

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

United Nations Development Programme,

Sierra Leone

The Republic of Sierra Leone Constitutional Review Programme

December 2015



Table of Content

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
II. BACKGROUND.....	3
III. PROGRESS REVIEW	3
IV. PROJECT RISKS AND ISSUES	19
A. UPDATED PROJECT RISKS AND ACTIONS	19
B. UPDATED PROJECT ISSUES AND ACTIONS	20
V. LESSONS LEARNED.....	20
VI. CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD.....	21
VII. FINANCIAL STATUS
VIII. ANNEX	22

I. Executive summary

Since the launch of Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) by His Excellency, President Ernest Koroma in July 2013, the committee, with the support of United Nations Development Program, has carried out a series of activities, including inclusive civic education, stakeholder consultations, consultative dialogue, workshops and expert meetings on national issues of prime importance.

During the Ebola Virus outbreak a state of emergency led to the suspension of CRC's major activities such as public consultation in the provinces. Moreover, international experts were also reluctant to visit Sierra Leone during the outbreak. All these challenges led to serious delay in the process and on CRC's request the President of Sierra Leone extended the Mandate of the CRC till March 2016.

However, at the height of the EVD Virus UNDP-led constitutional review project was able to consult several MDAs and Civils Society Organizations including State House, Ministry of Information and Communication, National Commission for Democracy and Ministry of Youth Affairs among others. Several technical training were conducted for all subcommittees to improve on knowledge sharing on the CRC Process.

Soon after EVD subsided, CRC resumed and intensified its public engagement and embarked on nationwide consultation in March 2015 at districts and ward levels to solicit public opinion on the 1991 Constitution and 2008 Commission Report. During the consultation meeting general public enthusiastically participated in the process. All thematic issues of the 1991 Constitution relating to Executive, Legislative, Judiciary, and Information & Communication, Fundamental principles of State Policy and Human Rights, citizenship, local government and Natural Resources were thoroughly deliberated upon.

Furthermore, to consolidate National Peace-Building and State-Building efforts through a consultative, transparent and widely inclusive course of action, UNDP has also organized series of dialogues to facilitate discussion on the process with women groups, political parties, Youths, MPs, paramount chiefs, councillors including ministries, department and agencies.

With support of UNDP, CRC have enhanced its media engagement activities on radio and television and the sub-committees are having focused civic education on broad thematic issues with national institutions and government MDAs.

The CRC has received 150 position papers from different organizations and individuals. Also, the CRC has printed 30,000 copies of the combined 1991 Constitution and the Peter Tucker Report, 70,000 submission forms for individuals and institutions, produced 20,000 flash drives and other civic education materials including the 20,000 hours airtime over the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) and other radio stations and has held 10,000 public consultations with various stakeholders nationwide.

Civil Society led engagement in the review process has also been remarkable. CSOs comprising of WANEP, OXFAM, SLBC, NCD, SDI/CCC and CGG have educated majority of Sierra Leoneans about the review process and this to an extent have helped

raised awareness on the CR process which has improve public contribution and participation.

II. Background

Following his re-election for a second term in November 2012, Sierra Leone's President Koroma pledged to undertake the long awaited review of the country's 1991 Constitution, as envisaged under the Lomé Peace Agreement and recommended by the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The President also assured the wider public and the international community, including the United Nations, that the review process would be inclusive and transparent. If properly undertaken, this review process will provide Sierra Leone with a unique opportunity to ensure its own transformation into a fully-fledged democracy, based on the rule of law and international human rights standards. A reformed Constitution, based on public input and participation, should also help Sierra Leone on the road to enduring peace and prosperity. It is for these reasons that UNDP continues to provide support to the national constitutional review process.

III. Progress Review

Capacity of CRC members developed to undertake effective constitutional review process and produce final recommendations:

During first quarter of 2015, fourteen Experts Meetings were organized for all Sub-Committees on key constitutional and governance related issues concerning to their thematic areas. This engagement provided an added opportunity to the veteran and expert sierra Leoneans to discuss and share their ideas on operational aspect of the 1991 constitution. To address the shortcomings of referendum related rules and regulations, a detailed workshop was held on the conduct of the constitutional referendum. Workshop brought together a crop of legal experts and stakeholders who critically examined the legal framework of Sierra Leone, bordering the conduct of Referendum and made recommendations for inclusion for legal provisions. Experts also drafted a comprehensive referendum act which is has been sent to the MoJ.

