



## LIBERIA PEACEBUILDING FUND FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT

### Programme Title & Number

- **Programme Title:** Platform for Dialogue and Peace in Liberia (P4DP)
- **Programme Number:** 00070665
- **MDTF Office Atlas Number:** PBF/LBR/A-4

### Priority Area(s)

1. Fostering National Reconciliation and Conflict Management
3. Strengthening State Capacity for Peace Consolidation

### Participating Organization(s)

UNOPS - Joint Program Unit for UN/Interpeace Initiatives

### Implementing Partners

- LDI, WANEP, IPC, PBRC, KAICT, FIND, WONGOSOL, IRCL

### Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

MDTF Fund Contribution: 1,000,000

- *by Agency (if applicable)*

Agency Contribution

- *by Agency (if applicable)*

Government Contribution  
*(if applicable)*

Other Contribution (donor)  
*(if applicable)*

**TOTAL:** 1,000,000

### Programme Duration (months)

Overall Duration 17 Months

Start Date 23-April-2009

Original end date 30-April-2010

Revised End Date 30-September-2010

Operational Closure  
Date

Expected Financial  
Closure Date

### Final Programme/ Project Evaluation

Evaluation Completed

Yes  No Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluation Report - Attached

Yes  No

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## **FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT**

### **I. PURPOSE**

#### **a. Brief introduction of the project**

This project is based on the principle that war destroys vital social capital between and amongst communities and their leaders, and that to revive nationhood and communal bonds -critical elements of sustainable peace- reinvigoration of the shattered trust through consistent dialogue informed by systematic research involving the contending parties is a sine qua non. The Platform for Dialogue and Peace project in post-war Liberia assumes that Liberian society is deeply fragmented as a consequence of the protracted civil war and historical politics of exclusion as well as the continuation of violent and divisive communication structures and patterns. A vibrant state is one established on strong social capital – levels of inter-personal and collective trust and patterns of constructive interaction that allow collaborative resolution of social conflicts- or at least on some appreciable level of social density which in post-war Liberia is still scarce.

#### **b. Main outputs and outcomes of the programme**

The activities carried out during the project were designed to contribute to the following **outputs**:

- **8 CSOs trained and experienced in participatory action research and facilitation of action-oriented dialogue processes.**

This component focuses on the development of the human resources and organizational capacities of the key collaborating civil society institutions, with the intention of establishing a strong team to implement the project and a core group of institutions that can further support the application of the approach in the Liberian context. In this light, modules and tools for participatory action research, organization and facilitation of dialogue processes will be developed and in some instances adapted to the specific conditions of Liberia. Also, diverse individuals / institutions will be trained and supported throughout the project to ensure the complete transfer of skills. The trainings will be designed and conducted with Liberians in the lead through one of the eight collaborating CSOs- the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation at the University of Liberia. External technical support will also be provided in ways that ensure that capacities of the local institution and trainers are built to sustain the process.

- **Core Group in Ministry of Internal Affairs trained and experienced in participatory action research and facilitation of action-oriented dialogue processes.**

This component is directed at the improvement of the human resources and organizational capacities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, particularly at the local level, with the intention of establishing a strong group of Ministry officials that can support the implementation of the project and further applications of the approach in the Liberian context. Five members of MIA main office participated will regularly participate in various training workshops while authorities of the various political sub-divisions will engage participate in project activities to raise awareness of the importance of enhancing inclusiveness. They will learn and apply the governance benefits of inviting marginalized and vulnerable groups that had hitherto been excluded. The paradigm shift will create new dynamism in the discussions at local level with these groups voicing strong reservations about any exclusionary practice directed against them.

- **A report on key challenges for consolidation of peace in Liberia that reflects the perceptions of different sectors of Liberian society and state on these issues.**

This output focuses on undertaking local participatory action research at county level to gather the reflections and perspectives of local actors on what they consider as fundamental issues that must be addressed so that Liberia can evolve as a durable and viable state. During 10 months, 4 research teams used a sampling strategy to explore and map the perceived needs and goals of the different social, religious, ethnic and political groups of Liberian society at grass-root and national levels. Special attention will be given to conflictive areas in each region. The teams of researchers travelled throughout the country to listen to the views of people in various urban and rural communities. In the communities, meetings will be held at village, district, country and capital levels with participants sharing their unique perspectives and discussing views at open air meetings, under trees, on door steps, on the edge of pavements, in meeting houses and government offices. A comprehensive report containing the mapping and analysis of the issues will subsequently be produced. This exercise will also explore communication structures and types of dialogues either indigenous to the respective ethnic groups in Liberia or adopted through interactions with western societies in order to understand dialogic dynamics and prepare the dialogue process. The overall aim is to identify the issues, communication structures and the strategies for dialogue, as well as partners and stakeholders.

