most southern African countries it is set out in the nation's constitution. But how can freedom of expression be borne, where it does not exist? And how does one *protect* freedom of expression where it *does* exist?

It should be noted that freedom of expression goes deeper than simply having the right to say something about someone. It is also the *news source*, or where news originates from. Therefore it is necessary to ensure that young, inexperienced journalists are given the task to ensure that freedom of expression is taken seriously, and responsibly.

It will not be easy however before those in the power-seats take the press seriously. In Zimbabwe, total oppression made objective reporting, other than that of Mugabe's propaganda, virtually impossible. The fighting parties in Angola have prevented the press from giving any voice to an independent party. And governments are still able to destroy media with the prohibition of advertising.

In addition to this, the go-ahead for the liberalisation of radio has still not been given in most countries. If democracy is to be of significance to the illiterate, it is necessary then that independent radio stations, attempt to dominate the airwaves for the sake of their listeners.

Support for this sector is vital. This is why NiZA is involved with programmes for media and freedom of expression. NiZA's purpose is better understood via the explanation of the following five themes: freedom, plurality, accessibility, quality and sustainability.

### **NiZA's "Media and Freedom of Expression" programme**

NiZA's media programme began in 1999. NiZA works with approximately forty independent, non-governmental partner organisations all based in the southern African region. In the future NiZA aims to establish and strengthen the ties between the southern African and Dutch media.

#### **Freedom**

Freedom of expression and the right to a free press is emphasised in almost every constitution, but the recognition of free speech leaves much to be desired. Journalists are principally regarded as being the bearers of bad news, and the image created of the media is a poor one. For this reason, the protection of threatened journalists, and the challenge to liberalise archaic press law is of great importance.

#### ***Examples of press freedom/press protection:***

##### *Institutional and legal support*

Seminar – "Independent institutes of journalism" – MISA

Certain governments still decide on whether or not to sanction media, and in most countries governments feel the need to institute the members of independent media organisations themselves. One of NiZA's main partners, MISA (The Media Institute of Southern Africa) deals with allegations made against media and offers support in times of crisis. In 1998, MISA organised a seminar for national institutes of journalism in the region.

(NiZA has sponsored this seminar)

The creation of a regional news agency – MISA

There is at least one national MISA office in each southern African country.

Collectively these offices share information via an extensive network. Via the network, violations of press freedom are reported and distributed. MISA aims to professionalise this service, and to create a single central network.

(NiZA sponsored the seminar.)

##### *Journalists in danger*

###### **Media-alert system**

Be it physical or otherwise, each journalist that is attacked is one journalist too many. Only via international pressure can an impact on the assault of journalists be made. In 2001, NiZA hopes to establish an international alert system which will inform organisations of violations of press freedom and related activities

The revival of five independent newspapers in Lesotho.

A military coup in 1998 sent Lesotho into turmoil. Although the aim was to diffuse the situation, the invasion of South African troops aggravated the situation further. For weeks, Maseru was an arena of chaos and disorder. Independent newspapers watched

helplessly as their premises went up in smoke. NiZA assisted these media houses in getting back on their feet by financing computers, computers and recording equipment.

### *Media Monitoring*

#### *MediaWatch/MediaWorks*

MediaWorks is an organisation that supports the democratisation and gender-sensitising of the media. Based in Cape Town, South Africa, the organisation provides training to communities that previously had little or no access communication and media education. The organisation's newsletter, MediaWatch, acts as a watch-dog for insensitive reporting on gender issues in the South African press. This newsletter is an eye-opener for the still male-dominated media in country. (NiZA supports the newsletter financially).

### **Plurality**

Prior to the transition to democracy the media landscape in southern Africa was sparse. Except for state-owned, other forms of media were virtually non-existent. Today at least each country in the southern African region has independent newspapers, and the airwaves are being freed to make way for more independent radio stations. Yet it is still the situation that not enough new voices are being heard. Many governments continue to use dubious methods in the decision-making process of granting broadcasting licenses.

#### ***Examples of the plurality-projects:***

##### *Mag-trust – Namibia*

Edith Tulp, on behalf of NiZA, and in connection with PSO, undertook a feasibility study regarding the establishment of magazine for a group of non-governmental organisations in Namibia. The first issue of the magazine has since been published .  
Behind the Mask- GALA (South Africa)

The Dutch journalist, Bart Luirink, has supported the establishment of a web-site dedicated to the homosexual community in South Africa. The web-site serves as a central information source for various gay organisations in the country.

