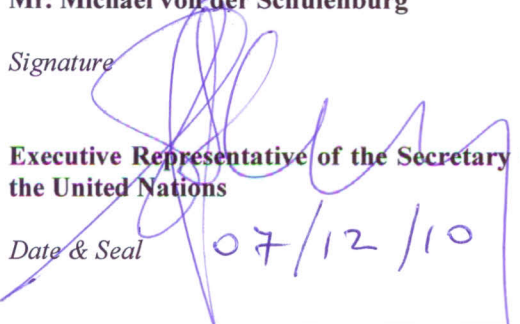
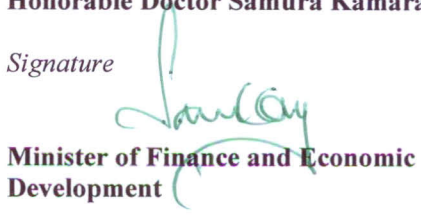
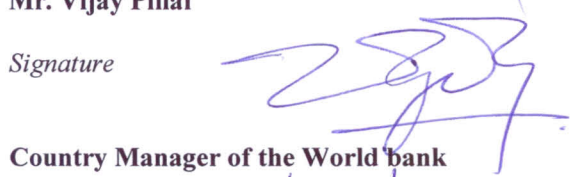





PEACEBUILDING FUND
Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility

PROJECT DOCUMENT COVER SHEET

Project Title: Promoting non-violent, free and credible elections through enhanced participation of non-state actors	Recipient UN Organization: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Project Contact: Viviana Conte, Political Affairs Officer Political Affairs and Peace Consolidation Section Address: UNIPSIL Telephone: +232 76 800038 E-mail: contev@un.org	Implementing Partners: UNIPSIL, PPRC, IMC, Inter Religious Council for Sierra Leone
Project Number: <i>To be completed by UNDP MDTF Office</i>	Project Location: Sierra Leone
Project Description: Provision of support to: 1) Political Parties; Youth and Women Groups 2) Traditional and Religious Authorities 3) Media, Academia, Sports and Arts	Total Project Cost: US\$ 5.000.000 Peace building Fund: US\$ 5.000.000 Government Input: Other: Total: US\$ 5.000.000 Project Duration: 24 months (2011- 2012) with possibility of extension.
Gender Marker Score:	
PBF Priority Area(s) and Outcomes:	
Outputs and Key Activities	
Expected outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Political dialogue through multi - party talks at national, regional, district level and constituency level for peaceful and credible elections in 2012,- Professionalization of youth wings and women leadership advanced- Women's political participation and achievement of a 30% quota promoted- Non violence and peaceful political competition promoted, particularly among youth and general public awareness of the non violence approach- Sierra Leone's national unity and cohesion advanced as prerequisite for peace and development- Non -partisan and responsible media coverage of the elections ensured- Trust building towards accredited association so that their report can be reliable and transparent- Non violent elections- Building cooperation and consensus with the prevailing political culture of peaceful competition	

Co-chairs of the DEPAC	
<p>Mr. Michael von der Schulenburg</p> <p><i>Signature</i> </p> <p>Executive Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations</p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i> 07/12/10</p>	<p>Honorable Doctor Samura Kamara</p> <p><i>Signature</i> </p> <p>Minister of Finance and Economic Development</p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i> 07/12/10</p>
<p>Mr. Vijay Pillai</p> <p><i>Signature</i> </p> <p>Country Manager of the World bank</p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i> 07/12/10</p>	
Recipient UN Organization(s)	National Implementing Partner(s)
<p>Ms. Mia Seppo</p> <p><i>Signature</i> </p> <p>UNDP</p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i> 7/12/2010</p>	<p>Replace with:</p> <p><i>Name of Head of Partner</i></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Name of Institution</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i></p>
	<p>Replace with:</p> <p><i>Name of Head of Partner</i></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Name of Institution</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal</i></p>



PEACEBUILDING FUND

Situation Analysis

In April 2009, the All Peoples Congress (APC) and the major opposition, Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) signed a Joint Communiqué, in which they pledged to work together to prevent the recurrence of political violence. The Communiqué, brokered by the UN and Sierra Leone's major international partners, came in the wake of the worst eruption of violence since the end of the conflict in 2002, and resulted in severe injuries, allegations of sexual assault and damage to the SLPP office in Freetown.