- **3 recommendations from Nimba Reconciliation Project implemented: a public awareness campaign; a network of Peace Committees; and, a County-wide youth programme.**

The team's efforts of the team that will be deployed in Nimba County will be geared towards the implementation of three important recommendations of the Pilot project in Nimba. For the public awareness campaign and the County-wide youth programme the team will organize multi-stakeholder working groups involving CSOs, local government officials and Nimba citizens to define the strategy and contents of the two initiatives. For the creation of Peace Committees, the team will proceed to the identification, set up, training, support and monitoring of one Peace Committee in each of the six districts of Nimba County.

## **Outcomes**

As explicitly mentioned in the project document, the project funded by PBF was only the first year of operation of a longer term process that was designed to last two years. After the achievement of the described outputs, the project would have moved to a phase in which the dialogue would have been brought at the national stage. The dialogue process would have then discussed and analyzed the issues identified in the previous phase with the aim of developing concrete policy responses with participation of central government representatives, civil society organizations and political and social leaders. Given the fact that the project was not continued due to lack of funding, many of the outputs contributing to the outcomes were not pursued. The combined effect of all the outputs previewed in the two-year project would have contributed to achieve the following **outcomes**:

- **Broad national consensus around a strategy addressing key challenges for consolidation of peace in Liberia.**

The combination of participatory research methodologies at grass-roots level with the engagement in sustained social debates and dialogues at the national level will promote the emergence of a basic consensus around key principles and goals for post-conflict Liberia, including the identification of a basic agenda of priority issues and concrete policy recommendations on how to address these.

- **A social network of key social and political actors engaged in effective dialogue and collaborative action.**

The engagement of multiple representatives from Government and society in an inclusive and participatory dialogue process sustained over time will allow the emergence of inter-personal and inter-institutional trust and relations – i.e. a social network- that will transcend the specific collaboration within the project spaces and will allow these actors to continue interacting over time.

- **Improved attitudes and behaviour in a core group of social and political actors.**

The experience of a sustained engagement in a collaborative effort that yields concrete results will result in increased individual and social confidence in the use and potential of dialogue that will be demonstrated in new dialogue initiatives spinning from the process.

- **A core of institutions in state and society that can provide technical support and assistance to the implementation of action-oriented dialogue processes.**

The training of an important number of Liberians from civil society and Government in research-based dialogue strategies and techniques, and their direct engagement in the design and implementation of the project's activities will create a core group of experts and trainers that will constitute a resource for future applications of the approach.

- **Reconciliation in Nimba County strengthened through collaborative action between state and society.**

The follow up to three of the results of the Nimba pilot project will create an improved environment for reconciliation in the area. This will result from engaging the citizens of Nimba, Nimba based CSOs and local government institutions in responding to the actual needs and proposals that were elicited during the pilot project in 2008.

### **c. Relationship with the PBF Priority Plan for Liberia.**

The project addressed two key priorities highlighted in the PBF Priority Plan for Liberia:

- Priority number 1 - Fostering National Reconciliation and Conflict Management and
- Priority number 3 - Strengthening State Capacity for Peace Consolidation

In addition, this project addressed two of the main conflict factors identified for Peacebuilding in Liberia, namely,

- poor leadership and the misuse of power, and
- the lack of a shared vision

### **d. Implementing partners and stakeholders**

The Platform for Dialogue and Peace in Liberia is a project implemented by the Joint Programme Unit for UN/Interpeace Initiatives of UNOPS in collaboration with UNMIL and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Liberia. JPU-UNOPS assumed the responsibility for implementation of the project through its JPU Liberia team.

In order to strengthen national capacities for sustained dialogue, the Platform for Dialogue and Peace in Liberia was implemented through eight Liberian civil society organizations, who assumed direct responsibility in the project's implementation at two levels:

- At the strategic level, the eight organizations and the JPU Liberia team formed a Steering Committee collectively responsible for monitoring the strategy's implementation and reviewing it periodically. The Steering Committee met regularly to review progress, assess advancement and provide guidance to the JPU Liberia Team and the organizations implementing specific components.