##### *The Chronicle – Malawi*

With two computers and five editors, the Jamieson family publishes the weekly Chronicle. The publication is known as the most impartial newspaper in the country. This is refreshing in a country where newspapers carry a reputation for mud-slinging and provocation. In order to keep the paper independent of the government, the Jamiesons are now working towards establishing an independent printing company. The printing company will also be used for the publication of newsletters for organisations. (NiZA has sponsored the scanner, printer and computer for lay-out and editing)

##### *Radio training Katatura Community Radio – Namibia*

Namibia has very few independent radio stations. Katatura Community Radio(KCR) is the country's only non-commercial broadcaster. Broadcasting since 1995, the station's programs are aimed at the communities of the Katatura and Komasdal townships. Community members and non-governmental organisations remain active in the organisation.

(Radio training for eight producers by radio journalist Frans Stultiëns was organised by NiZA in 1998. The training was aimed at the coverage of the national elections).

### **Accessibility**

Liberalisation of the media does not mean automatic access thereto for everyone. For most inhabitants of the rural areas, there is no alternative other than state-owned radio. And where newspapers are available, their content is mainly that of urban news. For marginalised communities in the cities the media remains far removed from the reality of their daily lives

For this reason, community media (radio and print) is an essential medium to make people realise that the media is open to everyone, and it is a means whereby communities can make their voices heard.

#### ***Examples of accessibility projects:***

##### *The establishment of Angonet, the internet cafe– Angola*

The Development Workshop facilitates and supports non-governmental organisations in Angola. Most NGO's do not have any computers, let alone access to the internet. For this reason the Development Workshop brought Angonet to life. In 2000 it opened the first internet cafe for NGO's based in Luanda.

(NiZA supported this project by providing aid from the technician, Bas Stekelenburg).

##### *Fact-finding mission to gain insight into community radio in South Africa. – Zimbabwe*

The Media Institute of Southern Africa supports all forms of independent media(print, radio, television and video) in this region. Its primary goal is the reformation of press laws. It is also concerned with the representation of the media, and the safety of journalists.

In Zimbabwe community radio remains forbidden. Reformation of the law surrounding this sector is needed. In 1999, MISA's Zimbabwean office, along with a number of NGO's from the region, organised a fact-finding mission to South African community radio stations. This was the first step toward getting this sector off the ground in Zimbabwe. One year later a delegations of all stakeholders (including politicians and decision-makers) met with their counterparts in South Africa

(NiZA provided the financial assistance for this project)

##### *Radio training-Bush Radio – South Africa*

Bush Radio is the first community radio station of this country. The station is the basic training ground for most of the country's black journalists. Bush Radio's programme s are directed at making its listeners aware of events taking place in their immediate surroundings. It broadcasts programme s dealing with AIDS education, health and violence and crime. (Training in 1998 and 1999 with Peter van de Akker organised via NiZA.)

##### *Radio training of prisoners in South Africa*

"Otherwise" is an organisation that does rehabilitation work with juvenile offenders and street children. In the Brandvlei prison, Otherwise produced a radio programme with the juveniles about their lives. The goal was to work with these youth in a non-threatening manner, and to create a platform they could use to comfortably discuss the problems they experience. On completion, the programme was distributed to community radio stations.

(NiZA provided financial assistance to the radio project).

##### *Community Radio – Angola*

ADRA (Acção para o Desenvolvimento Rural e Ambiente) is one of the strongest non-

governmental organisations in Angola. The organisation assists community members to improve their quality of life. The result is a strengthening of the social welfare of a community living in a post war situation.

Access to unbiased information is still a missing link in Angolan society. In the coming year, ADRA will be establishing the first community radio project in the country. (The Mozambican training institute NSJC gave the first training to ADRA's staff and this brings the country's first community radio station closer into existence.)

#### *Community Publishing – Zimbabwe*

The NGO ACDPT (African Community Publishing Development Trust) facilitates and assists local community organisations with their publications. Trainers visit local villages and teach groups how to develop their own newsletters. This is done with just one laptop computer and one printer. By producing their own publications organisations are to draw attention to their situation and to make their voices heard.

