



UNITED NATIONS PEACEBUILDING FUND
ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2009

Submitted by:

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Country and Thematic Area²

Sierra Leone.
Emergency Facility

Programme No: PBF/SLE/J-2

MDTF Office Atlas No: 00057856

Programme Title:

People- Centered Security Governance: Special
Initiative to promote Community Women's
participation in the Security Sector Reform
(SSR) Process in Sierra Leone.

Participating Organization(s):

International Organization for Migration- IOM
United Nations Integrated Peace building Office
in Sierra Leone- UNIPSIL, United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP)

Implementing Partners:

- ***The Women Peace and Security Network
Africa, Ministry of Social Welfare Gender
and children's Affairs, Civil Society
Women's Group National counterparts
(government, private, NGOs & others)***
- ***International Organizations, including
NGOs***

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

*For Joint Programme provide breakdown by UN
Organization*
UN Org : \$45,261

¹ The term "programme" is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² E.g. Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Thematic Window for the Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDG-F); etc.

Programme Duration (in months):

Start date³: July 2009

End date: July 2010

- *Original end date July 2010*
- *Revised end date, if applicable*
- *Operational Closure Date*⁴, *if applicable:*

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

List budget revisions and extensions, with approval dates, if applicable

³ The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent.

⁴ All activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MDTF programme have been completed. Agencies to advise the MDTF Office.

NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

Background

It is undisputed that the 'new/emerging security structures' in West Africa are again being redesigned without adequate consultations with, and participation of women. Sierra Leone is no exception to this. Recent consultations with security institutions and women's groups in both Liberia and Sierra Leone affirmed that gender is nouvelle to the SSR programme. This is because most security sector reform processes have been blind to issues of gender, women's participation and gender-based violence. Furthermore, security institutions are still male oriented, driven and dominated; and so far none have attained the required 30% quota put in place to increase the number of women. Even in cases where such quotas exist only few women within security institutions are part of decision making. In addition, the SSR processes have been criticized for being elitist such that rural communities are yet to benefit from the process.

A number of factors explain this situation. First, West African societies are often highly patriarchal in nature and in most communities, security structures and operations are still largely seen as a male preserve. Second, insecurity is not yet largely recognized as a core aspect of the vulnerability of the poor --and with the feminization of poverty and conflict, in particularly in West Africa, the vulnerabilities of women and girls are further exacerbated. Third, communities are yet to recognize the added-value of having women within the security sector and as such do not prioritize their concerns when engaged in processes such as SSR. Fourth, inadequate communication and synergy exists between women in the security sector on the one hand and between female security personnel and community women on the other hand. This multi-layered form of collaboration is needed if women are to act in a cohesive manner to ensure their agenda is prioritized in the on-going SSR process. Some of the likely agenda items for women as it relates to SSR will border on inclusion, equal status and participation, as well as gender mainstreaming in the new/emerging security structures. This agenda is even more relevant at the community levels where discriminatory cultural practices are entrenched. It is against this background that the below outputs and outcomes were designed to be achieved by this project.

Main Outputs

- 'Rural Women's Security Committees established'
- Consultative Meeting, Forum and Training Reports
- Communiqué Featuring Policy Recommendations (*intended to serve as an advocacy tool)
- Community Women and Security Manual
- ToRs for mentors, trainees and institutions in which volunteers and interns are placed.
- Radio tapes and Pictures

Main Outcomes

- Interactive Platform for Community Women, Female Security Personnel and Provincial District Security Committees functioning
- Key Female Security Personnel and Community Women's groups empowered to mainstream gender perspectives in newly decentralized security structures and operations e.g. at the levels of the PROSECs, DISECs and envisaged CHISECs
- Community Members sensitized to promote women's active participation in the security sector through increased girl-child enrolment

Programme relates to the Strategic (UN) Planning.

The peace building fund is a flexible peace building tool that supports the UN broader peace building objectives in countries at risk of relapsing into conflict. Women in Peace and Security Network-Africa (WIPSEN- Africa) and the Ministry of Social Welfare Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) acknowledge that to address the situation highlighted above, a socio-cultural transformation is needed and community women both within and outside core security institutions have a major role to play. They can act as a cohesive pressure/change group within the system to ensure that the new/emerging decentralized security structures at the local levels are not discriminatory. They can also collaborate with female councilors and parliamentarians to ensure policy formulation aimed at eliminating existing discriminatory and skewed practices as well as stereotypes that undermine the realization of women's full potentials within, or discourage other women from joining, the sector.

II. Resources

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The only funding available to this project at present is the \$ 45,261 received from the UN PBF.

No recruitment of staff and budget revision was done.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

WIPSEN-Africa in partnership with the MSWGCA will manage the project. The WIPSEN-Africa-MSWGCA partnership offers the necessary high-quality technical expertise, context-specific insights, and vibrant field presence that are needed for the effective delivery of project objectives.

Thus, WIPSEN-Africa and the MSWGCA seek to strengthen collaboration between female security personnel and community women's groups by facilitating an interactive platform for women to dialogue on security issues, exchange and proffer policy recommendations for ensuring particularly community women's full participation in SSR processes. Capacity building trainings will also be held at the community level and will specifically target female security personnel, community women's groups, female councilors and representatives from the provincial and district security committees. Depending upon the interest from beneficiaries, '*rural women's security committees*' could be established to complement the work of the PROSECs and DISECs as well as create spaces for increased involvement of community women in security issues.

At another level, WIPSEN-Africa and MSWGCA will also facilitate dialogue and collaborations between women and the PROSECs/DISECs through provincial and district dialogues. The primary objective of this expanded dialogue is to assess the integration of gender issues into the SSR processes, including the direct impact of the PROSECs and DISECs on women. It will also explore opportunities and strategies for ensuring a more democratic, representative and gender-balanced security sector.

The MSWGCA will be responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the project. With years of experience in gender, women's rights and gender mainstreaming, and as national machinery responsible for advancing women's rights and advocating for their active participation in all spheres, the MSWGCA has the operational scope and outreach needed to achieve the special objective of this project.

The Director, Gender Division of MSWGCA will assume overall responsibility for ensuring successful project implementation. The Director, Gender Division of MSWGCA will also be responsible for coordinating all logistics related aspects of the project.

IOM will act as executing agent to ensure that IOM, UN and PBF guidelines for disbursement, procurement and reporting are strictly adhered to. IOM's key roles include overseeing hiring of consultants/service providers and oversee general expenditure. management of resources from all partners for the implementation of the project, financial management, including disbursement of resources and other forms of support to partner organizations to implement activities as agreed upon by the PB, and based on agreed monitoring tools, including quality reporting on both narrative and finances. IOM also oversees the submission of quarterly financial and narrative progress reports.

Monitoring:

A participatory baseline data in the form of a perception survey is collected for both outcomes and outputs. This is used to measure progress on activities and results and their contribution to outcomes and outputs.

Monitoring of the project implementation was done at various levels and in various forms. Activity and process level monitoring on a regular basis is carried out by IOM, WIPSEN-Africa and the Gender Division of the MSWGCA. IOM conducts field monitoring visits to verify implementation of activities.

The PBF Secretariat, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) will also monitor the overall implementation the project. It will also be responsible for the evaluation of impact at the end of implementation. Periodic reports on progress of implementation will be produced by WIPSEN-Africa through the MSWGCA.

IV. Results

During the reporting time, the below planned outputs and outcomes were achieved.

Project Outputs	Planned Activities	Achievements	%
Rural Women's Security Committees established'	Establishment of women's security committee.	Not yet done	
Consultative Meeting, Forum and Training Reports	Consultative meetings with female security personnel, female councilors and community-based women's groups in three districts were held in Kambia, Pujehun and Kailahun. These meetings were followed by trainings that attracted the relevant stakeholders in the three locations.	20 community based women were trained and training reports were produced and shared with participants.	100%
Communiqué Featuring Policy Recommendations (*intended to serve as an advocacy tool)	Communiqué on policy recommendations developed.	Not yet done	
Community Women and Security Manual	Production of a security training manual.	A manual outlining the roles of community women in the security sector was developed and produced by WINSPEN-Africa. The manual could be used as a training tool as well as a tool for empowerment for community women.	100%

ToRs for mentors, trainees and institutions in which volunteers and interns are placed.	ToR's developed for mentors, trainees and institutions.	Not yet done	
Radio tapes and Pictures.	Production of radio tapes and pictures	Not yet done	

So far planned project activities are on course and there are signs that the project will be implemented as scheduled.

Partnerships and Collaborations,

Wipsen Africa - WIPSEN-Africa in partnership with the MSWGCA is managing the project
MSWGCA - The MSWGCA is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the project.

Office of National Security – Office of National Security coordinates the activities of all security units in Sierra Leone and since the project is about security, ONS's active participation in the implementation of the project is a must.

The support and cooperation IOM has received so far from the above listed partners have contributed immensely to the achievement of project results.

V. Future Work Plan (if applicable)

The project is mid way in its implementation. In 2010, the following activities would be implemented:

- Community Radio Programme “women in security hour”
- Women is security awareness raising March pass
- Mentorship and volunteer/internship programme
- Establishment of ‘Rural Women’s Security Committees
- Communiqué Featuring Policy Recommendations (*intended to serve as an advocacy tool)
- Production of project Radio tapes and Pictures

VI. Performance Indicators (optional)⁵

VII. Abbreviations and Acronyms

WIPSEN- Africa- Women in Peace and Security Network- Africa

MSWGCA - Ministry of Social Welfare Gender and Children’s Affairs

PB - Project Board

PROSECs - Provincial Security Committees

DISECs - District Security Committees

CHISECs - Chiefdom Security Committees

IOM - International Organization for Migration

ONS - Office of National Security

⁵ E.g. for the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund and the MDG-F.