**DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION (DIM) PROJECT**

PROJECT TITLE:

**SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE AGREEMENTS: A PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK FOR DIALOGUE AND RECONCILIATION IN KENYA IN THE AFTERMATH OF ELECTIONS-RELATED VIOLENCE**

PROJECT AWARD NUMBER: **7KEN/07/306**

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**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013**

1. **Project Purpose**

In 23 March 2009, the DEX Project was approved for implementation in Kenya. The project was commenced to help accelerate support and the pace of implementation of Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation Agenda in Kenya following the Post –Election Violence of 2007/08. The Project aimed at enhancing capacities of key actors in country’s leadership to contribute to towards peace and reconciliation initiatives; support establishment of New institutions mandated by the peace agreements; enhance capacity of national institutions to able develop and effectively implement frameworks and policies for addressing the core issues behind post-electoral violence; facilitate state and non-state actors to resolve Local level conflicts through mediation, dialogue promotion, and reconciliation; enhance role and visibility of Women in affected communities in successfully assist overcoming trauma and playing active roles in promoting peace in their communities; and engage the youth in affected communities in the promotion of dialogue and reconciliation; The project political sensitivity and country’s social polarization at the local and national levels required neutral funds disbursement and direct management by UNDP. The DIM modality has been utilized in Kenya since 2009 to implement those facets of peacebuilding and reconciliation architecture that required neutral funds disbursement and political sensitivity.

1. **Resources**

During 2013 the quarter under review, the Project implemented its Annual Work Plan whose expenditure amounted to .**1,447,508.**as hereunder broken down:

* TRAC: US $.**531,000.**
* BCPR: US $.**200,000**.
* SIDA: US $.**144,508.**
* NORWAY :US$.**320,000.**
* DFID: US$**252,000.**

1. **Expected Project Outputs**

The DEX project for the year 2013 had five key outputs including

1. ***Strengthening national cohesion and integration.***

This output mainly focused on enhancing the national and county leadership capacities to resolve challenges through dialogue, to extend goodwill and support to national reconciliation agenda and to reduce public fallout by political leaders that destabilizes community harmony.

1. ***Local level conflicts resolved through mediation, dialogue promotion, and reconciliation efforts by community based and civil society organizations***

The thrust of this output entailed supporting civil society, faith-based groups and local organizations to execute the national reconciliation agenda at community level as recommended in Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation Agenda. The output sought to decrease the incidences of violent conflict in targeted hotspots and support communities’ dialogues that lead to local level social contracts or peace accords over contentious issues.

1. ***Vulnerability of youths recruitment to militant groups, criminality, armed violence and recruitment into militias reduced***

High level of unemployment among the huge youthful population in the country created an economically a vulnerable group susceptible to political and religious manipulation for destructive causes. The project sought to support initiatives to reduce youth susceptibility to recruitment to criminality, militia groups, political ly instigated violence, and radical religious orientations.

1. ***Increased role and visibility of women in peacebuilding at both national and local level***

As part of UN Joint Programme on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment the output thrust involved supporting women led reconciliation and peacebuilding activities, building capacities of women peace activities to take an active role in communities’ reconciliation and reduce electoral violence directed towards women aspirants.

1. ***Support for peaceful, free and credible Elections***

Kenya’s elections have historically acted as a trigger for violence between various ethnic groups emanating from historical grievance on issues of political exclusion or domination and land ownership contestation among other drivers of conflict. This output aimed at preventing and reducing the likelihoods of occurrence of electoral related or instigated violence before, during and after the2013 elections.

1. **Key Results**
2. ***Strengthened national cohesion and integration***

The United Nations Development Programme(Kenya) offered support for a nationwide program on ***Collaborative Leadership Dialogue and Training*** for leaders from national institutions, counties governments and communities leadership organs. The training was aimed at building collaborative leadership capacity and improving dialogue and conflict transformation skills at all levels of governance for national cohesion in Kenya. The project identified people that are regarded as critical to the political, social and economic development of the counties and who would participate in the training programs and other activities conducted under this support initiative.

