



**LIBERIA PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT DOCUMENT COVER SHEET**

Recipient UN Organisation: UNHCR	Liberia PBF Priority Area: Area 2, Rapid Response
Project Manager: UNHCR Name: Mamadou Dian Balde Address: UNHCR Mamba Point Telephone: 06 362 245 E-mail: balde@unhcr.org	Implementing Partner(s): (1) Judiciary; and (2) Washington & Lee University School of Law Name and Address The Honorable Johnnie N. Lewis Chief Justice The Supreme Court of Liberia Temple of Justice, Monrovia Prof. Speedy Rice, Washington & Lee University School of Law, Louis A. Grimes Law School, University of Liberia Telephone: 077 822 650 / +1 E-mail: sr@jcsrlaw.net
Project Number:	Project Duration: 8 months
Project Title: Rapid Rule of Law Assistance to Reduce Overcrowding in Monrovia Central Prison	Project Location: Monrovia, Paynesville, Brewerville, Gardnersville, West Point, New Kru Town
Project Description: This project will work to systematically reduce prison overcrowding and prolonged pretrial detention at Monrovia Central Prison while simultaneously training Liberian law students in critically-needed practical legal and administrative skills. The recipients will also gain a deeper understanding of the severe Access to Justice problems facing much of the Liberian population. Moreover, the project will also work towards creating essential paper and electronic records for detainees at Monrovia Central Prison, thus supporting the Judiciary.	Total Project Cost: US\$ 50,000 PBF: US\$50,000 Government Input: Other: ABA in-kind donation of legal materials; Washington & Lee in-kind donation of academic materials Total: US\$50,000 Project Duration: 8 months

Peacebuilding Impact and key outcomes:

Pro-longed periods of pre-trial detention and/or wrongful detention at Monrovia Central Prison have led to a serious overcrowding of prison facilities. Due to inadequate capacity and infrastructure, poor case management procedures, a lack of sufficiently trained legal practitioners and overburdened public servants, detainees are often not afforded their right to due process, as required under the Liberian constitution. This leads to increased tension among detainees and guards, and a breakdown of trust in the public that the Liberian criminal justice system is effective. Through this project, Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship will assist Magistrates as law clerks to help more quickly process those accused persons currently housed at Monrovia Central Prison, relieving prison overcrowding.

Outputs and Key Activities:**OUTPUTS:**

- Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship receive advanced training in "Access to Justice" issues and critical administrative skills to supplement their legal studies and prepare them for future work in the criminal justice sector.
- Capacity of Judiciary office strengthened by having skilled and knowledgeable assistance in processing cases.
- Severe backlog of cases of pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison is systematically lessened.
- Prison overcrowding is reduced.




ACTIVITIES:

- Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow will select appropriate participants from qualified candidates currently on the Judicial Scholarship Program at Louis A. Grimes School of Law
- Liberian law students assigned to work as clerks will be provided with limited stipends to support their activities
- Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow will liaise between Liberian law students and national and international actors in the criminal justice sector to arrange training (both via video conference, and in person) in "Access to Justice" issues and in skills necessary for providing support to Magistrates assigned to process pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison.
- Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship will partner with Magistrates in the criminal justice sector to process pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison
- Magistrates and Liberian law students will be provided with office equipment to assist them in the efficient processing of pre-trial detainees, including the creation of a case management system.
- Magistrates and Liberian law students will be provided with training on standard operating procedures which are currently being developed with technical assistance from ABA and PAE.

Technical Advisory Panel Review Date: 19 June 2009

PBF Secretariat Review Date: 22 June 2009

Joint Steering Committee Approval Date: _____

	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Name/Title</i>
On behalf of:	_____	_____	_____
Recipient UN Organization		28/05/09	Ibrahima Coly Representative UNHCR
Co-Chair PBF SC		7-2-09	Ambulai Johnson, Minister
Co-Chair PBF SC		3/07/09	Margrethe Ellen Loj SRSG

