Section II

Gateways

Making a streaming audio signal available on the Internet is a way of extending a radio station’s reach; gateway projects do the reverse, using the radio to extend the reach of the Internet. In the same way that a single cybercafé or telecentre with a few computers can be an efficient way of increasing the number of people connected, providing access for dozens of people with only a few computers, a radio station with thousands of listeners that makes active use of the Internet can address the problem of access to the Internet’s wealth of information with a tactic of digital multiplication, multiplying the impact of its Internet connection.

This chapters in this section examine a number of different models from different perspectives.

In her chapter, Community Media Centres: Creating digital opportunities for all, Stella Hughes examines the concept of community media centres (CMCs) as developed by UNESCO and looks at two examples of CMCs on the ground in Sri Lanka and Mali.

Kothmale Community Radio in Sri Lanka is probably one of the best-known projects combining radio and the Internet. In their chapter, The Kothmale Model: Using radio to make the Internet visible, Ian Pringle and MJR David look at the same CMC introduced in the previous chapter from a different perspective, examining how the radio station not only serves as a gateway but also heightens community awareness of the Internet.

Birgitte Jallov’s chapter, Creating and Sustaining ICT Projects in Mozambique, looks at how ICTs can be used by media in Mozambique, a country with one of the poorest telecommunications infrastructures in the world.

The Russian Rural Information Network, by Nancy Bennett, looks at how a methodology devised by the Developing Countries Farm Radio Network to provide broadcasters with technical agricultural information was adapted in Russia.