

Liberia Peacebuilding Fund
QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT AS OF MRACH 31, 2010

Recipient UN Organization:	UNDP	PBF Priority Area:	Critical Interventions to Promote and Resolve Conflict/ Governance		
Implementing Partner(s):	Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC)				
Project Number:	PBF/ PP/R5/A3/01				
Project Title:	Supporting the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission				
Total Approved Project Budget	\$500,000				
Project Objective and Scope	The underlying objective of the project is catalytic, that is, to respond the immediate need of the Commission to achieve functionality as key institution of good governance, by investigating allegations of corruption, building operational and public engagement capacity, and deterring corruption. The project, "Supporting the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC)" seeks to address the challenges of corruption that threaten peace in Liberia, by fostering democratic governance—good governance through the establishment of an integrity system in government, to enhance transparency and accountability in the management of state resources and assets. The scope of the project is the fifteen counties of Liberia.				
Funds Committed:	\$500,000	Percentage of Approved:	100%		
Funds Disbursed:	\$302, 472,000	Percentage of Approved:	72%		
SC Approval Date:	22 March 2009				
Expected Project Duration:	18 Months	Forecast Final Date:	September 2010	Delay (Months):	Three Months
Outputs:	Progress:			Percentage of planned:	
To enhance the capacity of LACC to investigate allegations of corruption and collaborate with national institutions of integrity, and strengthen institutional capacity.	Sponsored working visit and capacity development initiatives for (3) Three LACC's Executives to the EFFC Nigeria;			100%	
Enhanced and public awareness/ sensitization through the printing and disseminations of anti-corruption materials	Procured and distributed Anti-Corruption promotional T-Shirts, Banners for County Forum;			100%	
Enhanced awareness/ sensitization, partnering with citizens and stakeholders through anti-corruption education campaigns	Provided support for the successful conduct of Cape Mount County Anti-Corruption Forum held in Robertsport, the Capitol City of Grand Cape Mount County ;			100%	
Increased public awareness and sensitization nationwide through electronic media	Conducted and completed nationwide television talk-shows on anti-corruption mandates, strategies, and activities.			100%	
Increased public awareness and sensitization nationwide through electronic media	Conducted and completed nationwide Radio talk-shows on anti-corruption mandates, strategies, and activities			100%	
Outcomes:	Progress:			Comments/Remarks	

	{In terms of Indicators}	
Enhanced capacity of LACC to investigate allegations of corruption and collaborate with national institutions of integrity, and strengthen institutional capacity.	Support provided to attend anti-corruption study tour in Nigeria, knowledge and experience acquired as participants shared their experiences with other staffers.	More funding needed in this area.
Increased public awareness and sensitization on anti-corruption activities nationwide	Citizens are now able to collaborate and provide support to LACC initiatives by engaging in television and radio talk shows, make suggestions, and regularly provide information on alleged corruption activities through the PABX system.	NA

Qualitative achievements against expected results:

Key Outputs Achieved

Key outputs include the provisions of logistical, human resource capacity development, and institutional support to enhance the technical and operational capacities of the LACC, and thereby make the Commission fully functional with aptly trained staff members to provide support in tackling corruption in all areas of governance, and to be able to investigate allegations of corruption and collaborate with national institutions of integrity, and strengthen institutional capacity. Additionally, stakeholders and citizens throughout the nation are becoming aware of activities of the Commission, alongside its mandates, Acts and Code of Conduct, all of which are not only essential to promoting public awareness, peace, development, and restoring public confidence, but as well, deterrence. Noticeably, there is an increased participation of citizens in the works of the LACC.

Next Steps:

Local Staff member training: Building on lessons learned, alongside the setbacks and achievements, it is fervently anticipated that PBF through the MDTF will continue to support interventions that are of critical and immediate bearing to the continued development and advancement of staffers of LACC. There are enormous needs for staff capacity development initiatives/ training at the commissioners, especially for Executive Director, line managers, and other Commissioners, most of whom have not had the opportunity to benefit from past training initiatives; continued support will be provided along this conduit.

Activities planning: At this climax of the first quarter (January- March, 2010), the LACC had embarked two (2) important activities: The Conduct of an Interactive Forum with MOJ, GC, GAC, LACC; and the Development of National Transparency Index and Monitoring Checklist. Plans and discussions among the institutions of integrity have begun some few weeks as CENTAL, a CSO organization and forerunner in the fight against corruption provides support for the Development of National Transparency Index and Monitoring Checklist. Similarly, dialogs leading to the crafting of the MOU between the LACC on the one hand, and the MOJ, GC, GAC are well underway.

Challenges{If Necessary}:

It's important to note that during the reporting period, the LACC did make remarkable progress, including the investigation of a few alleged corruption cases across Liberia, and the conduct of study tour—acquiring experiences and enhancing knowledge. However, as in the case of many PB funded activities, projects at the LACC are implemented in a transitional context, post-conflict socio-economic and political challenges were seen as common constraints—delays in the passages of bills: whistleblower, Freedom of Information, Corrupt Offenses, National Code of Conduct for Public Servant, etc. Also, and worth noting, the need to strengthen national integrity system for enhanced coordination and partnership, and the need for additional investigators and lawyers have emerged as underlying challenges that if not effectively addressed, could very well impede the functionality of the Commission.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AU.....	African Union
AWP.....	Annual Work Plan
CENTAL.....	Centre for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia
CSOs.....	Civil Society Organizations
DEX.....	Direct Execution
ECOWAS.....	Economic Community of West African States
GC.....	Governance Commission
GOL.....	Government of Liberia
GAC.....	General Auditing Commission
IMF.....	International Monetary Fund
LACC.....	Liberian Anti-Corruption Commission
MIA.....	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MPEA.....	Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs
MOU.....	Memorandum Of Understanding
NPRS.....	National Poverty Reduction Strategy
PBF.....	Peace Building Fund
TOR.....	Terms Of Reference
TRC.....	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UNDP.....	United Nations Development Programme
UNMIL.....	United Nations Mission in Liberia
USAID.....	United States Agency for International Development
ULSU.....	University of Liberia Student Union
WONGOSOL.....	Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia

Photos of Some of PBF Sponsored Activities