So far, over two hundred (200) leaders from all registered political parties and fifty members (50) of key parliamentary committees have benefited from the on-going exercise. As a step towards bringing this benefit to county level leaders, the project has embarked upon the identification of key opinion leaders at the county level who are now being accorded the opportunity to undergo the collaborative leadership training. To date, over thirty counties have undergone the identification process and one hundred and fifty seven (*157*) leaders from *5* different Counties have undergone Collaborative Leadership Training.

The project goal is to support the emergence of a cadre of Kenyan leaders who, individually and together, understand and practice collaborative leadership in Kenya that improves governance, especially as it relates to the prevention of violent conflict and the strengthening of a more cohesive and integrated society.

It is hoped that Political leaders in Kenya will see the need for collaboration with opponents as a key component of enlightened self-interest. Leadership capacity building programs will facilitate this by strengthening trust and communication, developing negotiation, communication and conflict transformation skills among key leaders in government, civil society and the public sector.

One planning meeting was held for the Political Parties Collaborative Leaders forum. The Action Schedule for the post-election period was discussed and adopted.It included a Workshop on Reflection and Audit of 2013 General Election and Nation healing and reconciliation among other key issues.

Collaborative Leadership Training was facilitated for Commissioners of Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). This strengthened their team spirit, team approach and team leadership in preparation for and administration of the 2013 General Election.

1. **Strengthened of local capacities for Peacebuilding, Dialogue and Reconciliation in Hotspots**.

Under the banner of UWIANO platform for peaceful Elections, the project supported and sustained dialogue and conflict resolution among various actors at the National and County level with a view to prevent violent conflict. Through the project *97 County based Mediators were trained,* deployed and linked to the District Peace Committees and County Coordinating Committees for early response. They facilitated dialogue among warring groups and also facilitated inter-political party dialogues, including convening platforms for political party aspirants and candidates. This helped in ensuring proper planning for the political party rallies to avoid clashes over venues. They also ensured that candidates committed themselves to steer peaceful campaigns. Even though there were challenges associated with cattle rustling and livestock theft in parts of Northern Kenya, Muhoroni and Nandi areas, DPCs were well resourced before, during and after the elections to facilitate peaceful resolutions of these challenges

The Peace monitors and gender analysts formed the nucleus of the county coordination for preventive action. They set up County Peace Tents in at least 20 Counties which became the nerves centers for coordination and information sharing and response by government security agencies, CSOs and peace committees. The coordinated responses included security alerts to police, conflict mediation by elders and peace committees.

The project also enhanced National Conflict Early warning and response with funding supports by helping upgrade and implement NCEWERS to its optimal capacity. The system was upgraded with additional equipment and human resource capacity and also linked to the county response centers. The system yielded results in terms of conflict early warning alerts which enabled Uwiano Platform and security agencies undertake preventive actions including mediation and dialogue. Training of stakeholders on NCEWERS was enhanced across the country, including a team from Kenya Community Support (KECOSCE) Programme in Coast to counter Mombasa Republican Council’s threats of violence. In particular, the SMS Platform, Amani 108 was widely utilized by the public and therefore contributed to effective response by various actors across the country thereby leading to peaceful elections.

During the period under review, over 1000 text messages were received through the Platform. This is in addition to the information being collected from the internet based system, media sourcing and interaction through the digital platform – Twitter and Facebook. This is in comparison to an average of about 50 text messages that were received monthly through the system between June and September in the previous year 2012. The information and alerts received formed the backbone of Uwiano Platform’s response strategy.

The Partnership for Peace and Security (PfPS) and PeaceNet Kenya, UNDP supported peacebuilding CSOs’ coordination and responses to conflicts during elections. Through their grassroots based networks and groups including women groups, they mobilized communities for peaceful campaigns and elections. Cognizance of the need to strengthen the Partnership for better CSO coordination and policy dialogue, the programme supported PfPS in conducting organizational development. This led to a review of the PfPS strategy for effective coordination of the civil society. The program supported one national seminar dubbed *Living in Dangerous Times: Insecurity, Fear, Conflicts and Elections in Kenya*.This seminar drew participants from civil society networks, the government, academia, research houses and development partners with an objective of identifying the current drivers and accelerators of conflict and insecurity, and to develop mitigation strategies for sustained peace in Kenya beyond the 2013 general elections.

Sixc(6) Peace Caravans were carried out in various localities in the Country to advocate for peaceful election and sensitize local communities on peaceful co-existence. The Peace Caravans targeted areas considered hotspots for electoral violence. These included localities Naiorbi,Eldoret,Kisumu,Mombasa and Marasabit.

Early Warning and Early Response activities were facilitated through UWIANO Platform in the run-up to,during and after the March 4th 2013 General Election. Community Dialogue tents were set up in 21 localities and these tents were used to collect inofrmation and relay it to a Situation Room through an short message code “Amani 108” for action by appropriate authorities.

1. ***Vulnerability of youths recruitment to militant groups, criminality, armed violence and recruitment into militias reduced***

As part of its efforts to reduce armed violence and the culture of armed warfare in northern Kenya, the *Armed Violence Reduction Intervention* has given supported groups of ‘Reformed Warriors’ (i.e. warriors who have turned away from engaging in raids) to enable them engage in constructive livelihood production activities. Although their proportion of the community population is very tiny, experienced and armed warriors are the point of contact in violence, cattle rustling and conflict activities. They are the direct actors who engage in the actual violence, and they ran the constant risk of battle deaths or injury. Many warriors gain their livelihoods as well as societal prestige, from their participation in fighting. They thus maintain vested interest in perpetuating conflicts, unless their linkage to the risky business of warrior-hood is broken.

Removing re-known warriors from the ranks of fighters reduces ability of communities to resort to violence, and makes other options for resolving issues more attractive. ‘Reformed warriors’ have played a vital role in the peace-making process, through involvement in peace building activities both as role models, and as participants in peace building. The project supported the groups of ‘Reformed Warriors’ to diversify their livelihoods and improve their incomes in order to avoid a relapse into crime.

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**Reformed warriors from West Pokot**

* + 1. ***Identification and Selection of Groups of Reformed warriors***

These warriors were organized into 12 groups and put under lead agencies (civil society organizations that volunteered to manage, mentor and monitor the successful groups) where they were given grants to start income generating activities after succeffully going through a short training and writing viable business plans. The groups were spread in four Counties of West Pokot(4), Marsabit (5) and Isiolo (3). These twelve groups had a combined membership of 240 reformed warriors (including young women).

The project aimed to reduce the risk of violent conflict between different groups by creating material disincentives for engaging in violent conflict by promoting sustainable livelihoods and economic recovery among the various groups. Training on entrepreneurship and business skills development was provided to the groups in order to facilitate livelihoods and economic recovery through promoting entrepreneurship and uptake of economic development activities among the youth and women. The training provided basic business skills to the youth thereby enhancing their capacity to start up and run small business. The groups are registered with both the ministry of culture and social services as well as the ministry of trade to ensure continuous support and capacity building. The groups are now engaged in their small business and the project will be monitoring the progress and impact of these businesses.

1. ***Increased role and visibility of women in peacebuilding at both national and local level***

Support was provided for efforts to Increase Women Visibility and Capacity in Community Mediation and Peace Processes. During the year,46 local level peacebuilding meetings,processions,dialogues and mediation were undertaken by Women trained on Mediation. These happened in various counties Nakuru,Eldoret,Mombasa,Tana River,Turkana,Kisumu,Bungoma,and Nairobi.

During the electioneering period**,** funds were utilized to ensure women would play a critical role in the prevention of pre-and post-election violence.Kenya Country Office supported *field research and the publication* of findings and recommendations on the role of women, peace and security in Tana River. The focus on Tana River resulted from its status as one of the key “hotspots” experiencing pre-election violence in the last quarter of 2012. Publication of findings and recommendations served to inform of the situation on the ground while also providing insights on appropriate responses to the differing needs of women, men, boys and girls.