(NiZA has financed one high quality printer and other design/printing facilities for various ethnic communities)

#### *Community Publishing – Angola*

As is the case with community radio, community publishing is still in its infant stage in Angola. In 1999, under the leadership of ACDP-Zimbabwe, the first community publishing projects were started in Huambo and Luanda. The Angolan Development Workshop will give training in the future.

(After a fact-finding mission to Zimbabwe, staff-training of Development Workshop, ACDP trainer Cathy Stewart is stationed with DW to help build the project).

Photographic exhibition and publications by community members-Namibia

The photographic training institute, Phocon, trains young photographers. Via a photographic exhibition, the inhabitants of the Katatura township brought the reality of their daily lives into light. This exhibition was also shown in the Netherlands. The photographs were an eye-opener for both Namibians and foreigners.

(NiZA gave financial support to several photo-publications, such as the exhibition, "Life in Katatura").

#### *Professionalising the e-mail bulletin - Mozambique.*

There remains a lack of newspapers in Mozambique. This is due to distribution problems. In the north and central regions of the country, distribution problems occur due to a poor infrastructure. There is also very little reporting on issues or events taking place in this region. As the first e-mail bulletin, Noticias Mozambique is attempting to overcome these difficulties. Thrice a week a summary of news is sent via e-mail to subscribers of the bulletin. Most subscribers are NGO's. The e-mail bulletin is followed up with an actual paper being printed and distributed on the street. (NiZA financed the computers for the use of professionalising this service.)

### **Quality**

In many countries the press has been reduced to having tabloid-status. In correctly, or poorly researched stories, with incomplete and incorrect facts leave much to be desired. The unbiased or objectivity of the media is a question that remains. Projects promoting quality journalism are strongly encouraged to uphold the image of a good strong unbiased media.



***Examples of the quality projects:***

*The establishment of an editorial statute for student media - SASPU*

The South African Press Union is a national organisation for newspapers and radio stations that are run by South African universities and colleges. At a seminar in 1998 the union established a model statute for a university run student newspaper. (NiZA has financed part of the seminar)

*Media College - Media Works South Africa.*

For many black high school pupils, it is still difficult to be admitted to study journalism at a tertiary institution. The gap between secondary and tertiary is far too high. MediaWorks presents a one year bridging course to overcome this gap. Students learn all basic facets of the subjects, and are also given the opportunity to improve their language skills and as well as their computer knowledge. (The curriculum has been analysed and improved upon with the aid of Chudi Ukpabi. NiZA has financed this personal assistance.

*Women and Communication - MediaWorks*

In the New South Africa women still being shunned by the media. Stereotypes and biased writing styles are the order of the day. For black women it is still very difficult to gain access to the media. MediaWorks is trying to overcome this situation and to train women in producing media productions for their communities. Thus the “Gender and communication” programme was developed. (NiZA supports the programme with the input of Imke Gooskens, in the video training and production of the programme s).

*A study into electronic media - Southern Africa*

The renowned organisation, FXI (Freedom of eXpression Institute) keeps its finger on the pulse of developments in the media and violation of this basic human right. Do people have complete access to news as well as a variety in their choice? Last year, the fast paced changes in the radio and television sectors have been under scrutiny. (NiZA has co-financed the publication on this research).

**Sustainability**

***under construction***

A lot of young independent media is drowning in financial troubles. How does one keep a newspaper afloat when running costs are expensive, when advertising revenue falls due to a recessive economy and when the only printing press lies in the hands of a “friend of the government.

**Summary Media programme Niza**

*Introduction*

Picture the arrival of a new day in Europe: youngsters bike through the streets delivering the different morning papers. When arriving at the breakfast table you pick it up as you do every other day. During breakfast you file through the paper and pick up a diversity of news, stories and opinions. On the radio in the background you hear the latest news. There is no obvious reason why you should mistrust what you read or hear. You expect the truth exposed by a capable objective journalist. He or she is just an ordinary guy or girl doing the job in full freedom. Without questioning under what

circumstances this edition or programme came to light, you go of to work. When in southern Africa, the scene is extremely different. Chances are big that you cannot afford to buy a newspaper everyday, let alone choose between them. And even if you have a radio, there is not much variety to lessen your thirst of information. Secondly, the quality is more than often low and the articles or reports only give one side of the story. And in the case that you do read a revealing exposé on a certain government official you know this article will have major repercussions for the journalist and his seniors.

