



LIBERIA

PEACEBUILDING FUND

**Supporting the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission
FINAL PROGRESS REPORT**

Handover of PBF funded Vehicles to LACC May 2009



PBF Project No: PBF/ PP/R5/A3/01
PBF Project Title: Supporting Liberia anti-Corruption Commission

Report Number:

Reporting Period: April 2009 to 31 December 2010

Project Budget: US\$ 500,000

List Implementing Partners: Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission

Project Coverage/Scope: National

Duration of Project: Eighteen Months

Submitted by: Governance and Rule of Programme; UNDP

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Abbreviations

CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
CPF	Community Police Forum
GOL	Government of Liberia
LACC	Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission
MDTF	Multi-Donor Trust Fund
PBF	Peace Building Fund
UNDAF	United Nations Development Action Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNPOL	United Nations Police

I. Purpose

The overarching rationale for the project was to promote peace and stability through a capable Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission that addresses conflict fuelling issues of corruption and misuse of national resources at the national and sub-national levels. This was to be achieved by supporting the institutional and capacity development of the LACC to effectively carry out its mandate. Designed to be at the forefront of the fight against corruption, the LACC, needed the tools, strategic direction and capacity to undertake the task effectively. It also needed to build strategic alliances with other institutions in the national integrity arena such as the General Auditing Commission, Civil society, and Ministry of Justice. Civil society and the media also have a complementary role to play with the GAC in highlighting cases of on-going corruption and bringing it to the attention of the GAC for audit and LACC for investigation.

The project therefore sought to provide the LACC with the needed logistics and equipment to build a functioning Secretariat and Commission as well as provide needed capacity, through seminars, training, experts advice and study tours to enable the personnel to build up their knowledge and expertise in anti-corruption and economic crimes and build alliances and networks in the fight against corruption. This will be done through exposure to best practices in the region and beyond.

The expected results at the end of the project are:

- A well-oriented and informed Commissioners of LACC able to pursue the mandate of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Act and effectively engage the public.
- A well-oriented and informed Executive Director and Line Managers of LACC able to lead their staff to design and implement anticorruption activities.
- Secretariat of LACC able to function effectively and efficiently using modern information, communication and technology instruments.
- Ability of the Executive Director and staff to produce quality work-plans and implement planned activities.
- An informed and articulate Liberian public able to understand the ills of corruption and appreciative of the need to eradicate it.

II. Resources

2.1 Financial Resources:

- An amount of US\$ 500,000 was received for the implementation of this project. Under the internal control framework of UNDP, 95% of grant was utilized based on the activities in the annual work plan and approved budget. The balance of funds will be returned to MDTF

2.2 Human Resources:

- This project brought together human resources from the LACC and UNDP. The Executive Director of the LACC was the project manager for the project supported by the Programme Analyst for Governance and Rule of Law at UNDP. Together, they sought the implementation of the project in order to achieve the desired output.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

The project was executed by UNDP utilizing the DEX modality. This means that UNDP will have full responsibility under this modality to ensure accountability, transparency, timely implementation, management and achievement of results. However some programme funds were transferred to the LACC through a Letter of Agreement for implementation, whilst UNDP was responsible for procurement of goods. The LACC was responsible for organizing workshops and recruitment and payment of consultants.

A Project Board comprising the Ministry of Planning as chair; UNDP as co-chair, the Governance Commission, the Liberia Anticorruption Commission (LACC), and the CSOs Advisory Committee was established.

UNDP provided overall guidance, quality assurance and ensured that the project produced the results specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost.

The Project Board was responsible for making, on a consensus basis, management decisions for a project when guidance is required by the Project Secretariat, including recommendation for UNDP/ Implementing Partner approval of project revisions.

In terms of direct procurement of goods, a letter of request from the implementing partners with detailed specification formed the basis of procurement request. Based on these request bids were then solicited through Request for proposals or invitation to bids. The Vendor with the best value for money was selected.

The specific mechanisms used to monitor the achievement of results in the annual work plan included:

- i. Quarterly progress report, technical and financial report prepared by the Project Manager for review by the Project Board and MDTF;
- ii. Annual progress report and financial report prepared by the annual work plan implementing agency and/or the ERP Atlas system at the end of the year;
- iii. Quarterly meetings of the Project Board were convened to review progress reports and reports on monitoring visits so as to take necessary actions to ensure the project results are achieved and where possible, recommend a change in implementation strategy.