In preparation for the March 2013 General Election, UNDP-Kenya, in collaboration with UN Women, the National Women’s Steering Committee (NWSC) and Amkeni Wakenya, a UNDP led facility to promote democratic governance, initiated *an Eminent Persons lobby team* to advocate for women’s representation in the upcoming elections and for a free, fair, transparent and violence-free election process.

A group of ten individuals were selected, from the private sector, media, academia, former politicians and grass-roots women leaders. These individuals, both women and men, are nationally and internationally renowned personalities who have made significant contributions to the enhancement of democracy, peacebuilding, economic growth, inclusive participation, and other disciplines and who have great influence within Kenya. The TEP was tasked to: i) strengthen relations between the women’s movement and political parties and coalitions for the purpose of advocating for women’s participation in county assemblies, the National Assembly and the Senate in competitive campaigns for the March 2013 General Elections, and for nomination positions in the period immediately following the election, ii) raise awareness and advocate on behalf of the women’s movement in order to mobilize public opinion and support for women in leadership, and iii) engage with the media on a regular basis, through press statements, press conferences, etc., to advocate for good leadership and to profile particularly qualified women aspirants from different parties and constituencies.

During the pre-election period, TEP interventions focused on *dialogue with political parties’ leaders* and supporters to encourage them to vote peacefully and accept the results. If disputes were to arise all parties were urged to pursue legal channels to address grievances. TEP also engaged in discrete regional preventative diplomacy, taking them to South Africa, Addis Ababa (to meet the Chairperson of the African Union), Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda, to reach out to regional leaders and enhance preparedness were there to be a repeat of 2007/8.

In the post-election period, following the High Court’s ruling upholding Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission's declaration of the outcome of the election, some parts of the country experienced sporadic violence. Activities, with regard to reconciliation, saw TEP prioritize visits to certain troubled areas to promote dialogue between key stakeholders. Interventions took place in Mathare, Kibera, Kisumu, Homabay, Baringo, East and West Pokot, Mombasa, Tana River and Machakos.

Information sharing and co-ordination enhanced between the Platformand policy makers, independent commissions, political parties and humanitarian agencies. This co-ordination has also been cascaded to the local and county level where officials of the Commissions such as Regional Elections Coordinators and Constituency Coordinators are working closely with the Peace Committees on conflict prevention and response.

1. ***Support for peaceful, free and credible Elections***

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One focus area on this agenda was on *building the capacity of the Kenyan media in conflict-sensitive journalism*, where 84 journalists were trained on conflict-sensitive reporting and use of media to de-escalate tension. The Platform continued to engage with various categories of the media fraternity – editors, journalists, and media owners’ - in advancing the peace agenda. As a result of this intervention,the journalists have since established the Kenya Media for Peace Network (KEMPEN) – with facilitation and support from some of the UWIANO Partners – Saferworld, LCPI and Life and Peace Institute (LPI), that has been championing conflict sensitive reporting. To a larger extent, this Network, whose membership of over 84 journalists was trained in collaboration with Saferworld, LCPI and LPI, have contributed to improvement in the content of the stories and articles published and transmitted through the media.

The Platform also scaled *up peace messaging in form of infomercials* through both electronic and broadcast media publicizing the SMS 108 for response; urging the pubic to promote peace; and reassuring the public of the ongoing peace efforts. Consultations with different media houses such as the Standard Group (SG) and Nation Media Group (NMG) were enhanced, with the Uwiano Joint Secretariat making a tour of duty at both media houses on 30th January 2013 to hold briefings and planning sessions with the top level and middle level management teams, editors, producers and content developers, presenters, news anchors. The team visited the QfM studio where the radio presenters conducted live radio transmission sending out UWIANO peace messages, with feedback from radio listeners across the country. The listeners called in live and echoed the need to promote peace before, during and after elections. The media fraternity has since come up with a *Peace Journal* .