As called for in the implementation of the Joint Communiqué two commissions of inquiry were constituted with bi- partisan support, to investigate the incidents of alleged sexual and political violence and the causes of political disturbances. As also foreseen in the Communiqué, an independent national broadcaster has been established, and a former minister under the previous SLPP government appointed as chair of the board of trustees of the new Corporation. The youth wings of the political parties have reactivated the All Political Parties Youth Association (APPYA), with assistance from the UN Peacebuilding Fund.. In addition, and also with financial support from the Fund, equipment and training was provided to the Police, and inter-party dialogues and leadership training organized for the national and women executive of the political parties,.

Nonetheless, recent incidents of political violence and intolerance, such as those that occurred during Tongo local council by- elections, as well as the recent disturbances in Kono, surrounding 11 December 1 bye-election, all underscore the serious challenges as well as fragility of the situation as the country prepares for the 2012 elections. Continuing differences of opinion between the major opposition and the ruling party whose relationship is characterized by mutual mistrust is bound to increase political tensions in the elections, with the attendant risk of violence, as each party makes determined efforts to retain or wrest control of political power from other.

These challenges call for a multi- pronged approach in conflict prevention and in addressing political violence through the active participation of non-state actors.

During the ten years of conflict these groups were actively engaged in efforts to restore peace, and promoted national reconciliation following the end of the conflict. During the past two national elections, both in 2002 and 2007, the UN worked closely with these associations to promote a message of peace, national reconciliation and national cohesion.

Their interventions to address tensions and potential conflicts during these elections were widely recognized critical, especially in 2007. The need for such engagement in 2012 is even more necessary to ensure greater national cohesion and unity and address potential tensions and conflicts.

Through its national and regional offices, the UN will continue to work closely with such communities, civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations. Following the March 2009 disturbances, the UN held a series of consultative deliberations with civil society organizations. After the adoption of the Joint Communiqué, the UN partnered with the Sierra Leone Association of NGOs (SLANGO) as well as the Civil Society Movement (CSM). Working together with local drama groups, community organizations brought the Joint Communiqué to communities at market day in each of the country's 149 chiefdoms.

The role of non-governmental organisations and other non state actors in conflict prevention and promoting peaceful political dialogue and competition can be effectively harnessed to deal with

potential electoral conflict and serve as a voice of moderation and reason in a polarized political environment.

Against this background, engagement with civil society; Non- Governmental Organizations, traditional leaders, grassroots organizations, religious authorities and other Non- State Actors would contribute to ensuing peaceful and credible election in 2012. Building on the UN's existing outreach, engaging wider segments of society, working more closely with the media and marginalized groups will make the elections credible as well as foster tolerance and national cohesion.

The interventions contained in this proposal also aim to activate the traditional mediation capacities that exist and have proven to be effective in managing tensions and conflicts in Sierra Leone. Working also with the political parties, the UN hopes to make the internal structures of the parties, their youth as well as their women's wings more effective in managing conflicts and promoting peaceful political discourse. Stimulating inter and intra- party communication will encourage a focus on issues and the implementation of policies and manifestos that reach out to the grassroots of the party with positive messages of national unity, reconciliation and tolerance. Such capacity will also be critical to defuse conflicts and communicate effectively with state institutions alike.

To implement this project UNIPSIL will provide the necessary in-house expertise and technical support, including making available facilities of its integrated offices. This would alleviate the need for international consultants and related high costs thereby resulting in substantive savings. The impact of the intervention will also contribute to the establishment and strengthening, where they exist, of local / indigenous mediation, conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms and capacities, to serve the nation during and beyond the 2012 elections.

In summary, this proposal will address the aforementioned challenges under the three project themes:

- 1) Facilitating inter-party dialogue, political participation and non-violence through support to political parties, and their youth and women wings
- 2) Support to Traditional & Religious Authorities;
- 3) Support to the Media, Academia, Sports & Arts

Project 1: Facilitating political dialogue, participation and non-violence

Project Objective

The overall objective of the project is to promote political dialogue and participation through facilitation and provision of technical and material support. The activities will have the following objectives:

1. Facilitation and technical advice and support for political dialogue
2. Develop the capacity of political parties in the area of communication and policy development
3. Formation and strengthening of the political parties youth and women's wings to advocate non-violent and credible election and participation of women in the electoral process through political commitments and policy development.
4. Continue the Joint Communiqué & Political Tolerance Sensitization to ensure peaceful elections

Total Budget: US\$ 2.125,500

Rationale

In the framework of the Joint Communiqué, the UN facilitated dialogue among the political parties, and supported activities aimed at the strengthening democratic institutions. With the 2012 elections in

mind, such interventions need to be further intensified to create an enabling political environment for peaceful and credible elections.