### *Long-term support is needed*

Although since a decade democracy has been introduced in the whole Southern African region freedom of expression is still a new thing. It is weak in the sense of judicial protection and in the understanding of the meaning of this newly achieved freedom. Since the transition to democracy several countries experienced an abundance of small papers that, under the banner of freedom of expression, write what ever they like, disregarding its repercussions. Will the young democracies have a chance to overgrow its childhood-phase, media have an all-important task: to inform, to stimulate debate and to give citizens a voice. Only this way democracy will be more than casting your vote every four years.

NiZA opts for long-term support for this sector through the programme 'Media and Freedom of expression.' The main goals will be to improve the media's **diversity** and **access** to the citizens, to enhance journalists' and media's **freedom** and **quality** and to strengthen the sector's **sustainability**. From these goals we have derived several interventions (projects) with which we aim to achieve the above mentioned. These clusters are the following:

- **research and training** in order to improve journalists' (ethical) standards and media's sustainability;
- **community media** to enable people to tell their stories, to be part of the news and to make it easier for people to be involved in decision-making- processes;
- **media exchange and linking** will increase the platform to address issues concerning the media in Southern Africa. Until now, news about this region, and Africa in general, is very shallow and stereotype. Through exchange journalists in the South and North will expand their horizons, broaden their views and enhance their skills. Also, through linking there is more long-term commitment and support. This is especially wanted in the case of all those journalists under threat and which need all the (legal) support they can get.
- **new media** are necessary tools to diversify the media landscape and to give more people access to news and information. Through the new applications of ICT it is possible to overcome infrastructural barriers which until now make it impossible for people in the rural areas to be in contact with the world 'out there'.
- **gender** is an often neglected issue in the media. Most journalists write and report about women in stereotypes and thereby strengthening the image of women being weak, passive and victims. In all countries there is desperate need to adjust this image and media will have to be among the firsts to change their behaviour.
- **donor-coordination** is particularly needed to make sure that NiZA's activities are as effective as possible. Doubling must be avoided and efforts bundled.

## Experience Southern Africa:

### NiZA programme 'Media and Freedom of Expression'

#### *About NiZA*

NiZA's media-programme is one out of three programmes. The other two are 'Economic relations' and 'Human Rights'. Each programme consists of direct project support, personnel assistance and lobby and advocacy in the Netherlands (Europe). NiZA considers itself 'a bridge' between civil society in Southern Africa and Europe. In Europe NiZA co-operates with a group of likeminded organisations around Southern Africa: ENIASA (European Network for Information and Action on Southern Africa).

NiZA's own funds, mostly coming from individual donors in the Netherlands, are very limited and mostly used for lobby and advocacy. However NiZA implements part of the so-called PSO-programme (Personnel Service Overseas), funded by the Dutch government, with which many media-projects are supported. NiZA is partly funded for development education projects in The Netherlands by EU and the Dutch Government (NCDO).

#### *Media programme*

NiZA's 'structural involvement' in the media in Southern Africa dates back to before 1990. NiZA does not implement projects herself, but gives priority to supporting our partner organisations (over 50 for the media programme) in Southern Africa. For NiZA it's our partners who define the policies for the sector.

Main aim of the media-programme as such is establishing more fruitful contacts between media in Southern Africa and their western colleagues.

#### *Expertise exchange*

Most important part of the programme is the exchange of expertise. NiZA has around 1,5 million Euro a year available to support its partner organisations in:

<u>Training</u>	both short ('expert') missions and long term placements (gender training, capacity building, quality improvement, research) : trainers from any nationality can be elected upon request of our partner organisations.
<u>Exchanges</u>	both South-South (between African countries, but also with South America etc.) and with Europe(workshops, seminars, short training courses for groups)
<u>Individual courses</u>	for personnel of the partner organisations in Southern Africa (for instance in The Netherlands)
<u>In-service training</u>	(Dutch: 'stage')for students, both from Southern Africa and from Holland (a small special fund is available to support Dutch students journalism through their institutes)
<u>'Trainee-places'</u>	(Dutch: 'ervaringsplaats')for 3-12 months, for which travel costs, and an allowance based on a minimum salary are available – for instance for graduating students

Junior placement 1 to 2 years for instance for students who just finished their studies

Young professionals 'Expert Missions' – with a daily fee between 100 and 180 Euro or long term placements

Especially the latter 4 are interesting for students and young journalists

Information:

NiZA media-personnel assistance officer: Christian Kuystermans, email: christian@niza.nl

### **Some examples of NiZA's involvement in the media:**

#### 1. 'Nursing'

NiZA is capable of adopting small projects, which are not yet 'fundable' for other donors in order to 'nurse' them into fundability.

