

**[Peacebuilding Fund]**

**ANNUAL programme NARRATIVE progress report**

**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 january – 31 December 2009**

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| *Submitted by:* United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) |  | *Country and PBF Priority Area*LiberiaPriority Area:2.1 Foster national reconciliation and consolidate peace / 2.2 Critical Interventions to Promote Peace and Resolve Conflict |
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| *Programme No:* *PBF/LBR/D-9**MDTF Office Atlas No:* 00072007*Programme Title:* Inter-County Reconciliation Project in Nimba and Grand Gedeh Counties |  | *Participating Organization(s):*UNHCR |
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| *Implementing Partners:*  West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) |  | *Programme Budget (from the Fund):* *$50,000* |
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| *Programme Duration (in months):*4 months Start date[[1]](#footnote-1): 17 August 2009  End date: 11 November 2009(Original)  15 April 2010 (Revised) |

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# NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

# Purpose

The objective of the project is to improve inter-ethnic relationship between Krahan people in Grand Gedeh County and Mano/Gio people in Nimba County. Inter-ethnic relationship degenerated as far back as the decade of military rule in the 1980s, when the Former President Samuel K. Doe from Krahan ethnic group and Thomas Quiwonkpa, the Commander General of the Armed Forces of Liberia who was originally from Nimba mobilized their ethnic groups for their own political gains.

After the attempted coup in 1985 lead by Quiwonkpa, Doe’s Krahn-dominated government retaliated against the ethnic groups in Quiwonkpa’s native Nimba County, causing widespread loss of life within the Gio and Mano communities. The ethnic feud was further inflamed in the Liberian civil war since the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) lead by Charles Taylor launched his assault on the Doe’s regime, drawing sufficient support from Gio/Mano associate of the late Quiwonkpa while the Krahan generally supported Doe. Up to now, the inter-county ethnic tensions are still manifested in many forms such as resentments, fear, hatred and elimination.

In order to facilitate Inter-County reconciliation process, the project will implement distinct but interrelated activities and deliver the following outputs;

1. Baseline Survey/ data collection conducted;
2. In total 100 persons from Nimba and Grand Gedeh Counties trained in Conflict Resolution, Management and Prevention;
3. An inter-county early warning and response system established and linked to WANEP’s overall Early Warning and Response System;
4. At least 3 social and political dialogues linked to the peace hut concept conducted;
5. Awareness raising/ sensitization through dissemination of messages/ information on conflict resolution, reconciliation and peacebuilding etc. conducted;
6. The Inter-County Reconciliation Committee established and supported financially for their continuous engagement.

***Relevance to the Liberia PBF Priority Plan***

The project is aligned with the two priority areas in Liberia PBF Priority Plan; “fostering national reconciliation and consolidate peace” and “Critical Interventions to Promote Peace and Resolve Conflict”. As articulated in the plan, facilitating national reconciliation including ethnic divisions is a critical intervention in order to lay a solid foundation for long-term peace and stability. Inaction on deepened cleavages within society across ethnic, political and economic lines; accumulation of unresolved land disputes, loss of confidence in peace may reignite organized conflict as it leaves rooms for opportunistic leaders to capitalize on growing tensions and discontentment.

# Resources

***Financial Resources***

The project is 100% funded by PBF. There have not been any budget revisions. The project was approved by Liberia PBF Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on 3 July 2009 and funds were advanced from MDTF to the UNHCR HQ on 13 August 2009. Following MDTF remittance, the funding was transferred from the HQ to the Country Office in Liberia on 15 October 2009.

***Human Resources***

* National Staff committed to the project:
  + WANEP:
    - Funded by PBF: 2 Programme staff; 1 Operations staff, all full-time.
  + UNHCR:
    - Funded by UNHCR: 2 Programme staff, part-time.
* International Staff committed to the project:
  + UNHCR:
    - Funded by UNHCR: 1 Programme staff, part-time.

# Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

The project will be implemented by WANEP under the UNHCR sub-agreement applicable to all UNHCR implementing partners. WANEP will deliver the project period outputs through its partnerships with SEWODA, PBRC and Flomo Theater Production. WANEP, as a lead agency will coordinate activities with partner agencies and manage finds. SEWODA will be responsible in awareness raising activities in Grand Gedeh and PBRC will lead the activities in Nimba. Flomo Theater Production will be responsible for a peace festival.

Capitalizing on other PB project implementation in Nimba, UNHCR will supervise and conduct programmatic monitoring through its Field offices in Saclepea (Nimba) and Zwedru (Grand Gedeh). In terms of administrative/financial monitoring, the regular UNHCR sub-project monitoring and reporting procedures will be in place. As a UNHCR implementing partner PBRC will follow established UNHCR procurement procedures.

# Results

The project was fast tracked to immediately respond to a recommendation from the Interpeace pilot project (2008) to prevent potential violent conflict between the counties tribes. The project proposal was approved in July 2009 by JSC but funds were not delivered to the Country Office in Liberia until October of 2010. Additionally, the project strategies and activities had to be harmonized with the Inter-reconciliation in Nimba County project and other ongoing peacebuilding efforts in order to avoid overlapping and duplication and to synergize with other peacebuilding interventions. The sub-agreement between UNHCR and WANEP to operationalise the project was finally signed on 15th December 2009. As a result, the project has only completed 15 days of a 3-month total project period. Due to the fact that the project is in such an early stage, project progress remains difficult to measure.

# Future Work Plan (if applicable)

The project will be fully operational in the beginning of January 2010. Please see an annexed work plan for detailed activities.

# Performance Indicators (optional)[[2]](#footnote-2)

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

|  |  |
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| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| PBF | Peacebuilding Fund |
| WANEP | West African Network for Peacebuilding |
| NPFL | National Patriotic Front of Liberia |
| JSC | Joint Steering Committee |

**Annex**

## WORKPLAN

Implementing Partner: WANEP Liberia

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| **Outputs** | **Activities** | **Responsibility** | **Completion**  **Dates** |
| * 1 baseline survey conducted for 7 days to identify key conflict issues and factors identified over political marginalization, inter-ethnic militarization as well identification of current local community structures and practices of peace promotion initiatives etc; * 2 separate and one joint training will be held in Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties with each lasting for 3 days in Nimba and Grand Gedeh on General peacebuilding; * 1 Early Warning and Early Response Database set up at the WANEP Office in Nimba; | * Baseline Survey * Trainings * Early Warning and Early Response System Establishment | * WANEP as the Lead Implementing Agency * SEWODA & PBRC as Supporting Partners * Other key Partners may include JPC, YMCA 7 the existing Peace Committees etc | * Dec. 2009 to Jan. 2010 * Jan. 2010 * Feb. 2010 |
| * 3 Dialogues held with at least 60 persons participating in the discussions regarding county and inter-county peace reconciliation; * 1 Inter-county Sports/Peace Festival Held at a Bordering town or in one of the counties; | * Social and Political Dialogues * Inter County Sports/Peace Festival | * WANEP as Lead Implementing Agency * Flomo Theatre as supporting Partner * Other key partners would include SEWODA etc | * Feb. 2010 & Mar. 2010 |
| * At least three weeks of awareness raising and sensitization activities carried out in both counties targeting at least 1,500 persons; * 1 Inter-County Reconciliation Committee set up and supported financially for continuous engagement. | * Sub-grants/Awareness Raising * Sub-grants/Inter County Reconciliation Committee | * WANEP as Lead Implementing Agency * SEWODA,PBRC, Flomo Theatre and the Inter County Reconciliation Committee | * Feb. 2010 & Mar. 2010 * Mar. 2010 |

1. The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. E.g. for the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund and the MDG-F. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)