Political Parties' Youth Association (APPYA)

Youths in Sierra Leone have been involved in most incidents political intolerance and violence. These include the events of March 2009 in Freetown, the by-elections in Pujehun district, Tongo fields, in Kenema district, and the most recent acts political intolerance in Kono. The trend of using youths for violent activities and political intolerance is likely to intensify as the 2012 elections approach.

To deal with this challenge, the youths of political parties have made commitments to establish an umbrella institution and to work together across party lines to promote peaceful and democratic political competition. Youths from the four major political parties (APC, SLPP, PMDC and NDA), closely coordinating with UNIPSIL, have been instrumental in preventing violence in various most recent by-elections, such as in Bombali and Bo and Pujehun, and have immense potential to do the same during the 2012 elections and beyond, and serve as model for a responsible political dispensation in the country.

With funding from PBF and with technical support from UNIPSIL, APPYA will formally adopt its constitution and strategic plan at a delegate conference to be held in Makeni from 3 to -5 December 2010. The strategic plan of APPYA has a strong component on political tolerance and non-violence. Through this project, APPYA will work to minimize election related political intolerance and violence. Leadership training programmes, overseas exchange visits to other youth organizations in the West African sub region aimed at instilling a sense of responsibility will also be organized. APPYA could also benefit from seminars on the functioning of key components of Government as well as the democratic processes in a post-conflict environment.

Political Parties Women's Association:

There is growing international recognition of the positive impact of women on political institutions. This has led to demands for their participation of women in democratic processes.

Despite constituting about 51% of the country's population, women are still under-represented and continue to face significant challenges that impede their participation in the country's political processes. These include political violence and insecurity during election periods; minimal representation in national executives of political parties; a lack of commitment by the political parties to improve their representation in legislative institutions; the absence of educational and financial support as well as the prevalence of traditional practices that hinder the advancement of women.

Currently, female representation in Parliament, Cabinet and Local Councils is less than 18%. Against this background, and taking into account the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which proposes a 30% quota for women in governance, several initiatives have focused on supporting the few emerging candidates as well as the passage of the TRC recommendations into law instead of establishing structures that create an enabling environment that will increase the participation of women in politics.

UNSCR 1325 and 1820 equally underscore the role women in conflict and post-conflict situations. Furthermore, other international instruments Sierra Leone has acceded to such as CEDAW, Beijing Declaration for Women, African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the rights of women in Africa have emphasized and advocated for the participation and inclusion of women to enhance development.

Sierra Leone has developed a national action plan to implement UNSCR 1325 and political parties, who are also part of the process, could consider developing concrete steps to improve representation of women in their executive councils and also elected bodies.

On 13 October, UNIPSIL held separate meetings with the leadership of the female wings to identify areas of immediate support. In these meetings, the importance of having regular constituency

consultations ahead of the 2012 elections was underscored. Equally, the anticipated consultations would help solidify the gains achieved from the UNIPSIL sponsored district interventions and further contribute to achieving the overall objective of increasing women's participation in governance. The women wings also requested equipment to be used in their meetings, intraparty dialogue and training sessions.

In response to the requests from the political parties, UNIPSIL will support them and strengthen their outreach capabilities. The women wings need assistance especially in the pre-electoral phase to identify competent women and train them in communication and leadership skills. A gender action plan should be put in phase especially in the pre electoral phase to mitigate socio-cultural factors inhibiting the participation of women in party politics. Gender security should also be addressed with a strong sensitization campaign.