- At the operational level, each of these eight organizations were responsible for carrying out a specific component of the general operational plan, as per well-defined terms of reference that were established in separate Memoranda of Agreement. After initial conversations it was possible to establish the following institutional responsibilities:
  - Liberia Democratic Institute (LDI) was responsible for the implementation of field research activities in the south-east region.
  - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) - Liberia Chapter - was responsible for the follow-up on one of the recommendations that emerged from the initial Pilot Project in Nimba County.
  - Initiative for Positive Change (IPC) was responsible for implementation of field research activities in the central region.
  - Peace Building Resource Centre (PBRC) was responsible for implementation of field research activities in the north-west region.
  - Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation (KAICT) was responsible, with the support of Interpeace learning resources, for the preparation of a training course in field research, facilitation and mediation.
  - Foundation for International Dignity (FIND) was responsible, with the support of Interpeace A/V resources, for implementing the A/V component (training, monitoring and editing) to be integrated into the five research teams.
  - Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL) was responsible for implementing the gender sensitization component (training and monitoring) in coordination with the five research teams.
  - Inter-Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL) was responsible for the follow-up on two of the recommendations that emerged from the initial Pilot Project in Nimba County.

These implementation arrangements responded to the goal of contributing to the development of national capacities for conflict management and prevention, and were in consonance with the Peacebuilding Fund guidelines, to promote dialogue between Government and CSOs and strengthening the role of CSOs in the recovery and political transformation process as an essential aspect of building a democratic and accountable governance system. This was achieved: firstly by relying on a 100% Liberian team for implementation; secondly, by closely coordinating with MIA, particularly at the local level, and contributing to the development of its peacebuilding capacity; and thirdly, by establishing a collaborative arrangement that allows the transfer of the approach, its methods, tools, etc. into civil society. By building peacebuilding capacity in several institutions in state and civil society, opportunities for further use of the approach multiply. This strategy also goes in line with the recommendation from the TRC Conflict Mapping Project to “establish and train a network of local civil society and non-governmental organizations to implement the National Conversation”.

## II. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMME/ PROJECT RESULTS

### a. Key achieved outputs

- **8 CSOs Capacity developed in Participatory Action Research and facilitation of action oriented dialogue processes**

Senior executives and research team members of the 8 CSOs underwent four (4) distinct workshops intended to upgrade their capacities in Participatory Action Research (PAR) methodologies; gender equality and mainstreaming; audio-visual data capture and documentation techniques as well as operational planning and strategy design. These workshops were followed by on-site mentoring, support and supervision provided by technical staff of the JPU in order to enable the field teams to effectively perform their functions. After conclusion of the research

consultations, all collaborating CSOs were cited to a reflection session in the form of a workshop, where field reports of CSOs were presented and critically analyzed for conformity with the agreed parameters and PAR principles as enunciated during the training. The quality of audio-visual documentation, narrative and PowerPoint reports as well as data capture forms were evaluated and recommendations were issued to improve the reports. The overall impression is that field teams and CSO executives have demonstrated considerable mastery of the PAR methodologies and now have the capacity to use it to assess challenges, and create participatory peacebuilding processes at the local level so that tensions and conflicts can be resolved in non-violent ways.

At the same time, our collaboration with KAICT to develop a course on participatory approaches to peacebuilding didn't fructify as expected. Interpeace's Head of Reflective Practice, Mr. Van Brabant, visited Liberia to work with the KAICT team in mid-May. The team designated by the Director of KAICT followed up on the concept note of a peacebuilding course with support from Mr. Van Brabant. However, at the end, due to the finalization of the project it was not possible to finalize the design in time so that it could be established as a regular training program at the University as initially intended.

- **Core group in Ministry of Internal Affairs trained and experienced in participatory action research and facilitation of action-oriented dialogue processes**

Also engaged for training was a core group from the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) along with county officials to understand and apply the PAR methodology at the local level. The training workshops covered the core group members while authorities of the various political subdivisions were engaged to participate in project activities to raise awareness of the importance of enhancing inclusiveness. They were shown the governance benefits of always inviting marginalized and vulnerable groups that had hitherto been excluded. The paradigm shift has created new dynamism in the discussions at local level with these groups voicing strong reservations about any exclusionary practice directed against them. MIA authorities have even released information on these processes to county authorities with the views of encouraging collaborative activities from Interpeace as well as to provide for broad-based discussion and participation of their people in various decision making processes. In the words of one of MIA's female participants "this project has trained us and now we can use our skills and knowledge to help resolve disputes in communities where we work."