THE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Results	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<p>PEACEBUILDING IMPACT</p> <p>Prolonged periods of pre-trial detention and prison overcrowding are a violation of both Liberian law and international human rights standards. Expedited processing of cases, in partnership with MoJ and other actors will help to bolster public faith in Liberia's criminal justice system.</p>	<p>Detainees have a reasonable belief they will not languish in prison and will have access to a judge and lawyer, and be informed of the charges against them.</p> <p>Public trust in a well-functioning criminal justice system is restored.</p>	<p>Prison monitoring by Washington and Lee University School of Law students.</p> <p>Interviews and surveys of public opinion; media coverage.</p>	<p>Reducing prison overcrowding and prolonged pre-trial detention is a priority for the Liberian government.</p>
<p>OUTCOMES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prison overcrowding reduced. - Backlog of prolonged pre-trial detention at Monrovia Central Prison decreased. - Capacity of Liberian criminal justice system strengthened. - Next generation of Liberian criminal justice attorneys benefit from additional training. 	<p>Number of approximately 775 pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison significantly reduced, via transparent proceedings involving Magistrates</p>	<p>Enhanced and sustainable standard operating procedures and case management techniques provide a written record of proceedings, validated by Liberian legal professionals and staff from Washington & Lee School of Law</p>	<p>This project compliments the Judiciary's pilot project aimed at reducing the pre-trial detention population at the Monrovia Central Prison by transporting Magistrates from different courts in and around Monrovia to conduct hearings at Monrovia Central Prison.</p>
<p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prison overcrowding reduced - Detainees housed at Monrovia Central Prison processed and scheduled for trial or processed and released 	<p>Prosecution is carried out for the relevant trials.</p> <p>Where appropriate, detainees released.</p>	<p>Judiciary and Ministry of Justice documentation of proceedings.</p>	<p>(Outputs to outcome)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate capacity to process cases was central to the overcrowding problem. - All parties involved will comply with applicable national laws and international standards, and be satisfied by outcome.
<p>ACTIVITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington and Lee provides training to Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship and Magistrates - Judiciary provides stipends for to law clerks in anticipation of future employment -Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship work alongside Magistrates to process cases and provide much needed clerical support 	<p>INPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington & Lee Staff - Liberian Law Students on Judicial Scholarship - Salary to support Washington and Lee Staff - Stipend to support Liberian Law Clerks 	<p>Annual and quarterly reports</p>	<p>(Activity to output)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MoJ program to bring Magistrates to Monrovia Central Prison gets underway in a timely fashion - Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship have adequate resources to perform their tasks

1. Background and problem statement

The Liberia Human Rights Practicum is a joint program of Washington and Lee School of Law in Lexington, Virginia and the Louis A. Grimes School of Law at the University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia. The Practicum's broad goal is building greater access to justice in Liberia's criminal justice system. The Practicum consists of one in-country representative, the Law Practicum Fellow, who is the on-ground liaison with Liberian law students, as well as law students in the United States. Training on "access to justice" issues and other critical skills is provided throughout the course of a semester, culminating in a site visit by Washington and Lee representatives.

In November 2008, in coordination with local authorities, Liberian and American students visited Monrovia Central Prison. They conducted interviews with a number of pre-trial detainees and guards, and documented basic information about detainees' arrests and access to justice. The interviews yielded a common experience among the vast majority of detainees: out of 825 total detainees at Monrovia Central Prison, only 50 had been to trial and convicted of an offense. The remaining 775 were in jail, awaiting processing. Yet, many had already been in jail longer than any prospective sentence they might receive. Moreover, it became evident that some of the detainees were arrested for civil matters or economic disputes, and not criminal offenses, and should not be detained at all.

Troublingly, only nine of the 69 detainees interviewed could recall receiving a information about their rights upon arrest, as required by the Liberian Constitution, and most were unaware of what their rights were. Police officers tend to overlook the importance of informing the accused of their rights. They seldom realize that this lapse in following proper procedure could result in a dismissal or an acquittal of a guilty person, thus making their job that much more difficult.

Both male and female adult wings of the prison are overcrowded. Some cells housed as many as twelve prisoners in less than desirable conditions. There is not enough floor space per inmate in certain cells. Typically, each 5ft x 7ft cell houses seven inmates.

Complementing a New Judiciary Initiative

The Judiciary is aware of the overcrowding problem at Monrovia Central Prison, and has proposed a new initiative to deal with it. The pilot program brings local Magistrates from their courts in and around Monrovia, six days a week, to Monrovia Central Prison to begin processing pre-trial detainees. The six Magistrates involved in the hearings are:

Monday: Magistrate Nelson Chinneh from Monrovia City Court

Tuesday: Magistrate George Katapkah from Paynesville

Wednesday: Magistrate Joseph Fayiah from Gardnersville

Thursday: Magistrate John Gbetee from New Kru Town

Friday: Magistrate Tim Warris from West Point

Saturday: Magistrate Roosevelt Willy from Brewersville

Transportation for this pilot project has already been requested from the PBF and approved in principle.