In light of the likelihood that the 2012 electoral process will be highly contentious, the risk of electoral violence should be managed through targeted interventions that encourage a climate of goodwill and that build mechanisms for managing tensions that do arise. The PPRC has a key role to play in this process. First, the programme will support the PPRC in its engagement with political parties which will include **party training and political dialogue**. The mandate of the PPRC is clearly set out in Section 34(4) of the Constitution as follows: "The Commission shall be responsible for the registration of all political parties...." The Constitution provides no other mandate to the PPRC and the name given to the commission, "Political Parties Registration Commission", reflects that specific mandate. However, Section 6 of the Political Parties Act substantively expands the mandate of the PPRC, beyond registration of political parties, as follows:

- (1) The object for which the Commission is established is the registration and supervision of the conduct of political parties in accordance with the Constitution and this Act.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), it shall be the function of the Commission –
 - a) To monitor the affairs and conduct of political parties so as to ensure their compliance with the Constitution, this Act, and with the terms and conditions of their registration;
 - b) To monitor the accountability of political parties to their membership and to the electorate of Sierra Leone;
 - c) To promote political pluralism and the spirit of constitutionalism among political parties;
 - d) When approached by the persons or parties concerned, to mediate any conflict or disputes between or among the leadership of any political party or between or among political parties; and
 - e) To do all such things as will contribute to the attainment of the object stated in subsection (1).

According to the above extract of the legal technical advisory study done of the PPRC framework, there is no specific provision for PPRC to train political party leader and functionaries. Nonetheless, such trainings are included in the PPRC strategic plan as part of its role to help political parties comply with the law. The current programme will therefore support the element in the PPRC strategic plan to hold trainings for parties on leadership and policy formulation/implementation, conflict management, electoral processes, communication strategies/outreach programmes, campaign planning, voter education and candidate preparation. This output will also support political parties to engage in periodic PPRC-sponsored inter-party dialogue at national, regional and district levels on issues of national interest.

The programme will support the PPRC's **District Monitoring Committees (DMCs)** to strengthen their ability to monitor the political party code of conduct and to serve as a decentralized conflict prevention mechanism. The DMCs would be present during election periods but placement farther in advance could address political or technical issues earlier in the process. Specifically, the programme will support DMCs in conducting pre-electoral perception studies on the elections. The results could serve an early warning purpose, with an accurate socio-geographical perspective. Work with the

PPRC District Code of Conduct Monitoring Committees will begin as soon as possible after the current programme comes on line and will last through the programme's duration. It is hoped that through concerted effort with the DMCs, including training of their members and the convening of a National Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee, the DMCs will transform into a more viable local peacebuilding mechanism. UNIPSIL staff in the three regional capitals (Makeni, Kenema and Bo, and in Kono) will continue to work with the DMCs and provide support to this programme.

The success of the elections will be determined in part by a successful communication and outreach strategy in which components of the electoral process are able to articulate their messages as well as their roles and responsibilities in support of the electoral process. Communication and outreach with various segments of the population as well electoral institutions involved in the elections is critical. It is a cross cutting issue that manifests in several areas covered by the project document including voter education, building support among stakeholders peaceful election and advancing a gender policy that can accommodate the interests of women. Radio and television sensitization programmes will be used to highlight key aspects of the elections as well as disseminate the Joint Communiqué. Local community radio stations and town criers will be used to push vital election messages at the chiefdom levels in areas concerning youth involvement; women; judicial mechanisms for the elections and other areas. .

Expected Achievements

- ***Facilitating political dialogue between the political parties:*** Reduction in incidents of political intolerance and violence Improved dialogue and communication between the political parties Political parties will receive support to generate a programmatic manifesto
- Improved degree of internal democracy (accountability of party leadership, procedures for consultation with party members and the electorate as a whole, local and regional presence and transparent candidate selection)

Enhanced capacity of Youth Wings, Women Wings

- Facilitation in the implementation of APPYA Strategic plan 2010-2013
- Adoption of gender policies and women's empowerment within the political parties
- Strengthen the local outreach and mediation activities of APPYA
- Strengthen the Internal decision making processes within political parties and the formal structure
- strengthen communication between women wings organizing monthly high level meeting

Building of Capacity for the Prevention of Electoral Violence

- With these parameters in place, APPYA will be in a position to proceed with sensitization efforts prior to upcoming elections and by- elections. Sensitization efforts undertaken by APPYA at recent by- elections were seen as successful.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring shall be done at various levels and in various forms. Activity level monitoring on a daily basis shall be the responsibility of the various implementing partners (CSOs) and Government structures (IMC, NEC, PPRC etc). On the spot checks shall be undertaken by UNIPSIL, UNDP or other agreed entities as part of the monitoring process. Together, the entire monitoring process shall ensure that the goals including but not limited to its efficiency, quality of delivered materials, and timeliness of delivery. This monitoring shall be supported by relevant documentation including monthly reports and other such reports. Output Monitoring shall be supported by all parties on a quarterly basis. Reports and feedbacks from same shall be channelled to the Project Board and other entities as agreed.

