

**PEACEBUILDING FUND**

**KENYA**

**PROJECT QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT**

**AS OF 31 JULY, 2012**

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| **Project No & Title:** | PBF/EMER/7 Emergency Volunteers Scheme  #00066702 | | | | |
| **Recipient Organization(s):** | UNDP Kenya | | | | |
| **National Authority(ies):** | Ministry of State for Provincial Administration and Internal Security through the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management – Office of the President | | | | |
| **Location:** | Kenya | | | | |
| **Project Budget:** | US $1,000,000 | | | | |
| **Approval Date:** | 31/12/2008 | **Starting Date:** | 31/12/2008 | **Completion Date:** | 31/12/2012 |
| **PBF Outcome and Priority Area** | Priority Area 2: Promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution. | | | | |
| **Project Description:** | Through the Uwiano Platform for Peace, the Electoral Violence Response Initiative (EVRI) is being implemented within the Consolidated Peace Programme. The overall objective of the programme is to promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution. The envisaged outcome is national strategies, policies, legislations and institutions for peace building and conflict prevention established at national, county and community levels and capacity for conflict prevention and coordination strengthened. | | | | |
| **Immediate Objectives:** | National strategies, policies, legislations and institutions for peace building and conflict prevention established at national, county and community levels and capacity for conflict prevention and coordination strengthened. | | | | |
| **Project Status as of 31st July 2012:** | | | | | |
| **Funds disbursed:** | US$1,000,000 | | | | |
| **Delivery rate (%):** | 80% | | | | |
| **Outputs delivered:** | * Strengthened county capacity for coordination and conflict prevention at both national and county levels * Enhanced operational capacity of local peace structures. * Established national conflict early warning and early response mechanism. | | | | |
| **Achievements and challenges** | During this reporting period, a major achievement has been the Cabinet’s approval of the National Peace Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management in July 2012. Additionally, there is an increasing demand by both state and non-state organizations to establish county peace secretariats that will coordinate local level peace committees. This eagerness to consolidate the peace structures in the 47 counties demonstrates both the success of the peace building process as well as the commitment to building sustainable structures at both the national and county levels.  Coupled with the establishment of county peace structures is the request for focal persons to support the secretariat in acting as the nexus between the various stakeholders ranging from state institutions, civil society, international organizations and the local communities. The increasing number of requests for local level coordination staff is testament to the value added in engaging peace focal persons to support local and regional peace structures.  A key factor to establishing peace structures that are relevant and effective is to operationalize their work. The EVRI project has noted that there is a correlation between relevance and effectiveness among peace committees that have been supported with technical staff, operational resources and requisite skills and knowledge. This support to peace committees is therefore expected to continue and intensified as the country moves towards a complex General Election under the new constitution.  A key focus of the national peace process has been founded on early warning and preventive action. The investment in a national conflict early warning system is proof of this. The current focus of the programme has been to widen coverage of the system to include newly established peace committees as well as integration of other regional peace structures. Further, the linkage between early warning and early response has been a key factor in building national confidence in the system and therefore a strategic tool for national actors to prevent violent conflict.  Looking ahead, the prorgamme anticipates to equip the Situation Room at the national level, build operational capacity of the staff to engage in effective monitoring and utilization of early warning data generated for early action and also establish at least 25 county peace secretariats each with a localized early warning center that feeds into the national system. Closely linked to this is the engagement of focal persons to support the newly established structures and equally important is the building capacity of the structures to operate effectively and efficiently. Our challenges however continue to be on the funding gap; the real/perceived slow pace of reforms; the International Criminals Courts process; findings of the Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission; and devolution politics with different communities and clans jostling for power at county levels. These are critical accelerators of potential violence that needs to be closely watched, monitored and mitigated in the next few months as the country prepares for heated political campaigns and a complex General Elections with various elective positions up for grabs. | | | | |