The project proposed would complement the Judiciary's initiative. Through its partnership with the Louis A. Grimes School of Law, Washington and Lee proposes to evaluate and select up to 12 Liberian law students on Judicial Scholarship to serve as legal interns to the Magistrates during the pilot program. It is envisioned that two interns would work alongside each of the Magistrates, with supervision, coordination and support provided by the Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow.

The potential interns would be chosen from a pool of 3rd-year law students who attended school as "Judicial Scholars" on a scholarship under the patronage of the Judiciary. This criterion is important because these students are under obligation to work for the Judiciary upon graduation. Thus, the additional skills and training they gain during their internships will be directly applicable to their future employment. This pool of students has already completed their law studies, and is awaiting graduation.

Given the large time commitment expected from the selected interns, the only way to make this project feasible is to provide them with a limited stipend during their service, in order to offset any potential loss of income they might incur from agreeing to take part in the program. The stipend would be commensurate to salaries they could expect if working in a government ministry, and with additional money for transportation and communication costs.

Legal Intern Duties

It is envisioned that the legal interns will visit Monrovia Central Prison and travel to the Magistrates' Courts and police stations, at least once per week (as appropriate), to do background research on detainees who are scheduled to be processed by the respective Magistrates in upcoming sessions. The research would entail finding a charge sheet, if any, for detainees, as well as gathering any other relevant information about the case at hand, including visually identifying detainees in the prison and verifying length of detention. The interns will then be able to communicate relevant details to the Magistrate with whom they are working. This will directly aid in the processing of cases, as the prosecutor or defense counsel can then appropriately request a dismissal or continuance as necessary, and all parties will be working from the same information, ensuring equitable and standardized procedures.

Advanced Training in Access to Justice Issues

In addition to their practical work, the legal interns will also benefit from a once-weekly class taught by an experienced American law professor at Washington and Lee University School of Law, via the video-conference facilities at the United States Embassy. The interns will be provided with a copy of the book "Access to Justice in Africa and Beyond," and will engage in frank discussion with counterparts in the United States on issues relevant to access to justice in Liberia. As the Liberian interns will be assigned to work in the criminal justice spectrum, such interaction will ensure that all parties are informed about the rights and responsibilities of their counterparts who may work across the aisle, leading to a more in-depth understanding of the appropriate functioning of the Liberian criminal justice system.

2. Project Rationale and expected results

The unsafe prison overcrowding due to the prolonged pre-trial detention has led to poor conditions, health risks for inmates and guards, the potential for violence and an almost blanket disregard for applicable Liberian Criminal Procedure Law and international human rights standards regarding due process and prison conditions.

As it currently stands, the Judiciary is ill-equipped to deal with this situation. Magistrates cannot give blanket amnesty to the detainees, as some of them have been accused of serious crimes which merit a thorough investigation and proper redress for victims. Furthermore, a request for dismissal must come from either the prosecutor or defense counsel, a process which is hindered by the fact that in a majority of cases, neither the inmates nor the prison appear to be in possession of charging sheets or any requisite paperwork relating to detainees' cases. The paperwork, where it exists, remains at the Magistrates' courts or the police station in the locality where the complaint was first made.

The expected results from this project is enhanced record-keeping within the criminal justice system; advanced skills training for future Liberian attorneys mandated to work within the criminal justice system upon graduation; a decrease in pre-trial detention waiting periods; and a reduction in prison overcrowding.

It is but one important step in the longer process of enhancing the Judiciary's response capacity and addresses a critical conflict factor that could lead to future unrest, due to a weak criminal justice system.

3. Partnerships and Management Arrangement

Through the Liberia Human Rights Practicum, Washington and Lee School of Law will partner with the Judiciary. The project will be managed by Washington and Lee's in-country Liberian Law Practicum Fellow, using Liberian law students who have completed their studies under a Judicial Scholarship.