Capacity of CRC Secretariat to provide legal and research services to CRC developed. Develop organization structure and prepare job description and TORs for staff:

- **This output was COMPLETED**

CRC Communication & Messaging Strategy designed and implemented:

During 2014 and 2015 UNDP in consultation with CRC developed an inclusive civic education strategy and engaged country's leading TV, radio and print media outlets to disseminate and educate general public on the thematic issues and review process. Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation produced jingles, drama, quiz and thematic discussion all during 2014 and 2015. Eighteen community radio stations partnered with SLBC to simulcast SLBC thematic discussions and programs at national level. Regular spots and drama messages aired on SLBC and community radio stations.

In addition, UNDP partner CSOs also played a pivotal role sensitizing the public on the constitutional issues. OXFAM Produced CRC messages in the four key languages of Mende, Temne, Limba and Krio and the message is broadcast in 10 radio stations across the country. One regular radio programme developed in collaboration with target groups to discuss the review process at district level. All CRC related videos, dramas and slide-shows has been uploaded on the Channel to make it accessible not only to viewers who couldn't watch the live programme but also to Sierra Leoneans in the Diaspora.

The 1991 Constitutional and 2008 Commission report was serialized in ten leading newspapers during 2015.

Moreover, 20, 000 USB flash drive containing all relevant documents and public submission forms of thematic sub-committees, with the inscription ‘‘ I Love the Constitution’’, has been produced and distributed in all 14 districts of Sierra Leone. CRC WhatsApp group is ongoing and thematic issues relating to Youth, Women, Political Parties, and Paramount Chiefs among others are debated on regular basis. CRC website and facebook page is ongoing and updated daily for public viewing and comments. CRC's monthly newsletter is also providing regular updates to the public on the process.

Civil Society led inclusive and informative civic education process;

During the process UNDP empowered CSOs to sensitize their people about the process to get their views on-board. Over 60 Civil Society Organizations (CSO) from across the country pledged their commitment to the Constitutional Review Process and replicated messages of the review process to their constituents. In addition, more than sixty CSOs have been directly engaged and facilitated Campaign for Good Governance (CGG) and SDI, CSOs have expressed satisfaction that the Constitution was being reviewed noting that the need to bring the Sierra Leone Constitution up-to-date with current developments was significant.

In last quarter of 2015 UNDP developed and brought together more than twenty leading CSO's to lead an open public consultation plan through establishment of ‘‘Constitution Kiosks’’ to share information and assist the public to fill out submission forms and have greater understanding of issues in the review process. CSOs effectively engaged citizens across the country in a two-month long ‘Open Public Consultations’. This covered all the thematic areas on focus within the CR process to achieve a consensus-based constitution which is representing majority of citizen's aspirations.

Society for Democratic Initiative and Citizens for Constitutional Change engaged several media outlets to showcase civil society participation and perspective in the constitutional reform process. They produced radio and TV discussions, Newspapers articles published on the CRC process

They also engaged University Students on the CR Process in Freetown to capture students' opinions on specific areas of interest and opportunity to complete the CRC public submission forms.

WANEP organized regional consultations for the establishment and operations of infrastructures for peace in Sierra Leone. They trained youth from ten districts as Community ‘Mobilizers’ (CMs) on the Constitutional review process; organized 14 days door-to-door information sharing sessions in 7 border districts. They also initiated essay competition for school going children on the CR Process. In addition, WANEP produced

and aired 14 jingles in local languages to educate public on key thematic issues and on the CR process.

OXFAM organized civic education sessions with people living with disabilities in Freetown also a national conference on land, environment and natural resources issue. They also engaged print media and published informative material on the CRC process. From OXFAM engagement with women and marginalized groups they completed and submitted three hundred public submission forms to the CRC. They held ten sessions with members of the Governance stakeholders' coordination forum (GSCF) and organized interviews, questions and answer sessions on radio and TV featuring GSCF members.

Moreover, they produced Training Materials developed by CRC and 50/50 Group. Conducted five training of trainers workshops conducted and trained fifteen women and 10 men on gender and constitutional issues. They organized nine dialogue sessions between leaders and constituents in Freetown and 3 target districts. Based on their workshops and community dialogue four substantive Constituency Position Papers developed for presentation to the CRC.