Example: Agora, one of the first independent weeklies in Angola (now on it's own feet after support from Novib)

#### 2. 'SADC-exchange'

NiZA supports exchange of information and support from projects between SADC countries:

Example 1: 'Community Publishing in Angola' is supported by ACPD from Zimbabwe with 15 years experience. Made possible by PSO-funds.

Example 2: 'SAMSO' from Zimbabwe is organising courses in photojournalism in several countries throughout the region in co-operation with CAF, World press photo and NiZA.

#### 3. 'Exchange of trainers'

Through the PSO-programme it is possible to exchange trainers of training institutes in The Netherlands (Europe) and SADC – countries. These trainers also fulfil a role in education in The Netherlands after their exchange period.

Examples: Mediaworks, Cape Town; Bush Radio, Cape Town; IAJ, Johannesburg; NSJ, Maputo; SAMDEF and MISA - regional

#### 4. 'Research exchange'

NiZA, being a merger of three former Anti-Apartheid Movements in the Netherlands is the proud owner of one of the largest libraries in this field.

NiZA is starting a campaign for promotion of research and investigative journalism, especially by journalists from SADC countries through support for travelling, working grants etc.

#### 5. 'New Media'

Not only ICT, but also emerging new initiatives in 'old media' can be supported. But for instance the support of HIP HOP as a 'new media' was very successful, even to the extent that experienced rappers from Cape Town came to teach the Dutch scene.

## List of partner organisations

### List of partner organisations

<b>ACPD</b>	Africa Community Publishing and Development Trust
<b>ADRA</b>	Action for Rural Development and Environment ( <i>Acção Para o Desenvolvimento Rural e Ambiente</i> )
<b>AMARC</b>	World local radio organisation ( <a href="#"><i>Association Mondiale des Radiodiffuseurs Communautaires</i></a> )
<b>AMPN</b>	African Media Partners Network
<b>CIVED</b>	Civic Education Network Trust
<b>CRED</b>	Creative Education
<b>DW</b>	Development Workshop
<b>FAMWZ</b>	Federation of African Media Women in Zimbabwe
<b>FXI</b>	<a href="#">Freedom of Expression Institute</a>
<b>GALA</b>	Gay and Lesbian Archives
<b>IAJ</b>	<a href="#">Institute for the Advancement of Journalism</a>
<b>IEMS</b>	Institute of Extra Mural Studies
<b>IFASIC</b>	Institute for Information and Communication Sciences ( <a href="#"><i>Institute Facultaire des Sciences de l'Information et de la Communication</i></a> ). Kinshasa, DR Congo
<b>IFEX</b>	<a href="#">International Freedom of Expression of Exchange</a> . Toronto, Canada
<b>IFJ</b>	<a href="#">International Federation of Journalists</a> . Brussels, Belgium
<b>IJAZ</b>	Independent Journalists Association Zimbabwe
<b>JED</b>	Journalists in Danger DR Congo ( <a href="#"><i>Journalistes en Danger</i></a> )
<b>KCR</b>	Katatura Community radio
<b>MAMWA</b>	Malawi Media Women Association
<b>MARAI</b>	Malawi Human Rights for the Media
<b>MDC</b>	<a href="#">Movement for Democratic Change</a>
<b>MIJ</b>	Malawi Institute of Journalism
<b>MILES</b>	Media Institute for Lesotho
<b>MISA</b>	<a href="#">Media Institute for Southern Africa</a> . Windhoek, Namibia
<b>MMD</b>	Movement for Multi-Party Democracy
<b>MMPZ</b>	<a href="#">Media Monitoring Project Zimbabwe</a> . Harare, Zimbabwe
<b>NCA</b>	National Constitutional Assembly
<b>NCRF</b>	National Community Radio Forum
<b>NOTMOC</b>	Mozambique grassroots media development organisation ( <i>Notícias Moçambicanas</i> )
<b>NSJ</b>	Nordic Southern African Journalistic Training Centre
<b>OSF</b>	<a href="#">Open Society Foundation</a>
<b>OSISA</b>	<a href="#">Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa</a>
<b>RISE</b>	Rural-people's Institute for Social Empowerment
<b>SAMDEF</b>	Southern African Media Development Fund
<b>SAMSO</b>	Southern African Media Services
<b>SASPU</b>	South African Student Press Union
<b>SJA</b>	Angolan Journalists Association ( <i>Sindicato dos Jornalistas Angolanos</i> )
<b>WWRP</b>	Workers World Radio Productions
<b>ZAMCOM</b>	Zambia Institute of Mass Communication Educational Trust
<b>ZCTU</b>	<a href="#">Zimbabwean Congress of Trade Unions</a> . Harare, Zimbabwe
<b>ZIFF</b>	Zanzibar International Film Festival. Zanzibar, Tanzania
<b>ZIMA</b>	Zambia Independent Media Association