UNIPSIL both at HQ and at the operational level will monitor the impact of the support. The progress

will be assessed periodically. Effort will also be made to ensure that the spirit of the MOU are strictly adhered to and sanctioned contained therein are fully complied with.

Evaluations shall be mid-term and immediate post project. These shall jointly be undertaken by the Government, PPRC, IMC NEC UNIPSIL, UNDP, CSOs and other beneficiaries. Where necessary independent CSOs will be hired to carry out evaluations. UNIPSIL and UNDP and other institution involved in the project implementation shall also undertake the production of quarterly advocacy materials like flyers, feature stories and newsletters. These shall go to indicate immediate effects of the intervention on the lives of the targeted beneficiaries. These shall inform quarterly and annual reports.

Project 2: Provision of institutional support to Traditional and the Inter-faith Groups
Total Budget: 1,060,000.00

Rationale:

Traditional authorities and interfaith councils can help in mediating disputes, reducing tensions as well serving as forums for dispute resolutions before during and after the elections. With Muslims making up an estimated sixty per cent of Sierra Leone's 5 million people and Christians another fifteen to twenty per cent, the mosques and churches and their agencies play important roles in the spiritual, cultural and socio-economic development of Sierra Leone. Despite spiritual differences between Muslims, Christians and believers in traditional religions, tolerance, cooperation and inter-faith marriages have been hallmarks of religious practice in Sierra Leone.

For most Sierra Leoneans, the paramount chiefs of Sierra Leone's 149 chiefdoms are the main interface with government. The chiefdom administration acts as the local level of government. Following the adoption of the Chieftaincy Act in 2009 and subsequent chieftaincy elections, most continue to enjoy significant prestige and play a key role in shaping public opinion.

Similarly, religious authorities provide cohesion and texture that bind local communities together. Often, local imams or priests have great authority in their communities. Bishop Humper, commanding nationwide respect, served as chairman to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Eminent members of the Inter Religious Council for Sierra Leone on many occasions carried out mediation roles during Sierra Leone's conflict as well as in containing tensions during the 2007 elections. Following the religious disturbances in Mambolo chiefdom earlier this year, the UN could rely on its effective relationship with the Inter- Religious Council and dispatched a mediation team to settle the crisis. In that regard, intensifying engagement with traditional and religious authorities would have a multiplier effect in disseminating the message of non- violence before, during and after the elections.

The Inter Religious Council for Sierra Leone earned the respect of civil society, the parties to the conflict and the international community. The Council achieved this status through a variety of actions such as consultative meetings with all the key players in the crisis, press releases, communiqués, experience sharing, prayers, and the preaching of God's message of repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation.

Neither are security actors in an election process limited to formal security institutions. Traditional leaders can all have an influence on the security environment through various mechanisms. They can ask political supporters to adopt a non violent attitude, they can play an active role in the boundary delimitation, in civic education, voter education, during the campaign period, in the polling operations, tallying and counting, dispute resolution and the official announcement of results.

The engagement with traditional rulers and religious leaders will also enable the message of neutrality and non-partisanship, and focus on the promotion of peace among their followers and in their chiefdoms..

Expected Achievement

Enhanced Capacity building of the Interreligious Council

- Enable to anticipate conflicts and acts of political intolerance and undertake sensitization campaigns on non violence, civic and voter education and others during religious ceremonies
- Promote national unity and cohesion and prevent conflicts based on ethnic and regional differences
- Further consolidate existing harmony among various religions as a force for peace and progress and unity of the country,
- Build and strengthen institutional capacities to respond to emerging threats to peace and national cohesion

Enhanced Interaction with Traditional Authorities and Associations

- Intensified use of local / traditional approaches to conflict prevention, mediation and resolution, through collaboration with traditional leaders and associations and groups.
- Reduce minimize conflicts between traditions approaches and other formal arrangements and institutions with joint programmes and approaches.
- Enhancing collaboration and coordination between various professional associations, national and local governance and security arrangements on strategies to prevent, mediate and resolve conflict.
- Dialogue with traditional associations who have greater influence and authority in the hinterland to play a positive role in political discourse.

