

SIGNATURE PAGE



UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s): Justice and Human Rights
(Link to UNDAF outcome., If no UNDAF, leave blank)

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s): Clear understanding by civil society of the TRC and
(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line) its role in the reconciliatory process and increased Capacity
of the TRC and Civil Society

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s): Enhanced Capacity of the TRC to Effectively carry out its
(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line) functions

Implementing partner: UNDP
(designated institution/Executing agency)

Other Partners: TRC, GOL AND UN AGENCIES
(formerly implementing agencies)

Programme Period: 2006
Programme Component: TRC
Project Title: Support to the TRC
Project ID:
Project Duration: 2006
Management Arrangement: Direction execution

Budget	US\$ 571,428
General Management Support Fee	28,571
Total budget:	US\$ 600,000
Allocated resources:	
• Regular	600,000

Agreed by TRC:

Cllr. Jerome J. Verdier Sr, Chairperson, Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Agreed by (UNDP):

Jordan Ryan
Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General
Resident Coordinator UN System,
UNDP Representative



United Nations Development Programme

Monrovia, Liberia

THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

Duration: 2006-2007
UN Agency: UNDP, Monrovia, Liberia
Estimated budget: USD 600,000
Geographical Location: Liberia

Brief Description

Through its human rights and protection programme, UNDP aims to contribute to the national reconciliatory process by maintaining on-going support to the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (“TRC”) and its national partners. UNDP’s support will include (i) technical assistance and capacity building support for the TRC Commissioners, (ii) support to collaborative programme activities between the TRC and national human rights groups to enable their effective participation in the TRC process, and (iii) support to the nationwide awareness raising and sensitization campaign on the TRC. Through these efforts, UNDP will be contributing substantially to ensuring the effective functioning of the TRC.

I SITUATION ANALYSIS

With the recent election of Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and the subsequent installation of a new government in Liberia, hope and a sense of a new beginning are evident. The prolonged civil conflict compounded by years of bad governance has seen the near total destruction of state institutions that are necessary elements of mechanisms to uphold internationally recognized human rights standards and values. The severity and the widespread nature of the human rights violations committed during the Liberian civil conflict are well documented and cannot be underestimated. UNDP’s research activities on the extent and gravity of human rights violations have done much to confirm the extent and breadth of that horrors that large numbers of the civilian population were subjected to during the conflict. It is also well evidenced that all parties to the conflict engaged in activities that violated the basic human rights of the Liberian people.

The impact of these abuses on the Liberian society and psyche is significant. In working towards true reconciliation and peace-building within the transitional period and beyond, it is paramount therefore that

issues of human rights including sexual and gender based abuse, peace building and reconciliation and other aspects of conflict resolution are treated seriously.

The new Government has brought with it renewed hope to addressing human rights in Liberia. This commitment to human rights principles is demonstrated by its initial pledge of support for the establishment of TRC. UNDP is prepared to follow the lead of the Government of Liberia and provide continuing support for human rights programmes in Liberia, most especially for the TRC. The initial grant will be in the amount of US\$600,000. Working closely with the Government of Liberia, national NGO partners and international partners, UNDP will work to ensure that the immediate support is available for the TRC to commence its activities.

II STRATEGY

Reasons for UNDP assistance

UNDP's position as one of the leading partners working on human rights in Liberia makes it well placed to support the work of the TRC. The TRC's mandate includes looking at the human rights violations that occurred during the fourteen-year conflict. UNDP's involvement in the establishment of the TRC dates back to its conception during the Accra Peace Talks. UNDP has provided consistent support and until recently was one of the few agencies to provide technical and logistical support to civil society, regional partners and other international partners resulting in the passage of the TRC Act and the selection and inauguration of the TRC commissioners.

UNDP's commitment to the TRC is based on the importance UNDP places on the need for national reconciliation in Liberia and hence the work of the TRC. The scars of the fourteen-year conflict have been as psychological and social as they have been physiological. This followed by the disregard with which known perpetrators have carried on their lives seemingly unaffected and uncaring about the lives that have been lost and destroyed during the fourteen year orgy of violence has left many Liberians disenchanted and societies and communities fragmented and wary of each other. The optimism that has been created with the new Government must be nurtured to impact positively on the reconciliation process.

Objectives

1. Support to collaborative programme activities with the TRC and local human rights groups including training of local groups on transitional justice issues
2. Support to the TRC programmatic activities including baseline research on thematic issues such concerns of women and children
3. Technical support to the TRC commissioners, ITAC members and technical staff including sourcing and deployment of international expertise
4. Support to the nationwide awareness raising and sensitization campaign
5. Resource mobilization for the TRC

Expected results

1. Clearer understanding by the TRC of the role of civil society on the reconciliatory process and increased capacity of the TRC and civil society's to collaborate in the reconciliatory process.
2. