



UNITED NATIONS PEACEBUILDING FUND
ANNUAL PROJECT NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1ST JULY – 31 DECEMBER 2009

Submitted by:

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Country and Thematic Area

Sierra Leone – Capacity Building of Public
Administration

Programme No: PBF/SLE/E-2

MDTF Office Atlas No:

Programme Title: Civil Society Peace

***Building Engagement Committee (CSPEC) -
Sierra Leone***

Participating Organization(s):

International Organization for Migration

Implementing Partners:

Civil Society Peace building Engagement
Committee (CSPEC)

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

*For Joint Programme provide breakdown by
UN Organization*

UN Org A: \$ US 140,000

UN Org B:

***Programme Duration (in months): 12
Months***

Start date: July 2009

End date: June 2010

• ***Original end date:***

• ***Revised end date:***

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

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

I. Purpose

- ***Brief Background of the project***

The Sierra Leone engagement with the Peace Building Commission (PBC) is aimed at ensuring sustained attention of the international community in improving political, financial and technical support to the country's peace consolidation efforts. Many countries return to violent conflict within five years of a peace agreement. Efforts to aid such countries in moving from peace to sustainable development are thought to have failed because national and international attention quickly moves on to the other situation and there is not a coherent strategy to guide the transition from post-conflict stabilization to long term development. The framework itself is a medium term partnership and mutual accountability, with specific actions that the PBC commits itself to undertake and address the challenges and threats most critical to sustain and consolidate peace. It will guide the work of the PBC, Government of Sierra Leone and civil society by highlighting key peace building gaps in existing national strategies and commitments and ensuring their timely and effective implementation. The PBC will also use the framework to enhance dialogue and strengthen the partnerships between Sierra Leone and its international partners and at the same time establish a functional cohesive linkage between national stakeholders in the process.

The commitments in this framework are identified based on three main criteria: they are critical to avoid relapse into conflict, they are short to medium term in duration, and they required mutual action between the government, the civil society of Sierra Leone and international partners. The focus on these elements should not be seen as replacing the commitment in other existing frameworks and bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreement but to strengthening effort made by these structures.

Progress on identified peace building priorities includes capacity building of civil society to ensure state actors are accountable, monitor and ensure adequate economic and financial management. This also manifests at provincial levels where civil society groups in many instances remain fragmented, weak or non-existent, leaving the process of decentralization and other democratic processes unmonitored. In addition, capacity limitation undermines the oversight roles of civil society organizations and the media.

This project seeks to address effective management and financial oversight mechanisms and the ability of non-state actors to perform oversight functions effectively and independently, thereby down streaming the activities of the Peace Building Commission and the Fund nationwide for durable and consolidated peace

- **Main Objective**

Strengthening civil society organizations to effectively engage in the peace consolidation process.

- **Expected Outcomes**

1. Downstream and raise public awareness on the PBC/PBF information.
2. Enhance effective networking and coordination between and among civil society organizations in Sierra Leone.

The UN strategic peace building framework for Sierra Leone uses this project as a vehicle for sustaining the attention of key stakeholders to the peace building process by strengthening the capacity of civil society actors to effectively engage with these stakeholders.

II. Resources

The only funding available to this project at present is the \$ 140,000 received from the UN PBF.

With this funding, the implementing partner recruited three staff to implement the project. These include: a Desk Coordinator, Admin/Finance Officer and a driver.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

This project seeks to address effective management and financial oversight mechanisms and the ability of non-state actors to perform oversight functions effectively and independently, thereby down streaming the activities of the Peace Building Commission and the Fund nationwide for durable and consolidated peace. To ensure effective project coordination CSPEC Desk is established, furnished and a Coordinator recruited. Members of CSPEC trained on monitoring and evaluating Peace building activities in post-war situations and able to develop an M&E plan for Peace building. In addition, CBOs, other CSOs and representatives from related Local Government institutions trained in Peace building and the work of the Fund and the Commission.

IOM is responsible for the procurement of logistics. Procurement was outsourced by national tender and the procedures were within IOM policies and procedures on procurement. The participation of CSPEC in opening and selection of bids was encouraged.

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 CSPEC project Unit and IOM. The project monitoring process allowed the collection of information for documentations of lessons learned during the project implementation. These useful lessons will inform planning and implementation of the project in the next quarters.

IV. Results

There are two intended outcomes for this project:

- a. Downstream and raise public awareness on the PBC/PBF information.
- b. Enhance effective networking and coordination between and among civil society organizations in Sierra Leone.

These outcomes would be realized through project outputs shown in the table below. The table also established the linkage between the outputs, planned activities, achievements and % of achievement for each planned output.

Project Outputs	Planned Activities	Achievements	%
<p>Community members have demonstrably increased their knowledge on information about the PBC/PBF information through consultative engagements.</p>	<p>Down streaming and raising public awareness on PBC/PBF process through seminars, workshops, media talk shows, poster, hand bills, FAQs, community theatre groups.</p>	<p>Thirteen community meetings and four radio talk shows held by CSOs to increase the knowledge of Sierra Leoneans on peace building issues especially those funded by the UN PBF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public information message was developed / recorded and sent to following radio stations Kiss 104 FM in Bo, Eastern Radio in Kenema, and Radio Makneh in Makeni and SLBS in Freetown. • Two radio discussions programmes were conducted before and after each Regional Dialogue and National Consultative Forums in four regions. • 400 copies (3 pages) flyers on updates of PBF projects in Sierra Leone were printed and distributed to CSOs and other relevant stake-holders nation wide during dialogue and consultative forums. 	<p>60%</p>
<p>Civil society Organizations have developed monitoring and tracking matrix to do independent impact assessment of PBC/PBF processes.</p>	<p>No activities planned for the reporting period</p>		

<p>Established, well-defined and functional civil society engagement in peace and governance processes in Sierra Leone.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of CSPEC Desk Office with Coordinator, staff and equipments. • Regional information sharing and dialogue forum on CSOs coordination mechanisms. • CSOs regional dialogue sessions on proposed coordination mechanisms. • CSOs National consultation on proposed coordination mechanisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Desk Coordinator, finance officer and driver were recruited for the CSPEC Desk Coordination Office. Project vehicle and office equipment were procured. • CSPEC Technical committee and regional committee members held dialogue and information sharing sessions on UN PBF activities in Sierra Leone. • Regional CSO dialogue forum on how to coordinate CSO activities to promote peace building were organised in the four regions of the country. This forum attracted a total of 200 CSO representatives in all the four regions. Four regional CSPEC committees were established during the Forums for the coordination of CSO activities around national peace building frameworks. • A three days national Consultative conference for CSOs to agree on coordination mechanisms was organised in Freetown. The conference attracted 200 CSO members (40 from the western area and 20 from each of the provincial regions) taking into consideration a gender balance. 	<p>80%</p>
<p>Civil Society organization effectively engaging and contributing to the PBC/PBF processes.</p>	<p>No Activities were planned during the reporting period.</p>		
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- Due to delays in bringing CSOs together to plan and implement activities, CSPEC was unable to fully carry out its planned activities for establishing coordination mechanisms and to raise public awareness on PBF/PBC activities at community level within the reporting period. As a result to above challenge in down streaming and coordination of PBC/PBF activities, CSPEC will continue in the remaining project period to strengthen coordination mechanisms among its membership.

V. Future Work Plan (if applicable)

The work plan for the remaining period of this project, 1 January to 30 June 2010 is mentioned below:

- Continue to down streaming and raising public awareness on PBC/PBF process through seminars, workshops, media talk shows, poster, and handbills.
- Dialogue with relevant political actors.
- Develop monitoring matrix and conduct first monitoring and evaluation to assess impact of PBF activities.
- Conduct research to produce report of CSO's on PBC/PBF processes.
- Final monitoring and evaluation.

VI. Performance Indicators (optional)

Not Applicable