### 3 Media Market Southern Africa

On Friday 22 September (14h00) NiZA organises a mediamarket for Dutch teachers and students at Schools of Journalism. 15 journalists from South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola,



Mozambique, Zambia en Malawi share their experiences with the public. Topics include hiphop - can it become “new media”, women and media, young journalists in conflict areas and media and racism.

De Balie, Kleine Gartmanplantsoen 10, Amsterdam

*Hiphop: more than “fuck da bitch”*

Hiphop is hot in South Africa. Hot and controversial. Some view it as an imported music-culture from the United States and associate it with criminality, violence and abusive texts. Rappers in the Cape Province show that this is not the whole truth. Hiphop is a successful medium to reach South Africa’s youth. Famous rappers teach their audience about social issues like HIV, domestic violence and democracy. Edutainment, it is called.

Recently a new project called HIVHOP saw the light:

Bush Radio (Cape Town) hosts a popular ‘hiphopshow’ every week. Together with Dutch ‘rap professor’ Thomas Gesthuizen a group of rappers developed a new format for the Show by including civic education in the program. Talking about HIV and Aids, discussing about taboos and stereotypes. And a lot of rapping of course...

In September three rappers from the Cape come to Holland. In several workshops in the Bijlmer (Amsterdam) they will teach the youth all the “ins” and “outs” of hiphop as edutainment. The workshops include rap contests. The winners will perform together with the rappers from Cape Town in a final concert at Friday 22 September 21.00 Akhnaton Amsterdam

At the **mediamarket** Shaheen Ariefdien (ex Prophets of da City), Shamiel Adams and Mr Devious present themselves. They perform a couple of songs and talk about the music, the Hivhopproject and their mission.

Friday 22 September 14.00 - 15.00 De Balie Kleine Gartmanplantsoen 10 Amsterdam

*More information*

Madunia Foundation - co-organiser of Hivhop-project ([www.madunia.nl](http://www.madunia.nl))

Prophets of da City official website ( [www.rucus.ru.ac.za/~eitan/poc/poc2.html](http://www.rucus.ru.ac.za/~eitan/poc/poc2.html) )

NiZa and hiphop: [www.niza.nl/hiphop](http://www.niza.nl/hiphop)

*Journalists in conflict areas - a ruling passion?*

Recent developments in Zimbabwe have made it clear to the world that the battle for freedom of expression is far from over in this country. In the weeks preceding the parliamentary elections in June journalists (from non-governmental media) were threatened and harassed by supporters of ZANU-PF, the police and so-called war veterans. Several times government politicians have accused Zimbabwean media of unpatriotic behaviour if they kept writing critically about the land-occupations. Tragic highlight was the bomb attack on the office of the one of the impartial newspaper Daily News.

The events in Zimbabwe are not unfamiliar for the independent Balkan media. The constant attacks on the independent radio station B92 in Belgrado are well-known. More recent the unfree work climate of journalists in Kosovo comes to the fore. In the first week of September a Albanian journalist Kosovo has been murdered in Kosovo. His contacts with the Democratic League of Kosovo allegedly signed his death.

At the **mediamarket** Dutch radio journalist Jo van der Spek talks with two young journalists from Zimbabwe and the Balkan about their profession, their ideals, hopes and fears.

Friday 22 September 14.00-15.00 De Balie Kleine Gartmanplantsoen 10

Grace Kwinjeh has worked as a journalist for several media in Zimbabwe. She has been founding member of the Independent Journalists Association Zimbabwe. She is a member of the opposition party Movement for Democratic Change.