National Commission for Democracy extensively engaged general masses through constitutional review sensitization and promotional materials; produced videos and translation of the constitution into 5 local languages; engaged eighty five Constituencies and communities nationwide.

Campaign for Good Governance organized Civic and Consultative Forum for village heads in the western area; Tribal Heads in the Western Area and Committee Members from five wards in each district. Engaged CRC and Tribal heads to discuss issues pertaining to land, local government, human rights and rule of law. Tribal heads developed their collective position paper and submitted to the CRC.

CRC led inclusive and transparent civic education and public consultation process;

During second quarter of 2015 CRC's national Public consultation were held nationwide in all districts simultaneously including Bonthe Island, consultation in Freetown in all 69 Wards in Western Rural and Urban respectively. In addition, CRC consulted eighty two ministries, departments and agencies on the process and received one hundred thirty position papers from different interest groups and stakeholders.

Enhance capacity of MP's, political parties and traditional leaders to effectively support and participate in the review process;

CRC held several engagements with parliamentarians to discuss issues relating to State Policy and Fundamental Principles of Human Rights, legislative, local government and issues related to proposed citizenship chapter. In addition, UNDP developed and implemented series of dialogue sessions between paramount chiefs, civil society, women groups, youth, parliamentarians and local councillors during first and second quarter of 2015.

PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUTS

OUTPUT 1: Capacity of CRC members developed to undertake effective constitutional review process and produce final recommendations			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of trained staff (male/female) satisfied with quality and usefulness of capacity development workshops 	Limited Variable capacity of CSOs, media and MPs to engage with constitutional review process	Conduct induction training on the goals and principles of constitutional making	COMPLETED
# of Staff trained: Male / Female	Legal/technical capacity of CRC members and Secretariat staff is variable	Conduct training for CRC Sub-Committees on key constitutional issues within their mandate	<p>On the 11th February, 2015 expert engagement was held for the Local Government Sub-committee to discuss on Financial Decentralization and issues surrounding it.</p> <p>Firstly decentralization was clearly defined to give members what it entails and how to address lacunas in the 1991 constitution and provide a substantive recommendation to the CRC during the review process</p> <p>However more emphasis was placed on Fiscal Decentralization since it is the core component of decentralization. This is because, if local governments are to carry out decentralization functions effectively, they must have sufficient revenue</p>

			<p>On the 12th February, 2015 expert meeting was held on the Executive Sub Committee on issues relating to Presidency. Only 11 Males stakeholders representing various organizations were present. The purpose of the meeting was to define to other members present to explain the requirement for a person to become a State president.</p> <p>On the 16th of February 2015 experts meetings were held for the Research Committee on the Consistency and Sustainability of political parties in Sierra Leone’s Democracy. There were altogether 18 participants who were present including 5 females.</p> <p>Deliberations focused on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definition of political party ▪ History of political party formation in Sierra Leone ▪ Requirement for ensuring consistency and sustainability of Political Parties <p>On the 18th February 2015 expert training was held for the Research sub-committee on Civil Societies their independence and biases in terms of advocacies and their overlapping functions. There were 10 members who participated in the training including 3 females.</p> <p>On the 20th February 2015 Expert engagement was held for the Local Government Sub- committee to discuss on Financial Decentralization and issues surrounding it.</p> <p>On the 4th March 2015, a three days training was held for the Natural Resources Sub-committee at the CRC Secretariat to present to all present a Comparative Study of the 1991 Constitution, Dr. Peter .Tucker’s Recommendations and Constitutions of other countries relating to Natural Resources and Land issues</p>
--	--	--	---

			<p>33 participants including 6 females representing Government institutions like State House, Human Right Commission, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security and Environmental Protection Agency. NGOs like Green Scenery, members representing political parties like UDM, RUF and APC. CRC Natural Recourses Sub-committee members, UNDP etc, were present</p> <p>A three days training was held for the Natural Resources Sub-committee at the CRC Secretariat to present to all present a Comparative Study of the 1991 Constitution, Dr. Peter .Tucker’s Recommendations and Constitutions of other countries relating to Natural Resources and Land</p> <p>The Subcommittee on State Policy and Human Rights held a two-days’ workshop to develop a chapter on citizenship (Ch.2) for the revised constitution40 participants with 10 females attended the workshop</p> <p>In March 2015, a referendum workshop was held at CRC Secretariat that brought together a group of legal experts and stakeholders who critically examined the legal framework Sierra Leone, bordering the conduct of Referendum and make recommendations for inclusion for legal provisions that will stand out clearly for use by the Commission in the conduct of Referendum.</p>
--	--	--	---

OUTPUT 2: Capacity of CRC Secretariat to provide legal and research services to CRC developed

Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat staff provided induction training 	Capacity building sessions for CRC staff	Recruit and conduct induction training for secretariat staff	<p>Training on workshop, documentation, compilation of documents is ongoing at CRC Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During July and December 2015 each subcommittee held fifteen meetings to review the public submission forms and recommendations from position papers. Regular CRC plenary sessions were held to review, discuss and validate recommendations of CRC sub-committees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of research papers produced 	Research papers to improve knowledge of Sub-Committees members	To request commission papers from national /international experts on topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During October and November 2015 CRC visited Ghana and Kenya and deliberated on constitutional issues with top experts and also accessed to significant knowledge on constitutional issues
% of CRC members (male/female) satisfied with the quality and support provided by the secretariat staff	Secretariat staff providing substantive support to CRC members	Provide quality assurance and technical advice to support CRC secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP/CTA provided regular technical advice to CRC members and sub-committees and developed work plans and implementation strategies for the secretariat CRC held its regular thematic committee and plenary meetings during 2015 CRC's First draft report has been developed and discussed during plenaries during December 2015

OUTPUT 3: CRC Communication & Messaging Strategy designed and implemented

Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
# of Communication and messaging Strategy developed	Online websites created to facilitate public engagement	Develop a simple Communication & Messaging Strategy to explain CRC's work, manage the public's expectations, and ensure regular updates provided to public and key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update on Website is ongoing - www.constitutionalreview.gov.sl ▪ Articles, Activities updates, Newsletters, consultations, publications etc are uploaded on website ▪ All CRC Workshops, Consultations, Conferences, etc are updated daily on the Facebook Page for public viewing and comments ▪ CRC Facebook page is ongoing and has generated 7, 882 likes, 3,120 members and since it was created ▪ CRC WhatsApp group is ongoing and thematic issues relating to Youth, Women, Political Parties, Paramount Chiefs, Referendum among others are debated daily ▪ CRC YouTube Channel has now featured 4, 987 likes and 300 videos have been uploaded thus far
# of Community radio stations engaged in disseminating CRC's civic education and public consultation messages	The public provided with up to date information about CRC activities	Develop communication programme with community and other radio stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing: Q&A produced at SLBC radio Freetown and aired on all 18 partner stations 1 weekly. A total of 16 programmes aired to date ▪ Re packaging & Airing of previously produced radio jingles during phase 1. 3 slots daily to be aired by all 19 partner stations. 70 slots monthly ▪ Ongoing: 228 spots aired from July to September. Airing to continue until December 2015. ▪ Ongoing: SLBC is currently airing the dramas twice weekly. A total of 12 dramas has been aired. SLBC Bo, Kenema and & Makeni also airing on a weekly basis. ▪ SDI has done more than 10 radio and TV discussions and Newspapers articles published on student's activities on the review process. ▪ WANEP has produced and aired 14 jingles in local languages on the CR process.

<p># of media personnel trained (male/female) trained</p>	<p>Substantive trainings to media personnel and CRC Staff</p>	<p>Provide constitutional making training to journalist, editors, media house executives with a focus on ethical, objective and</p>	<p>160 Media personal trained on ethical, objective and conflict sensitive reporting on the constitutional review process On 22nd August 2015 in Bo</p> <p>Media experts presented on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achievements and updates on CRC work ▪ Ethical, Objective and Conflict Sensitive Reporting on the Constitutional Review Process
<p># of copies of constitution and report produced & disseminated</p>	<p>Majority of Sierra Leoneans in possession of 1991 Constitution</p>	<p>Print and distribute copies of the 1991 Constitution, 2008 CRC report and CRC process brochure. Produce CD's of same for citizens who cannot read</p>	<p><i>20, 000 USB flash drive with the inscription ‘ I Love the Constitution’ has been produced and distributed in all 14 districts of Sierra Leone including CSOs, CRC members, UNDP Country office Staff, Parliamentarians and all partners</i></p> <p><i>10,000 copies of the constitution has been printed and distributed nationwide</i></p>
<p># of youth (male/female) engage in the process</p>	<p>Ensuring that the voices of youth is incorporated into the revised constitution</p>	<p>Develop a programme to engage youth in the constitutional review process, including outreach with Universities and through social media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On 10th June 2015, CCC engaged Law Society Students at Fourah Bay College on issues relating to the 1991 Constitution ❖ There were 101 participants who attended the meeting including 33 females and, members from CRC, CCC and UNDP ❖ another engagement was held with the Economic Department at Fourah Bay College , University of Sierra Leone ❖ There were altogether 112 participants including 44 female's ❖ On the 20th and 21st August, 2015 Young Political Leaders held aa two days workshop in Bo, Southern Sierra Leone on the youth-friendly Constitution ❖ All 11 registered political parties were adequately represented including members of the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) and Political Party Registration Commission (PPRC) ❖ 140 youth including 40 females attended the workshop

