



World in transition: Migration and Trade

Keeping in touch with home

Narrator

Ethiopians don't have their own radio station but they do have a broadcast in Amharic. Which goes out very Saturday for half an hour.

It's produced in association with the Refugee Centre in Haringay, and is sponsored by Vanguard. The programme keeps listeners in touch with each other, and with events in Ethiopia.

Male Radio Presenter

I present this programme. We do have news, which is entirely about Ethiopia and the Ethiopian community in the UK. We do have announcements, regarding major community events and so on. We do have Amharic music but the main body of the programme is entirely on health and HIV issues. We try to do that in different formats, to make it more interesting and entertaining as well. As well as educating. For example, today we had a quiz show. Which was about HIV and Aids, and health issues.

Narrator

You can hear the programme over the Internet on the Ethiopian UK website. A good place for Ethiopians in London to find out about restaurants, news and events. All ways of making the capital feel more like home.

Narrator

Through Email Ethiopians here can keep up contacts in Ethiopia and also make links with the Ethiopian Diaspora in the USA or Canada.

Wondimu Mekonnen spends much of his spare time in this way, to fund raise and campaign on behalf of those he left behind in Ethiopia.

Wondimu Mekonnen

Various campaigns are going at the same time at the moment. One campaign is about the Ethiopian refugees in Sudan, and the Sudanese concentration camp. The Sudanese government and UNHCR are at the moment taking back Ethiopian refugees from the camp back to Ethiopia. And we're trying to stop that. We're trying to campaign and writing petitions. My best means of campaigning is through internet. We have got a wide network of Internet, through on computers. So one of my window to the world is my computer really. So like this morning I had a message from Association of Free Expression that two journalists in Ethiopia had been arrested only yesterday, so that's it. The moment it happens, it's all over the world.