Julia Bogoeva is a journalist working for Yugoslavian media. Currently she reports on the hearings of the war tribunal in The Hague.

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*Useful links:*

Media alerts Zimbabwe  
[www.misanet.org/zimbabwe.html](http://www.misanet.org/zimbabwe.html)

Media Monitoring Project Zimbabwe  
[www.mmpz.org.zw](http://www.mmpz.org.zw)

Press Now  
[www.pressnow.org](http://www.pressnow.org)

Kosovo journalist gunned down -BBC report  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/europe/newsid\\_920000/920046.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/europe/newsid_920000/920046.stm)

*Women and the media*

In the new South Africa women are still being shunned by society. With difficulties, controversial topics as rape and domestic violence are being discussed. Women's organisations have a tough battle to fight this. This year a High Court judge gave a relative meagre sentence of 7 years to a man who raped his daughter, only because the crime was committed inside the family unit...

But also in the media the battle is difficult. Stereotypes and biased writing styles are the order of the day. For black women it is still very difficult to gain access to the media. MediaWorks (Cape Town) is an organisation that supports the democratisation and gender-sensitising of the media. MediaWorks provides training to communities that previously had little or no access communication and media education. The organisation's newsletter, MediaWatch, acts as a watch-dog for insensitive reporting on gender issues in the South African press. This newsletter is an eye-opener for the still male-dominated media in country.

At the **mediamarket** a video about MediaWorks women's program is being showed. Karen Thorne (director of MediaWorks), Talent Nyathi (Zimbabwean journalist) and Marleen Janssen Groesbeek (Dutch Foundation "Women and media") will exchange experiences from their respective backgrounds.

Friday 22 September 15.30-17.00 De Balie - Kleine Gartmanplantsoen 10 Amsterdam

*"Hi, I am Charlize Theron. People often ask me what men are like in South Africa. Well... consider that more women are raped in South Africa than any other country in the world. that one out of three women will be raped in their lifetime in South Africa. And perhaps, worst of all, that the rest of men in South Africa seem to think that rape isn't their problem. It's not easy to say what the men in South Africa are like. Because there seem to be so few of them out there."*

This successful anti-rape advertisement was pulled off air by South Africa's Advertising Standards Authority after complaints of a group of Afrikaner men.

*Racism - the struggle continues*

The investigation on racism in South Africa's media has come to an end. After two years of mutual bickering between the South African Commission on Human Rights (SAHRC) and the media, nobody will be surprised by the final report. Yes, the media are racist. Be it direct or indirect, conscious or unconscious, they are influenced by prejudice and stereotypes on the different races.

But how surprising is that in a country like South Africa that only recently abandoned apartheid? How exceptional is their situation when compared to other sectors?

What is clear is that the hearings have left deep marks. The government accuses media of unfair reporting whereas journalists feel scapegoated by a government that cannot handle criticism from its former allies. And the suggested race-sensitivity training for all journalists will not be able to change this very easily.



More important, the Commission advises the instalment of a monitoring and regulating board. Opponents already warn about the effects on the South Africa's freedom of expression, enshrined in the most praised Constitution in Africa.

At the **mediamarket** Hugh Lewin hosts an open forum on racism and the media. He will be accompanied by South Africa's famous cartoonist Zapiro (Jonathan Shapiro). Lewin has been a commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. As such he has lead the investigation into the behaviour during apartheid of the media.

Friday 22 September 15.30-17.00 De Balie Kleine Gartmanplantsoen 10 Amsterdam

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*Useful links:*

Institute for the Advancement of Journalism (IAJ)

[www.iaj.org.za](http://www.iaj.org.za)

Investigation into Racism in the media – South African Human Rights commission report

[www.sahrc.org.za/investigation\\_into\\_\\_racism\\_in\\_th.htm](http://www.sahrc.org.za/investigation_into__racism_in_th.htm)

National Conference on Racism 2000

[www.sahrc.org.za/national\\_conference\\_on\\_racism.htm](http://www.sahrc.org.za/national_conference_on_racism.htm)

Freedom of Expression Institute

[www.fxj.org.za](http://www.fxj.org.za)

## **Who is who in Southern African Media landscape**

*Participants in NiZA's media exchange September 2000*

### ***Luckson Chipare***

Regional director of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), with headquarters in Windhoek, Namibia.