UTPUT 4: Civil Society led inclusive and informative civic education process completed

Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline survey on civic and legal awareness produced and issues identified 	<p>All conflict related issues dealt with in the revised constitution</p>	<p>Conduct a civic and legal awareness baseline survey, including integrating questions to identify potential conflict triggers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OXFAM Conduct KAP survey on an understanding of the review process and basic civic responsibility This was conducted in the target areas of Freetown, Western Rural District, Koinadugu District and Pujehun District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of Coordination and Consensus building workshops between CRC and CSOs organized 	<p>Maintaining a professional working relationship between CRC and CSOs</p>	<p>Conduct consensus building, coordination meetings and workshops between the CRC and key civil society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDI has organized 8 CSOs Engagements with CRC to harness information sharing, to identify challenges and builds constructive relationships with CRC SDI has prepared and presented three position papers to CRC for consideration and inclusion into reviewed document WANEP has developed , adopted and presented a CSO position paper to the CRC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of national and Sub-national civic education campaigns organized # males/females 	<p>Substantive public consultations held nationwide to make sure that the whole process is participatory</p>	<p>Conduct national and sub-national civic education campaigns and stakeholders consultations before and after the various stages of constitutional review process</p>	<p>CCC has published 2 Newsletters that capture views and activities of Students in the review process</p> <p>CCC has produced five billboards, five hundred leaflets, 400 T-shirts prepared and distributed among students as promotional materials for their participation in the review process</p> <p>WANEP:</p>

			<p>Conducted four regional consultations for the establishment and operations of infrastructures for peace in Sierra Leone</p> <p>The meetings were held simultaneously in Freetown (for CSOs in the western urban and rural districts) and Makeni (for CSOs in the north), Bo for CSOs in the Southern Region and Kenema for CSOs in the North</p> <p>Participants include 15 in Freetown of which 7 were women and 10 in Makeni including 4 women, 10 in Bo plus 5 women and 10 in Kenema with 5 women</p> <p>Identified and train 70 young people (10 per district) as Community ‘Mobilizers’ (CMs) on the Constitutional review process</p> <p>Organized 14 days door-to-door information sharing sessions in 7 border districts. 7,000 households reach</p> <p>A total of 2,800 people targeted by the road shows in the target Districts’ Townships</p> <p>One (1) nationwide school pupils’ essay competition on the ‘new’ Sierra Leone Constitution launched; and 2 exceptional essays presented to the CRC for consideration and inclusion</p> <p>OXFAM:</p> <p>Has organized 2 civic education sessions with people living with disabilities in Freetown</p>
--	--	--	--

			<p>10 civic education sessions with the people of Koinadugu district in four chiefdoms (Kasonko, Folosaba Dembeliya, Wara Wara Yagala and Sengbe)</p> <p>6 Civic Education sessions with the people of Pujehun in four chiefdoms (Malen, Kpaka Kadonde, Mansa Kpaka</p> <p>1 Paramount Chief’s conference organized by Green Scenery</p> <p>NCD:</p> <p>Launched constitutional review sensitization and promotional materials aimed at enhancing the civic education agenda of the CR Process in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>The materials included videos and translation of the constitution into 5 local languages.</p> <p>UNDP has signed a Grantees with all CSOs to effectively engage citizens across the country in a two-month long ‘Open Public Consultations’.</p>
--	--	--	--