- **A report on key challenges for consolidation of peace in Liberia that reflects the perceptions of different sectors of Liberian society and state on these issues**

The report<sup>1</sup> was prepared and presented to the President of Liberia in September 2010. The Chairman of the Governing Council of Interpeace, former President of Ghana John A. Kufuor, went to Monrovia for two days to personally present the findings to President Sirleaf. Both Presidents underscored the importance of the involvement of the government of Liberia in the next phase of the programme, the National Dialogue. President Sirleaf offered to share the report with her cabinet, and suggested that Interpeace support the visioning exercise that the government was planning.

It took more time to produce the report than initially estimated, especially given the huge amount of information (both in written and video formats) collected from the field work. The analysis of this information required to invest significant time to identify trends, ensure consistency, allow for county nuances, etc. The report was accompanied by a video that showed the issues presented in the report but from the voice of the participants to the process. The preparation of the video also required some additional technical work to improve the quality of the narrative and the selection of the clips. In consultation with the Liberia's programme team, Interpeace mobilized the AV expert from its partner in Burundi, Mr. Igor Rugwiza, to Liberia so that he could work with our Liberian expert, Mr. Paul Samuels, to improve the quality of the video. Both the report and the video have been widely distributed in Liberia and internationally. From December 2010 to March 2011 Interpeace also funded a media campaign on TV, radio and newspapers to raise awareness about the findings in the report.

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<sup>1</sup> See annex 1: "Peace in Liberia: Challenges to Consolidation of Peace in the Eyes of the Community"

- **3 recommendations from Nimba Reconciliation Project implemented:**
  - a public awareness campaign on inter-ethnic reconciliation;
  - a network of Peace Committees; and,
  - a County-wide youth programme.

Both IRCL and WANEP were tasked under the P4DP to undertake these key processes of the project. In terms of the youth programme and reconciliation awareness, the IRCL liaised with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MYS) and the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) and other stakeholders in mobilizing the youth. The youth used forums facilitated by IRCL to deliberate and produce a County-wide Youth Programme. Similar measures were used in generating the campaign strategies for inter-ethnic reconciliation awareness in the county.

WANEP mobilized and organized six District-level Peace Committees (DPCs) whose members were trained in mediation, early warning and early response to assist residents of those districts in forestalling emergent conflicts before escalation to full-blown crisis with violent consequences. Each DPC has thirteen members who currently carry on those responsibilities voluntarily and diligently for greater social cohesion and sustainable peace in the districts of Nimba County. Humanity United (HU) has expressed interest in the DPCs established by Interpeace through WANEP and is exploring the possibility of intensifying collaboration with both WANEP and IRCL, in order to consolidate efforts initiated by Interpeace through the P4DP project.

**b. Contribution of achieved outputs to the achievement of the outcomes.**

As mentioned before, the project funded by PBF was only the first year of operation of a longer term process that was designed to last two years. Therefore the outputs of the first year only contributed partially to the achievement of the outcomes. This is what was achieved at the level of outcomes after the first phase of the project:

- **Broad national consensus around a strategy addressing key challenges for consolidation of peace in Liberia.**

At the time of the report the project already achieved to produce a report with the challenges to consolidation of peace as identified by the local communities, based on a thorough consultation process all over Liberia. The national consensus was going to be developed mostly in the next phase of the project through the participation of a broad sector of Liberian society in the discussion and prioritization of peacebuilding challenges from the broad range of issues identified during the first phases. One of the first activities of the second phase would have been to call a National Conference to discuss these issues and to agree on an agenda for further policy research and joint action. This would be the forum where consensus would have been built and from which policy recommendations would emanate.

- **A social network of key social and political actors engaged in effective dialogue and collaborative action.**

A strong group of civil society organizations has been trained and accompanied during the process of local consultations. This experience has capacitated this group to further expand the reach of this kind of initiatives. The Ministry of Internal Affairs has also been participating in trainings and through their local representatives throughout the process. The involvement of political actors and the development collaborative action was going to be developed more strongly during the following phases, through the participation in action oriented policy dialogues.

- **Improved attitudes and behaviour in a core group of social and political actors.**

Although difficult to measure without specific tools, the response from the participants to the consultation process has been very positive. Most people were engaged and contributed to the definition of the main challenges that Liberia is facing in its way to consolidate peace.

Participating organizations also recognized the importance of listening to their own citizens and following up on their demands of change. There is however much more work to do in this area. A longer term engagement with different sectors of society, both rural and urban, might produce a better outcome in terms of positive attitudes and behaviours between opposing groups.