IV. Results

The overarching achievement of this project was contribution to the enhanced functionality of the LACC. This functionality is evidenced by the capacity of the institution to investigate cases. Over 5 cases have been fully investigated and recommendations turned over to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution and an additional 10 cases are currently under investigation by the institution. Also worth mentioning is the fact that due to the support provided through this project and the functionality of the LACC, Liberia was able to pass the HIPC completion point of which the LACC operational capacity was a key trigger.

Progress in relation to Outputs:

Specifically as relates to outputs, progress achieved is outlined below:

- **Functional LACC Secretariat:-** the below listed items were procured for the LACC:
 - Office Equipments: 10 computers, 2 printers, 10 UPS, 1 scanner, 2 photocopiers (Light and Heavy Duty);
 - Office Furniture: desks and chairs, conference table, cabinets, book shelves and accessories; and consumables.
 - Three (3) Land Cruiser Jeeps and one mini-van bus
 - The construction of LACC's website, wiring/cabling and networking components, alongside the installations of servers, anti-virus software has been completed. In addition, a computerized database system for the Commission's Investigation Unit has been established.
- **Public Awareness and Sensitization:-** Supported the organization and conduct of public awareness campaigns on anti-corruption in the form of county forums in all 15 counties. The aim was to raise local awareness of LACC its role and mandate and how county and local level entities can support the anti-corruption drive and collaborate with the LACC.

LACC, conducted the, "WUO GARBIE TAPPIA MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES" at the University of Liberia on June 24, 2009.

Designed, printed and distributed 5,000 Booklets of LACC Act, alongside 5,000 assorted copies of LACC brochures and informational materials nationwide. In addition to this the LACC Act, the National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy were printed in national dailies as part of the outreach.

Under the supervision of the Public Relation Officer of LACC twenty-four anti-corruption radio talk shows across the nation have been conducted, discussing activities/ issues of the Commission as it relates to the enhancement of governance—accountability, transparency, peace, and the building of an integrity system.

- **Training and capacity development for LACC staff and other relevant anti-corruption agencies:-** Sponsored working visit and capacity development initiatives for (3) Three LACC's Executives to the EFFC Nigeria;
- Supported and facilitated human resource capacity development training on "Government Anti-Corruption Methods" for the Executive Chairperson of LACC at the International Law Institute in Washington, DC. This activity was held in the United States in May of 2009.
- Supported and facilitated human resource capacity development training for two (2) senior officers of LACC: Chief Investigator and Chief Intelligence Officer. This activity was held May of 2009 in Gaborone, Botswana. The training focused on Training on Investigation and Prosecution of Corruption for Anti- Corruption Commissions.
- Supported and facilitated capacity building training for six (6) investigators of LACC on "Anti-Corruption Case Development." The activity was held in May of 2009.
- Executive Director of the LACC underwent a 2-week intensive training in Swaziland at the Institute of Public Administration on " Anti-corruption Methodologies".
- **Development of CSOs focused monitoring checklists of the public sector :** Unfortunately work in this sector did not take off as anticipated due to the reluctance of most CSO to engage the LACC. However this effort has been revitalized through engagements with the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia. However in follow-up to these efforts in 2011 and with engagement of the

Governance Commission and CENTAL, the transparency International contact organization in Liberia, a National transparency Index Barometer is being developed. The full-scale survey will be launched in 2012.

- **Relationship with other anti-corruption agency** - Facilitated the meeting of amongst institutions of integrity; namely the General auditing Commission, Liberian Anti-Corruption Commission, Bureau of Immigration, Liberia National Police and Ministry of Justice for enhanced coordination and collaboration in the fight against corruption. A Memorandum of Understanding was drafted and signed by most participating agencies with the exception of Bureau of Immigration. The Ministry of Justice also did not attest to the MoU.

Progress in relation to Outcomes:

The LACC is functional and undertaking its mandate and function. To date 5 cases have been investigated and referred to Ministry of Justice for prosecution. Unfortunately only one case has been put to trial, the other cases are still pending trial. There are over 10 cases at various stages of investigation.

Future work Plan

Capacity Support to the LACC is on-going. One of the main focus areas of work in this area in conjunction with Civil society and the Governance Commission is the National Integrity Barometer which will survey key institutions of governance and rate their integrity according to defined criteria.

** What about a conclusion? And a section on challenges and recommendations?

There is very little analytical writing. It is rather a descriptive report. If writing a conceptual report, add analysis of results (illustrate causal links between components of the project and the outcome). If writing a logical report, incorporate more statistics, evidence based on data collection.