OUTPUT 5: CRC led inclusive and transparent civic education and public consultation process completed

Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
# of public consultation forms published and disseminated	Citizens express their individual opinions through the Consultation forms	Consultations forms easily accessible to the general populace	80,000 Public consultation forms have been published and online forms are available on CRC website
# of trainees (male/female) trained on dialogue, mediation and conflict resolution	CRC staff, Sub-committee members and CSOs grasp the concept on Dialogue, Mediation and Conflict Resolution	Conduct training of trainers on public consultation for CRC, media and civil society, incl. training on dialogue, mediation and conflict resolution	<p>A two weeks study visit was conducted for 16 CRC Members in Ghana and Kenya starting October 19th – 30th October 2015</p> <p>16 CRC members including CTA, Chairman and Executive Secretary joined the team that visited the two countries</p> <p>The purpose of the visit was to familiarize with Constitutional Review process of both countries with the view of learning best practices in Constitutionalism.</p>
. # of MP's (male/female) satisfied with the usefulness and quality of training	Parliamentarians & the Government of SL to fully engaged citizens on Constitutional Amendment Bill	Support the Government and Parliament to undertake additional public consultations on the draft Constitutional Amendment Bill	Will be implemented in first quarter 2016
- # and types of civic education materials published	of civic education materials shared nationwide	Support the CRC to undertake civic education throughout the country at ward level	70 District coordinators trained from 12 districts have been trained ahead of nationwide public consultations in April 2015. In March 2015 public consultation were held upcountry in 12 Districts simultaneously

			<p>including Bonthe Island consisting of 8 CRC Staff and Members of all the 7 Sub-committees each.</p> <p>CRC consultation continue in Freetown in all 69 Wards in Western Rural and Urban respectively</p> <p>200 Participants per districts of which 40% were females took part in the consultation process in the Provinces and 50 participants per ward including 10% of females representing were present.</p>
--	--	--	---

OUTPUT 6: Enhance capacity of MPs, political parties and traditional leaders to effectively support and participate in the review process			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Current status
# of Resource Booklet shared		Share best practices on key constitutional issues through information exchange	15 Resource booklets and papers focused around the constitutional and thematic issues have been printed and distributed among CRC members
# of outreach and consultation activities with chiefs and other local officials # of male/females chiefs & local officers reached		Work with the Ministry for Local Government and other stakeholders to develop outreach and consultation activities with chiefs and other local officials	CRC and Ministry of Local Government & Rural Development held a Nationwide Dialogue with Paramount Chiefs and Local Councils Over 200 Paramount Chiefs have been reached including 80 females

			<p>CRC organized an outreach and dialogue forum for local government sub-committee (local councils tribal/village headmen) was held at the CRC Secretariat Miata Conference Hall</p> <p>80 participants of which 22 are women comprising of councilors, tribal heads and village heads attended the meeting</p>
<p># of women organizations # of TV & Radio programmes on gender equality</p>	<p>Gender quality issues capacity</p>	<p>Develop and implement a programme to promote gender equality issues throughout the constitutional process</p>	<p>Oxfam facilitated civic education session for 118 women in Kabala and Kasumpe on Property and Land Rights issues</p> <p>On the 23rd April 2015 All Political Parties Women Association held two workshops comprising one hundred (100) female participants in Bo on the CR Process.</p> <p>The recommendations generated from the discussions by various groups during the workshop included calls for free and compulsory education for all, and suggested penalties for violators; the establishment of a national youth service scheme, social protection for women, emergency medical care, and a policy for the construction of low cost housing for low income earners.</p> <p>In March 2015 CRC organized a workshop for Sierra Leone Market Women Association (SLMWA) to educate market women to understand the importance of the review process</p>

			<p>and raise awareness on the constitution review process</p> <p>Altogether 113 market women within the western areas were represented</p> <p>UNWOMEN has prepare a consolidated, coherent position paper to qualify as common women's voice to the reform process</p> <p>UNWOMEN in partnership Action Aid SL and Fifty-fifty Group have actively engaged 120 women in various consultative meetings on gender equality in the CRC process.</p>
--	--	--	--