- **A core of institutions in state and society that can provide technical support and assistance to the implementation of action-oriented dialogue processes.**

Although 8 collaborating civil society organizations and the Ministry of Internal Affairs participated and contributed to the efforts, it was expected that the national dialogue, both at Monrovia level and in the counties, would have produced much stronger outcome in terms of technical capacities for action-oriented dialogue. The consultation process that was undertaken under this project does not constitute by itself a dialogue process, and it didn't arrive to the action-oriented phase. These two critical elements would have been achieved in the following phases.

- **Reconciliation in Nimba County strengthened through collaborative action between state and society.**

This outcome was reinforced through the contribution of WANEP and IRCL to the implementation of three of the recommendations of the Nimba pilot project in 2008. Although it would require a specific evaluation to confirm anecdotal information, it seems like the youth in Nimba is taking a positive role in addressing local conflicts and the overall number and scale of conflicts in the county seems to be decreasing.

### c. Primary beneficiaries

The consultation process undertaken under this project invited the direct contribution of a total of 9,800 people from 14 counties (see the table below for the details). Together with those who participated in the pilot project in Nimba the previous year using a similar methodology, a total of 10,800 persons participated in the consultation process, 59 districts were covered and 273 urban and rural communities visited.

COVERAGE OF RESEARCH		DETAILS PER LOCATION		DETAILS PER GENDER			PERCENTAGE	
Region	County	Districts	Communities	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males
North West	Lofa	5	13	293	521	814	36%	64%
	Gbarpolu	3	18	492	511	1'003	49%	51%
	Cape Mount	4	12	305	423	728	42%	58%
	Bong	7	15	291	363	654	44%	56%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,818</b>	<b>3,199</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>57%</b>
Central	Montserrado	4	20	933	957	1'890	49%	51%
	Bomi	2	20	452	489	941	48%	52%
	Margibi	4	16	149	207	356	42%	58%
	Bassa	4	3	110	143	253	43%	57%
	River Cess	3	3	38	34	72	53%	47%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>1,830</b>	<b>3,512</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>52%</b>
South East	Grand Gedeh	3	17	389	485	874	45%	55%
	River Gee	4	16	105	508	613	17%	83%
	Grand Kru	3	23	158	386	544	29%	71%
	Sinoe	4	16	113	521	634	18%	82%
	Maryland	3	17	176	248	424	42%	58%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>2,148</b>	<b>3,089</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>53</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>5,796</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>59%</b>

#### **d. Catalytic function of PBF funding**

The catalytic effect in attracting funding has not taken place as the project has not succeeded in attracting or generating additional funding. Although Interpeace believed at the start of the project that having PBF funding will be a facilitating factor for bringing other donors on board, the multiple efforts developed in this direction didn't bear fruit. Some of the donors to which we submitted project proposals during the implementation of the project include: the Netherlands, Finland, OECD-DAC, McCall MacBain Foundation and Germany. Unfortunately these initiatives have not found positive responses. We have also approached informally other traditional donors of Interpeace, like Sweden and Norway, but the answer was always the they were not part of the priority list, or that they were working in other areas (economic development, infrastructure, etc.) The end result has been a funding gap that has limited the impact of the initiative, as it has been suspended while additional funds are sought.

These arduous fundraising efforts were carried out in coordination and with full support of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Key reasons for the lack of success in fundraising seem to have been:

- the limited amount of cooperation funds assigned for peacebuilding projects –in comparison to peacekeeping, development or humanitarian interventions- by international donors in general;
- a decrease in relative importance of Liberia in the cooperation agenda, reflected in its disappearance from the list of priority countries among most bilateral donors;
- The notion by many bilateral contributors to the PBF that if a project already receives funding from this source, it already receives contributions from its Government so that additional direct funding would amount to “double-dipping”.

Interpeace and UNOPS' Joint Program Unit for UN/Interpeace Initiatives (JPU) continue to make every possible effort to fundraise for this initiative, and conversations continue with potential donors such as USAID, EU, Sweden and the Open Society Institute for West Africa.

### **III. EVALUATION & LESSONS LEARNED**

#### **a. Assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the project**

An evaluation was planned in the project document for the end of stage one, which implied the ability to undertake the second part of the project, reaching the national dialogue phase. Therefore there has been no evaluation of the project because the project has been suspended after the initial consultation phase.