Discussions have been undertaken with representatives of the Judiciary and the Ministry of Justice about logistics of the proposed project, namely Hon. Justice Kabineh Ja'neh of the Supreme Court of Liberia; Hon. Justice Jamesetta Wollokollie of the Supreme Court of Liberia, and Hon. Cllr. Eva Mappy Morgan, Deputy Minister for Administration and Public Safety. Additionally, preliminary discussions have been undertaken with the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Prosecution and Defense Advisors for the PAE Justice Sector Support Program for the provision of appropriate technical support. The ABA will also supply copies of the relevant laws to magistrates. All of the above parties agree on the urgent need to reduce prison overcrowding by undertaking expedited processing of pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison. All were receptive to the idea of having legal interns assist in the process.

4. Monitoring & Evaluation

The project will be subject to periodic progress reports prepared by the Washington and Lee Liberian Practicum Fellow and submitted to all relevant parties, including but not limited to UNDP, the Judiciary, the Ministry of Justice, ABA, PAE and Washington and Lee University School of Law.

5. Sustainability of the project

This project is intended to strengthen the capacity of the Judiciary to deal with prolonged pre-trial detention and severe overcrowding problems at Monrovia Central Prison, while providing future Liberian lawyers with critically needed skills in enhance the effectiveness of the criminal justice system. If successfully implemented, it is envisioned that support from the Government or other donors could be obtained to sustain the project beyond its initial pilot period.

6. Project Implementation with timeline

I. Preparation of Project: 1 month (beginning April 1, 2009) : law interns are interviewed and selected; after which they are placed with their relevant counterparts in the criminal justice system; logistics finalized

II. Implementation of Project: 7 months (May 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009): law interns receive training and begin duties as outlined above

III. Assessment of Project: ongoing – Washington and Lee Law Practicum Fellow interviews law interns, their counterparts in America and Liberian Criminal Justice System regarding successes of project and areas where improvements are needed. Progress report is written and submitted; project is re-vamped as necessary for future implementation.

7. Project/Budget (see Project Budget)

8. Detailed work plan (see Detailed Project section)

PROJECT BUDGET

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT COST	NUMBER OF UNITS	TOTAL COST
1. Personnel <i>Including staff and consultants</i>	Salary for Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow	\$2,000 per month	8	\$16,000
	Stipend for 12 Liberian law interns	\$100 per month, per student (\$1,200)	8	\$9,600
2. Contracts <i>Including companies, professional services, grants</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$0
3. Training	Weekly Video Conference with Wash & Lee Univ.	\$0 per week, for 8 months (in-kind donation/U.S. Embassy)	N/A	\$0
4. Transport	Taxi/transport allowance for Liberian law interns	\$50 USD per month, per student (\$600)	8	\$4,800
5. Supplies and commodities	Stationery supplies	\$327.50 per month	8	\$2,620
	Toner for printers and copy machines	\$200 per month	8	\$1,600
	Scratch cards for phone for Wash. & Lee Practicum Fellow	\$30 per month	8	\$240
	Scratch cards for phone for Liberian law interns	\$10 per month per student (\$120)	8	\$960
	Scratch cards for phone for Magistrates	\$10 per month per Magistrate (\$60)	8	\$480

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT COST	NUMBER OF UNITS	TOTAL COST
6. Equipment	Training materials: "Access to Justice in Africa" Book	Washington and Lee in-kind donation	18	\$0
	Laptop computers for the Magistrates	\$1500 per laptop	6	\$9,000
	Printers for the Magistrates	\$200 per printer	6	\$1,200
	Copy Machine for use by law students	\$800 per machine	1	\$800
	File Cabinets for use by Magistrates and Law Clerks	\$150 per file cabinet	6	\$900
7. Travel	Plane ticket for Wash. Lee Law Practicum Fellow	\$1,800 per ticket	1	\$1,800
8. Miscellaneous				
Sub-total				\$50,000
9. Agency Management Support**				
TOTAL				\$50,000

* The Standard Financial Report that has been reviewed with the UNDG Financial Policies Working Group.