IV. Project Risks and Issues

1. **Time-lapse:** During the Ebola Virus outbreak a state of emergency led to the suspension of CRC's major activities such as public consultation in the provinces. Moreover, international experts were also reluctant to visit Sierra Leone during the outbreak. All these challenges led to serious delay in the process. In early 2015 on the request of CRC the President of Sierra Leone extended the Mandate of the CRC till March 2016.
2. Lack of donor's interest in the process
3. Lack of resources for civic education on the draft report (constitution)
4. Lack of resources on post draft engagement with key stakeholders
5. Lack of commitment and resources for the conduct of the constitutional referendum

a. Updated project risks and actions

Project Risk 1: Time-lapse:

Actions taken:

During the height of the EVD Virus UNDP-led constitutional review project was able to consult several MDAs and Civils Society Organizations including State House, Ministry of Information and Communication, National Commission for Democracy and Ministry of Youth Affairs among others. Several technical training were conducted for all subcommittees to improve on knowledge sharing on the CRC Process.

Project Risk 2: Delay in the conduct of the referendum:

Actions taken:

Delay in the conduct of the referendum will result in to serious credibility and legitimacy issues. Referendum close to the election may also undermine the process and may politicize the draft constitution that has been achieved through national consensus.

To ensure that referendum is held on time, referendum related laws and regulations have been developed and processed for further legislation to the attorney general's office. In addition, a detailed budget was also developed for the government and donor's consideration. Moreover,

donors and stakeholders have been reminded time to time on the issue and encouraged their commitment in this regard.

a. Updated project issues and actions

Project Issue 1: Lack of donor’s interest in the process:

Actions taken:

Due to overspending by the donors to deal with the EVD crisis and delay in the census process has lessened the traditional donor’s interest in the constitutional review process. Several meetings have been held to encourage and highlight the importance of continuity and investment in the process for desired results and outcome.

Project issues 2 Lack of resources for Civic Education:

Current needs for the civic education and public consultations are much greater than anticipated in early project planning. Civic education on post draft report (constitution) is very crucial for the success of referendum and this has been highlighted to the donors during several engagement and meetings. A detailed proposal has been developed to discuss and share with donors.

Project issues 3: Post Draft Engagement Process:

Actions taken:

CRC draft will be submitted to the government of Sierra Leone in March 2016. Continuity of project is very crucial during 2016 and 2017 to continuously engage key stakeholders i.e. government, parliamentarians, political parties and NEC to ensure that draft report is processed to the parliament and debated thoroughly and transmitted by the president to the NEC for the referendum.

Any break in the process and in the project will lead to a serious delay and ambiguities in the process. A detailed proposal for the continuity of the project has been developed and discussed with donors.

V. Lessons Learned

- 1) So far project has achieved remarkable attention regionally and internationally. In spite of EVD crisis the process managed to maintain the momentum and attract people attentions. Increased trust on the process has evident through the number of position papers and response forms that are submitted to the CRC.
- 2) The main lesson from the process is evident that during the project design project financing, local context and challenges have not been thoroughly considered which resulted in low funding. Moreover, for the successful outcome of constitutional processes in fragile countries more time and resources need to be allocated. However, in case of Sierra Leone the architects of the project have overlooked the fact which has resulted to serious challenges during the process.

VI. Conclusions and Way Forward

During January-June 2014 project gained remarkable progress towards its goal. However, outbreak of Ebola overshadowed the CRC process. During first and second quarter series of activities implemented that include civic education, national dialogue with key stake holders such as MPs, Political parties, Youth, Women and Paramount Chiefs on issues national importance.

The UNDP-led constitutional review project provided substantive technical support to the CRC which resulted sustaining of the process during EVD and later on in spite of lack of resources.

CRC plenary meetings are ongoing and process is on time to submit its report to the government of Sierra Leone in March 2016.

Referendum related legislation has been forwarded to the government and referendum budget is shared with donors and government.

UNDP will continue to engage donors and government on allocation of resources for the civic education on the draft report and conduct of the referendum.

I. Annex

Common Drive:

1. CRC YouTube Channel: <http://www.constitutionalreviewyoutubevideos>
2. CRC Website - <http://www.constitutionalreview.gov.sl>
3. CRC Face book page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Constitutional-Review-Committee-CRC/1409733402590220>
4. Media - Newsletters- <http://www.constitutionalreview.gov.sl> –
2014 and 2015 Newsletter Editions
<http://www.constitutionalreview.gov.sl/site/MediaCenter/Newsletters.aspx>