Another result area on peaceful election was *Influencing presidential candidates* *to commit to peace* through sponsoring the first presidential debate. The support to Media houses to host the first ever *Presidential Debates* in Kenya was a huge success.The Platform worked closely with the Secretariat in planning for this historic Debate. The Platform thus positively influenced the kind of questions that were fielded to the Candidates. Among the Questions that the Platform influenced for this Debate were: *“What are you doing as a Presidential Candidate to ensure that the 2013 election is peaceful? Will you accept the outcome of the 2013 elections?*

In addition to this, the Platform worked closely with the Media in the production and dissemination of peace messages via *Television commercial (*TVC) during the Debate. Further, Principals of the UWIANO Platform were invited by the Secretariat of the Presidential Debate to be part of the audience at the Debate. The Platform was also approached by the Moderators of the Debate, who are all Friends of the UWIANO Platform, to nominate representatives from strategic Counties who had an opportunity to field specific questions to the Presidential candidates during the Debate. This partnership enhanced the visibility of the Platform and relevance in influencing the National Debate, whose transmission was, viewed worldwide including neighbouring East African Countries and the Diaspora. These highly visible national level interventions linked well with intense grassroots peace-building initiatives that influenced local aspirants’ commitment to peaceful initiatives.

[](http://www.google.com/imgres?q=uwiano+platform+for+peace&um=1&hl=en&sa=N&biw=1366&bih=567&tbm=isch&prmd=imvns&tbnid=t7Lxj6h8Q5qs2M:&imgrefurl=http://www.undp.org/undp/en/home/ourwork/crisispreventionandrecovery/successstories/Voting-not-violence-in-kenya.html&docid=p9he241Jzma7LM&imgurl=http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/img/crisis%20prevention/Kenya%20Uwiano.jpg/_jcr_content/renditions/cq5dam.thumbnail.460.306.png&w=381&h=238&ei=wWsVUPWtGMTBhAf9s4HQCA&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=955&vpy=147&dur=7359&hovh=177&hovw=284&tx=153&ty=118&sig=116672740977350654263&page=1&tbnh=117&tbnw=159&start=0&ndsp=23&ved=1t:429,r:6,s:0,i:93)The third result area on peaceful election was to *establish and Operationalize a capacitated High-level Mediation Team.* The Group of Concerned Kenyans Initiative (GCKI) was conceived out of the need to complement initiatives for peaceful elections in Kenya. The main objective of this Group was to provide a mechanism for high level engagement between the top political players and other actors with a view to ensure the building of consensus on contentious issues; facilitating political agreements and collaborative spirits; and ensuring public confidence in the on-going political process .The Group successfully undertook several back-door talks and shuttle diplomacy and assisted in building high-level consensus and resolution of contentious issues during the electoral period.

*During the year under review, there were concerted efforts to strengthen the peace architecture in the country both at the policy and community levels. A robust conflict early warning and response system was established. There was also progressive improvement of inter-communal relations and peaceful coexistence through dialogue initiatives*.

1. **Challenges and Constraints**

* Limited resources to implement outputs by the programme IPs;
* Process to developing and approving the CPP Annual Work Plan;
* Limited collaboration among the various IPs during and immediately after the elections;
* However, there are still challenges as the country prepares for the next general elections. The peace remains fragile as a result of unresolved underlying causes of conflict. Achieving national cohesion and integration is a longer-term goal and requires sustained efforts by all actors to be fully realised.

1. **Lessons**

* The Kenya peace infrastructure and foundations are still weak. More strategic support is required for sustained stability and enduring peace.
* Fragmented and negative leadership remain a key challenge to stable peace sustainable development in Kenya .Intervention geared toward transformational of leadership ethos need to be strengthened and expanded.
* There is need to improve capacity of CSOs to document their success, ability to use the media and develop knowledge products.
* Effective multi-stakeholder approach in formulation of strategies and implementation of projects is vital. There is need to strategically engage and dialogue on this issue.. National ownership and leadership remain necessary factors for success and sustainability of development programmes.

1. **Financial Implementation**

Financial reports to be submitted by UNDP Kenya.

1. **Looking Ahead**

* Implementation of the 2013/2014 AWP.
* Review of the project achievements since 2011
* .Programme evaluation to gauge impact of interventions.