Project 3: Provision of institutional support to Media, Academia, Sports & Arts

Total Budget: \$1,262,337.00

Academia:

The role of academia in promoting political dialogue, mediation and conflict prevention is widely recognized and the history of Sierra Leone's academic institutions especially the Forah Bay College, the oldest higher education institution in West Africa is not unexceptional. To that end, it is to be recalled that before the Sierra Leone conflict was formally declared ended, the Forah Bay College in Freetown organized the first multi-party dialogue in November 2001 with the participation of all political parties and the UN where students and the political Science department took active part. The dialogue's focus was the 2002 election and multiparty-party democracy. In addition, Forah Bay has a well development conflict studies department that has been actively engaged in various conflict prevention and mediation activities and collaborated with the United Nations. Forah Bay College also hosted the recent retreat of the United Nations Country Team, and the UN has supported the establishment of UN corner in the university's Library. Similar capacities and plans are also in place to maximize political participation of higher education students and faculty and show a lead role as agents of peace and democratic transformation setting good examples to the younger generation and the population at large. The intervention under this project will focus on enhancing such role and participation of these institutions and students in the country political process with a particular focus on the 2012 elections.

Sports and Vulnerable Groups:

Bringing the youth and communities together under ideals of sports as a peaceful competition that can be emulated in a political process and also engender unity and sense of patriotism for the common good is an effective and less costly. Such tournaments could be arranged in various parts of the country and coordinated with activities of youth groups and undertaken with a message of peace and tolerance that can be applied to a political competition and discourse. Giving visibility to those that suffered most from the civil war, the UN is engaging with and supporting amputee football teams. Organizing recreational event such as carnivals or football event is a social phenomenon which makes an important contribution to the community strategic objective of solidarity to generate significant values such as solidarity, tolerance and fair play thus promote active contribution to unity and thereby help to foster active citizenship.

Media:

The role of the media in the political process as well as in various aspects Sierra Leone's developments is critical. The media can play both a destructive and constructive role in political

process. Harnessing the later and preventing the negative dimensions would greatly contribute to a peaceful and credible election in 2012. UN in Sierra Leone has a long tradition of fruitful engagement with the media. Currently, the UN is working with the media with a view of professionalizing the media and attempting to engender a spirit of impartiality. The UN is organizing regular media roundtables, and has created an "Editors' Guild" as well as a consultative forum for media houses on management issues, ethics, access to finance, fundraising and capacity building. This has served to bring together media practitioners with opposing political views to agree on joint principles of media ethics.

The responsibility to monitor media fall squarely within the domain of the IMC, which has the statutory authority to promote a free and pluralistic media throughout Sierra Leone and also to protect the interest of the public against exploitation or abuse by media institution. This includes fair and accurate news coverage about and for all sectors of the populations and sanctioning stations that do not adhere to the IMC's Media Code of practice. With its limited budget, small support staff, IMC has been not able to monitor media on a national basis. During the election should be able to fully exercise its authority and monitor the media outlets. Efforts to sensitize media manager and reporters not only in the legal and ethic norms of the IMC's media Code of Practice but also in the election legal framework are necessary.

Arts:

In Sierra Leone there are association of artists and musicians dedicated to promoting peace and unity and UN's collaboration with them in the past has been effective. The UN has successfully teamed up with artists in the dissemination of the message of non- violence. A series of popular songs and performances featuring transparency, accountability, and other topics have been produced. Following the signing of the Joint Communiqué, the UN liaised with drama groups to produce films on political tolerance that were subsequently screened nationwide.

Also civic and voter education are cultural activities. They are bound up with the expression of people's human rights and social organization. They require interaction between people, thoughtful passion, and the evocation of feelings and interdependence. Most education happens, however, in relatively sterile and highly conceptual environments. But human learning and expression is deeply embedded through words, dance, drama and play.

The incredible impact and energy that is reported in those relatively few voter education programmes involving drama bears this out. So it is disappointing to find so few examples of the use of arts and culture to promote democracy, civic responsibility, human rights and voter education. Arts in all its expressions should be included in educational programmes of civic/voter education and also to convey gender messages. Independent democratic institutions could organize community theaters per constituencies. Actor could depict messages on how the current politics can divide society as well as positive actions that need to be taken in forging political tolerance and development thus strong democratic values.