MISA has affiliated chapters in 11 countries in Southern Africa, with in total 2000 members. MISA is the leading partner organisation in NiZA's media programme, NiZA

supports numerous projects of MISA. MISA was formed after the global (UNESCO inspired) Windhoek declaration on the freedom of the press was formulated and adopted in 1991. In May 2001 MISA will celebrate its 10th anniversary.

### ***Montgomery Cooper***

Lecturer ethics and photojournalism on the Rhodes University of Grahamstown, South Africa. Photojournalist. Rhodes is one of the best known academic institutes for journalism education.

Monty is the author of a series of worksheets for the "Handbook on African journalism ethics" to be published December 2000. He also wrote the case study on photo journalism ethics.

### ***Michael Daka***

Director of Zamcom, another outstanding institute for media-education in Lusaka, Zambia. He is one of the leading advocates of professional Media training in Southern Africa and invited by NiZA to support shaping the research into the training needs for the media sector with his colleagues

from other institutes like Rhodes, IAJ, NSJ.

***Zane Ibrahim***

Director of Bush Radio in Cape Town, South Africa.

Bush Radio is the first community radio station in South Africa, emerged in 1994. Meanwhile it has developed into one of the most interesting stations- mostly through its unique approach where lobby groups and other civic associations are being trained for their respective time slots on the radio station. Meanwhile Bush is rapidly growing into a training institution for the Cape provinces in South Africa. Bush is one of the leading stations in experiments for the sector. The very successful use of hiphop (rap) music in conveying the truth about AIDS and HIV contamination (inspired by the Dutch Madunia association) is an example of their innovative approach. Bush's rappers Shaheen, Devious and Shamiel will be present at several occasions in the Netherlands to convey their message to Dutch youth: 15/16 September in workshops in Ganzenhoef, 22 September, 14.00 hours in De Balie (NiZA media market), 22 September in Akhnaton concert 20.00 hours, 23 September 20.00 hours in De Balie in Amsterdam (NiZA Living Yearbook)

***Grace Kwinjeh***

Journalist and founding member of the MDC opposition party in Zimbabwe. Also founded the independent Journalists Association Zimbabwe. Champion of Freedom of Expression in Zimbabwe.

The opposition nearly defeated the 'Jurassic park' government of Zimbabwe after 20 years of independence.

***Hugh Lewin***

Director of the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism (IAJ) in Johannesburg, South Africa. Journalist. Served a long term sentence under apartheid rule. Was a commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, led the investigation into the apartheid media. Will give a lecture on racism in the media in South Africa and beyond on 22 September in De Balie. Protagonist of media professionalism in his country and the region.

[www.iaj.org.za](http://www.iaj.org.za)

***Jeanette Minnie***

Former director of MISA and FXI (freedom of Expression institute in Johannesburg, South Africa). Journalist. Now established as independent consultant for the independent media. One of NiZA's main independent advisers.

Working on an alert system for African (and possibly later European) journalists for support to endangered journalists.

***John Mukela***

Director of NSJ media training centre in Maputo, Mozambique. Important regional training centre for on the job training journalist's courses.

***Geoff Nyarotha***

Well known Chief editor of the Daily News from Zimbabwe - first independent daily that survived and helped shaping the new country.

As chief editor of the 'Bulawayo Chronicle' he broke the first big

corruption scandal in Zimbabwe in 1988: Willowgate.

Managed to start an independent commercial daily paper en still to survive, which is a unique experience for Southern Africa and possibly far beyond.

***Talent Nyathi***

One of Zimbabwe's Freedom fighters, but a real one, not one of those phoney under 25 Mugabe crony's that occupy farms. Co director of the African Community Publishing and development Trust. Since 20 years the leading force in Community Publishing: grassroots participatory research and communication. Now on the road to the first Zimbabwean community radio station (till to date all non government radio is prohibited in Zimbabwe).

Organised a delegation of parliamentarians and stakeholders to study the South African legislation last August.

ACPD is introducing their successful strategies in Angola as from this year on.

***Jonathan Shapiro***

South Africa's most famous cartoonist Zapiro.

***Karen Thorne***

Director of media Works in Cape Town. Mediaworks runs a college that gives access to media-education for grassroots communities and individuals. This college could develop into a good ICT training-centre for grassroots communities. Mediaworks publishes Mediawatch, a monthly newsletter about women and the media.