However, the team participated extensively in the Mid Term Review of the whole Peacebuilding Fund in Liberia, which was undertaken in February-March 2010. The key findings of this review regarding P4DP are:

- **Relevance to Priority Plan:** The relevancy of the project is the in-built strategy to generate dialogue around conflict issues from communities using participatory approaches that are gender mainstreamed, and using the outcome to stimulate national discussions on how the identified issues can be addressed in terms of policy formulation. These actions contribute to priority number one: fostering national reconciliation and conflict management. The project is implemented by national civil society organizations, and at the programmatic level their skills in conducting participatory research, production of audio-visual materials, and report writing are being strengthened. The combined efforts of knowledge and skills transfer to CSOs and the Ministry of Internal Affairs also contributes to priority three: strengthening state capacity for peace consolidation.

- Efficiency: Funding was delayed as a result of administrative and bureaucratic processes at headquarters level related to financial transactions. The acquired skills are assets that the CSOs can utilize in their future work. A core group of researchers, four men and one woman, from the Ministry of Internal Affairs were also trained in the knowledge and skills of designing and conducting participatory research. The group has since conducted a social and economic survey.
- Effectiveness/immediate results: Since the project is still in its second phase of collating and analyzing the findings from the research, it is difficult at this time to identify any tangible results that have emerged as a result of the research. However based on the PBF Nimba reconciliation project, two participatory efforts have explored mechanisms for the prevention and early warning of conflict, which had a sensitization effect at the local level:
  - The establishment of District Peace Committees with mediation and early warning capacities, to function in coordination with local authorities WANEP).
  - A county-level campaign against inter-ethnic discrimination and a strategy for engaging youth in peaceful activities (IRCL).
- Sustainability/catalysis: The delivery figure up to date is 76%, which means the project is nearing completion and the remaining funds have been allocated develop a course on participatory approaches peacebuilding, finalize the research phase and to organize and facilitate the national dialogue on the outcomes of the research. A catalytic effect has not yet taken place because the project has not succeeded in generating the promised additional funding. Without the additional funding estimated at \$700,000 that Interpeace promised to raise, it will be quite difficult for the project to be sustained, unless the findings of the research can be utilized by other actors.
- Capacity development: The core group of 5 researches has acquired skills in conducting participatory research as a result of this project. The skills will be an asset to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the government at large, if they are utilized. The implementing partners have also acquired skills in the application of similar tools.
- National ownership and leadership: Design and management of the project is a joint responsibility of Interpeace (local) team and the eight national civil society organizations.
- Transparency and accountability, M&E: Monthly program meetings are held with the leaders of the eight partners to discuss and assess the implementation process. Partners confirmed that they received technical support from Interpeace, via a monitoring process, during the time the research was being conducted. Three reflective meetings with partners were organized by Interpeace to identify challenges and to find creative ways of responding.
- Does funding reflect unmet or new needs that cannot be met rapidly from other sources of funding?: This project is a major source of generating information on potential sources, or drivers, of conflict and done in a participatory manner. In spite of strong resource mobilization it has not been possible to find cost-sharing for the project.
- Does the activity provide tangible early peace dividends?: No, the project has not been able to show any tangible results yet, apart from the research that has been conducted and findings compiled.
- Would not funding the activity increase the risk of instability and relapse? : Yes, the research will bring out new and contemporary issues that need to be addressed in consolidating the peace.
- Key achievements/ outcomes :
  - The inclusion of diversified views and perspectives during the research on issues that have the potential for violence and undermine peace consolidation.

- The production of a documentary highlighting the views of citizens who participated in the research.
- Key issues:
  - Utilization of research findings: The findings of the research serve as an asset for peace consolidation. The challenge now is how other government institutions such as the Land Commission and relevant government agencies can utilize the outcomes.
  - Platform for policy formulation: The research was comprehensive in terms of scope and issues covered. This serves as the basis for the formulation of policies by the government to address risk factors for conflict, and needs to be utilized.
  - Funding Gap: The project was designed with the anticipation that Interpeace would have sourced additional funding. At the time of the interview, that was looking unlikely. This means that if there were post-research activities planned, they would not be implemented, thereby running the risk of limiting the project exclusively to the research.
- Key recommendations with regard to project completion: Interpeace should begin strategizing how it intends for the findings of the research to be utilized under the reduced funding. This strategic thinking needs to include major government commissions, key government ministries, the Peacebuilding Office, civil society organizations, and other UN Agencies. It will be good if this conversation can start over the next month, as the outcomes will be useful in shaping the structure and format of the national dialogue.