Support to CSO for violence reduction to enable a peaceful election

Various civil society organizations played important roles in advancing a non-violence agenda in the country during the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections as well as the 2008 countrywide local council elections. Youths constitute a significant percentage of the voting population and various incidents of political violence and intolerance that have occurred have unfortunately involved youths who sympathizers of the two main political parties in the country. A recent report by the Political Parties Registration Commission on the disturbances in Kono district noted the negative role of youths. A combination of youth unemployment and the lingering effects of ex-combatants potentially raise concerns about the adverse effects youths could, if their aspirations and conduct are not properly channeled, have on the electoral process. Police reports indicate the presence numerous youth gangs modeled after urban gangs found in first world countries who are pose a formidable threat to law and order. School sport competitions have also resulted in riots and attacks on the police. The project will seek to engage and support CSO, youth groups, the National Youth Commission so that they play a positive role in contributing to a peaceful election.

Expected Achievement

Enhanced dialogue with Media Practitioners

- Increase the level, visibility and independence of the Independent Media Commission in managing and regulating the media
- Ensuring the “Editors Guild” play its objective of promoting professional reporting, accountability, especially in electoral reporting.
- Minimize influence of special interest in the electoral process
- Increased level of SLAJ professionalism through logistical and technical support
- Strengthen their capacity building
- Responsible journalism/ reporting advanced

Enhanced Interaction with Artists –Sports teams, Amputees

- Intensified collaboration with / use of Artists, bands, dancing national group, street theatre to disseminate the message of non - violence throughout the country as agents peaceful political discourse, national unity and cohesion.
- Increased visibility to amputees and marginalized communities through participation to national and international events.
- Enhanced voter education and civic responsibility through the use of arts and sports

Management Arrangements

Project Implementation

UNIPSIL will focus on the planning and communication with the stakeholders and recipient partners/associations. UNDP will manage funds and assure its timely disbursement and the procurement of materials and services needed for the implementation of the projects. Key strategic areas will require a constant coordination.

There will be several implementing partners including the Inter-Religious Council of Sierra Leone; the Independent Media Commission; the Political Parties Registration Commission, SLANGO, and other associations and entities in the relevant areas of intervention. Implementation MOUs will be concluded by UNDP, UNIPSIL and other partners. A project board steering committee consisting of UNDP, UNIPSIL and designated national partners will also be established.

Monitoring and Evaluation

UNIPSIL both at HQ and at the operational level will monitor the impact of the support. The progress will be assessed periodically. Effort will also be made to ensure that the spirit of the MOU are strictly adhered to and sanctioned contained therein are fully complied with.

Budget summary for four projects

PBF PROJECT BUDGET	
CATEGORIES	AMOUNT
1. Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport	1.309,337
2. Personnel (staff, consultants and travel)	1.162,500
3. Training of counterparts/Workshops and events	1.260,000
4. Contracts	716.000
5. Other direct costs	91.625
UNDP implementation Support service 2%	133.435
Contingency 3%	
Sub-Total Project Costs	4.672,897
Indirect Support Costs**	327.102
TOTAL	5.000.000

Analysis of risks and Assumptions

- Breaking of agreements of April 2 by the SLPP and the APC
Likeliness: Low
Mitigation Strategy: UNIPSIL closely monitors the parties “post communiqué” behaviour and continues to engage in a dialogue with all political stakeholders.
- Political parties do not engage actively
Likeliness: Low
Mitigation Strategy: UNIPSIL and UNDP obtains the political parties leaders engagement by letting them take the driver’s set for the multiparty talks and the implementation of all training activities.
- Projects start –up takes longer than planned, due to difficulties in securing the appropriate expertise
Likeliness: Medium
Mitigation Strategy: UNIPSIL and UNDP will select the most reliable implementing partners/contractors
- Violence makes the administration of the 2012 election impossible
Likeliness: Low
Mitigation Strategy: the project has a heavy emphasis on non violence sensitization
- Election are held but the process , the results cast doubt on their credibility
Likeliness: Medium
Mitigation Strategy: the project has a heavy emphasis on preventive diplomacy led also by religious and traditional leaders. Particular attention will be paid to the period between the presidential election and any runoff.