

Digital Media and Video Training for Refugee Groups

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A new project: Climate Change, Migration and Asylum

by Virtual Migrants, RICC and MRSN in association with Exodus by CAN

HANDOUT for Session 2.

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This handout assumes you know the basics of file management (where files are, how to copy, move and delete them, and so on) and are used to common computer programs.

Copy the video files from the camera to your computer.

Plug in the camera to your computer and follow the instructions. Then do not use the software of the camera. Instead, do the following:

1. Open "My Computer".
2. Right-click the drive letter for the camera in the "My Computer" window and choose "OPEN". Find the DCIM folder and open that to find your video files.
3. Copy these video files to the folder of your choice for editing. Ideally, create and name a special project folder for this project.

EDITING VIDEO FROM FLIP OR Zi8 CAMERAS WITH WINDOWS MOVIE MAKER.

Introduction

Once you have copied your video files from your camera to your computer (this process is easy and will be explained), you need to edit the video footage. Video editing is about cutting out the parts of the video you have filmed which you don't want, and then making them play in a different order to tell the story you want to tell.

Windows Movie Maker is a free video editing program that comes with Windows XP onwards (Vista and 7). It is great for easy video editing and can produce good results, even though it is not a professional program. Not only does it explain itself how to use it but there are also LOADS of guides on the internet on how to use it, so if you forget how to use it or you have a problem, help is easy to get.

The problem is that the video filmed on the Flip or Zi8 cameras will not work with Windows Movie Maker unless you first convert it to a different format which Windows Movie Maker likes.

Converting Flip and Zi8 video for Windows Movie Maker, using ANY VIDEO CONVERTER.

"Any Video Converter" is a free program that converts video from one format to another. The flip records video as MP4 format, and the Zi8 records it as MOV format. We are going to convert it to WMV format. Other formats will also work, but this is good enough and is still a small file size.

1. Install "Any Video Converter" on your computer. You can download it free from <http://www.any-video-converter.com/download-avc-free.php> . Follow the instructions and install it.
2. Start the program.

3. Click "ADD VIDEO", then use the box to find where your video is stored on your computer. Select all of the video files you want to convert and click "OPEN". All of the files will appear listed in the middle of the program layout.
4. Make sure they all have the same frame size. If they don't, select and delete some until they do, the ones you have removed you will have to convert at another time.
5. Find the word "PROFILE" near the top right, and next to it select "CUSTOMISED WMV MOVIE" from the drop-down menu.
6. Below this you will see a section with the titles "General", "Output Duration", "Video Options", and "Audio Options". Under "Video Options", make sure that:
 - a. The "Video Codec" is set to "WMV V9".
 - b. The "frame size" is the same as the frame size of the original video files.
 - c. Set the "Video Bitrate" to 6000 (or more, but not less). This will decide the quality of the video, but if you increase it too much it will take up a lot of space on your drive.
7. Click "CONVERT", and wait for all files to be converted.
8. Click on "Output Folder" near the bottom left and the folder with all of your converted files will open up.
9. Move all of these files to the folder where you want to store your files for editing.

Editing using Windows Movie Maker.

Use the word processor file tutorial "Windows MovieMaker2 How.doc" taken and adapted from the website www.wtvi.com/teks/moviemaker .

Uploading your finished file to YouTube.

First you must register with YouTube and set up a channel, then follow the instructions to upload your final film.