** The rate shall be within the range of 5% to 9%, with overall expected average of 7% of the total of categories 1-8., as agreed to by Recipient UN Organizations in MOU signed with the PBF's Administrative Agent, the UNDP MDTF Office

Detailed Work Plan

Activities/Input	Budget (Reflects PBF Contributions)	Delivery Date
1) Washington & Lee Law Practicum Fellow selected and established in Liberia	1) \$16,000 (Salary) \$1,800 (Plane Ticket)	1) 1 April 2009
2) Liberian Law clerks evaluated and selected and assigned to respective magistrates	2) \$9,600 (Salary for 12 law clerks for 8 months)	2) April - May 2009
3) Liberian Law Students receive supplementary training in Access to Justice Issues via video conference at the U.S. Embassy	3) \$0.00	3) Periodically; beginning April 2009
4) Equipment, supplies and commodities purchased and distributed to Washington and Lee Law Practicum Fellow, Liberian Law Clerks and Magistrates	4) \$17,800	4) Computers and hardware: April 2009; "Access to Justice" books: April 2009 Scratch cards, stationary and office supplies: periodically, beginning April 2009
5) Taxi stipend distributed to Liberian Law Students	5) \$4,800	5) Periodically; distributions made on a monthly basis, beginning April 2009
6) Liberian law clerks work in support of Magistrates holding hearings to relieve prison overcrowding and prolonged pre-trial detention	6) \$0.00	6) Ongoing; April thru December 2009
Grand Total	\$50,000	

Dates	3 Month Benchmarks	Indicators of Progress
First 3 Months	Washington and Lee and Liberian personnel selected, established, and assigned	Magistrates, Liberian law clerks, and Washington and Lee Practicum Fellow fully equipped and operational (in their respective roles).
Second 3 Months	<p>Clear, detailed, and organized paper & electronic records regarding charges/dismissal/continuations for each detainee in pre-trial detention in Monrovia Central Prison created;</p> <p>Liberian law clerks have acquired valuable legal and administrative skills.</p>	<p>Both electronic and paper records are available for periodic review by interested parties.</p> <p>Copies of records available on request by monitors.</p> <p>Assessment of Liberian law clerks shows marked improvement in understanding of practical legal skills.</p> <p>Assessment also shows a deepened understanding of the serious problems in Access to Justice issues of many Liberians.</p>
Final 2 months	Pre-trial detainee population at Monrovia Central prison significantly reduced	Review of prison records, Ministry of Justice records, and Magistrate records proves that transparent and equitable hearings have been held and the prison population is lower than in January 2009 (i.e. before the start of the project).

Liberia Peacebuilding Fund Project Summary

Recipient UN Organization:	UNHCR	PBF Priority Area:	Area 2, Rapid Response		
Implementing Partner(s):	Washington and Lee University School of Law; Judiciary of Liberia (under the aegis of its supervisory role of Judicial Scholarship Program)				
Project Number:	PBF/				
Project Title:	Rapid Rule of Law Assistance to Reduce Overcrowding in Monrovia Central Prison				
Total Approved Project Budget:	\$50,000				
Location:	Monrovia, Paynesville, Brewerville, Gardnersville, West Point, New Kru Town				
JSC Approval Date:					
Project Duration:	8 Months	Starting Date:	April 1, 2009	Completion Date:	Dec. 31, 2009
Project Description:	This project will work to systematically reduce prison overcrowding and prolonged pretrial detention at Monrovia Central Prison while simultaneously training Liberian law students in critically-needed practical legal and administrative skills. The recipients will also gain a deeper understanding of the severe Access to Justice problems facing much of the Liberian population. Moreover, the project will also work towards creating essential paper and electronic records for detainees at Monrovia Central Prison, thus supporting the Judiciary.				
Peacebuilding Impact:	Pro-longed periods of pre-trial detention and/or wrongful detention at Monrovia Central Prison have led to a serious overcrowding of prison facilities. Due to inadequate capacity and infrastructure, poor case management procedures, a lack of sufficiently trained legal practitioners and overburdened public servants , detainees are rarely ever given their right to due process, as required under the Liberian constitution. This leads to increased tension among detainees and guards, and a breakdown of trust in the public that the Liberian criminal justice system is effective. Through this project, Liberian law students will assist Magistrates as law clerks to help more quickly process those accused persons currently housed at Monrovia Central Prison, relieving prison overcrowding .				
Outcome(s):					
Outputs and Key Activities:	<p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liberian law students receive advanced training in "Access to Justice" issues and critical administrative skills to supplement their legal studies and prepare them for future work in the criminal justice sector. - Capacity of Judiciary office strengthened by having skilled and knowledgeable assistance in processing cases. - Severe backlog of cases of pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison is systematically decreased. - Prison overcrowding is reduced. 				

	<p>ACTIVITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow will select appropriate participants from qualified candidates currently on an Judicial Intern Scholarship at Louis A. Grimes School of Law - Liberian law clerks will be provided with limited stipends to support their activities - Washington and Lee Liberian Law Practicum Fellow will liaise between Liberian law students and national and international actors to in the criminal justice sector to arrange for training (both via video conference, and in person) in “in access to justice issues” and in skills necessary for successful law clerk activities - Liberian law students will partner with Magistrates in the criminal justice sector to process pre-trial detainees at Monrovia Central Prison
<p>Indicator and Benchmarks:</p>	<p>Clear, detailed, and organized paper & electronic records regarding charges/dismissal/continuations for each detainee in pre-trial detention in Monrovia Central Prison created;</p> <p>Liberian law clerks have acquired valuable legal and administrative skills.</p> <p>Pre-trial detainee population at Monrovia Central prison significantly reduced.</p>
<p>Procurement:</p>	

Submission Form
To
Joint Steering Committee

Part A. Meeting Information			
<i>To be completed by the PBF Secretariat</i>			
SC Meeting No:	9 th JSC Meeting		
Item No:	IV		
Date of Meeting:	17 March 2009		
Part B: Project Summary			
<i>To be completed by the Recipient UN Organization</i>			
From: Head of Recipient UN Organization – Country Director - UNHCR	Date of Submission: 16 March 2009		
Contact: Telephone number, email			
Proposed Project, if approved, would result in:	Proposed Project resulted from:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Project / Joint Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Authorities initiative within Liberia PBF Terms of Reference		
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of previous funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Agency initiative within Liberia PBF Terms of Reference		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain)		
Recipient UN Organization: UNHCR			
Implementing Partner(s): Ministry of Internal Affairs (in collaboration with the Government of Liberia Peacebuilding Office) PBRC, UNOPS/Interpeace/FLOMO THEATRE PRODUCTION			
Theme/Cluster/Priority Area: Priority Area 2: Critical Interventions to Promote Peace and Resolve Conflict			
Project ¹ Title: Inter-ethnic Reconciliation Project in Nimba County			
Total Project Budget: US\$ 50,000			
Amount requested: US\$50,000			
Amount and percentage of indirect costs requested:			
Projected Annual Disbursements:	2008 \$	2009 \$	
Projected Annual Commitments:	2008 \$	2009 \$	

¹ The term "Projectme" is used for projects, Projectmes and joint Projectmes.

Narrative summary of Project

Not to exceed 500 words

1. Background

In November 2008, in coordination with local authorities, Liberian and American students visited Monrovia Central Prison. They conducted interviews with a number of pre-trial detainees and guards, and documented basic information about detainees' arrests and access to justice. The interviews yielded a common experience among the vast majority of detainees: out of 825 total detainees at Monrovia Central Prison, only 50 had been to trial and convicted of an offense. The remaining 775 were in jail, waiting processing. Yet, many had already been in jail longer than any prospective sentence they might receive. Moreover, it became evident that some of the detainees were arrested for civil matters or economic disputes, and not criminal offenses, and should not be detained at all.

Troublingly, only nine of the 69 detainees interviewed could recall receiving a information about their rights upon arrest, as required by the Liberian Constitution, and most were unaware of what their rights were. Police officers tend to overlook the importance of informing the accused of their rights. They seldom realize that this lapse in following proper procedure could result in a dismissal or an acquittal of a guilty person, thus making their job that much more difficult.

Both male and female adult wings of the prison are overcrowded. Some cells housed as many as twelve prisoners in less than desirable conditions. There is not enough floor space per inmate in certain cells. Typically, each 5ft x 7ft cell houses seven inmates.

2. Purpose of Proposed Project

The purpose of the project and expected results are: enhanced record-keeping within the criminal justice system; advanced skills training for future Liberian attorneys mandated to work within the criminal justice system upon graduation; a decrease in pre-trial detention waiting periods; and a reduction in prison overcrowding.

This initiative is one important step in the longer process of enhancing the Judiciary's response capacity and addresses a critical conflict factor that could lead to future unrest, due to a weak criminal justice system.

Part C: Technical Review

(To be completed by the PBF Secretariat on behalf of the Technical Advisory Panel)

Composition of Technical Advisory Panel:

Provide names, titles and organizational affiliation of Panel members

Fast Track proposal – reviewed by the PBF-L Secretariat: Saah Charles N'Tow, Liberia Peacebuilding Office / Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat (Peacebuilding technical knowledge) Wilfred N. Gray-Johnson, Liberia Peacebuilding Office / Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat (Peacebuilding technical knowledge)

Technical Advisory Panel Review Date:

Provide date(s) of review

19 March 2009

3. Evaluation of Proposal by the Technical Advisory Panel

Provide concise summary evaluation of proposal against:

Problem statement and intervention clearly articulated.

The project certainly will have a relevant peacebuilding impact.

Project budget line items need to be readjusted and also include 7% MDFT management overhead

<i>i) General principles and selection criteria</i>		
(a)	Is the Project explicitly based on Liberia PBF Priority Plan?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Does the project build capacity within national institutions?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Does the project promote and ensure national and local ownership?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Does the organization have the appropriate system to deliver expected results (also looking at earlier performance and project delivery)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Does the project avoid duplication of and significant overlap with the activities of other actors?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(f)	Does the project use strategic entry points that respond to immediate needs and yet facilitate longer-term improvements?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(g)	Does the project build on existing resources, capacities, strengths and experience?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(h)	Can the Project be completed within 18 months?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>ii) Relevance to peacebuilding criteria</i>		
(a)	Are peacebuilding and reconciliation aspects adequately addressed by the proposal?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Are related gender dimensions taken into account and adequately addressed by the proposal?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Are the theory of change and strategy for the project appropriate for, and relevant to the particular conflict situation?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>iii) Project design criteria</i>		

(a)	Are the activities appropriate, practical, and consistent with the expected results?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Are risks taken into account and is this analysis reflected in the structure and design of the logframe?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Has the role of partners been identified and is their level of involvement and participation in the project satisfactory?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Does the proposal include realistic provisions for monitoring and are the indicators at impact, outcome and output level adequate?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Impact and Sustainability		
(a)	Is the project likely to have a tangible/measurable impact on its target groups, especially in terms of building peace and reconciliation?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Is the project likely to have multiplier effects, including scope for replication and/or extension?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Does the proposal have mechanisms to ensure that it is sustained beyond the end date?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Does the proposal have the mechanisms to be fully integrated and mainstreamed into new Projects and projects?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Overall Technical Advisory Panel review of project submission [Recommendations]		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part D: Administrative Review

To be completed by the Liberia PBF Secretariat

4. Review by PBF Secretariat

Date of review:

21 March 2009 (final review)

[Signature]
For the Secretariat

Check on Project Proposal Format Contents

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover sheet (first page) | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Logical Framework | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project Justification | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project Management Arrangements | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Risks and Assumptions | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Progress Report (for supplementary funding only) | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Cost | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

Provide concise summary assessment against:

- 18 Months Implementation
Elaborate
Self explanatory
- Agency indirect support cost

<p><i>Elaborate</i> Explained <input type="checkbox"/> <i>General evaluation criteria</i> <i>Elaborate</i> As mentioned</p>		
<i>Part E General criteria for prioritising Projects/projects</i>		
(a)	Must be in line with Liberia PBF Priority Plan	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Recipient Organisation is unable to meet high or urgent priority needs with existing level of funding	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Addresses high priority activities that have significant impact, and by nature must address seasonal or timing imperatives and considerations.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Supports activities that are likely to improve the overall peacebuilding situation at national and local levels.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

5. Recommendation of the PBF Secretariat

Elaborate

Project budget was adjusted to include MDTF Management overhead. Secretariat recommends approval by the Co-Chairs.

Part F: Decision of Steering Committee

(To be completed by the Steering Committee)

5. Decision of the Liberia PBF Joint Steering Committee

- Approved for a total budget of **US\$50,000**
- Approved with modification/condition
- Deferred/returned with comments for further consideration
- Rejected

Comments/Justification

JSC – Co-chairs endorse recommendations from the Secretariat.

Ambulai Johnson
Minister of Internal Affairs
Co-Chair, PBF Joint Steering Committee



Signature
Date

Margrethe Ellen Loj
Special Representative of
the Secretary-General
Co-Chair, PBF Joint Steering Committee



Signature
Date

Part G: Administrative Agent Review

To be completed by the Administrative Agent

7. Action taken by the Administrative Agent: MDTF Office, UNHCR

- Project consistent with provisions of the Liberia PBF Memorandum of Understanding and Standard Administrative Arrangements with donors.

Bisrat Aklilu,

Executive Coordinator, MDTF Office, UNHCR

Signature

Date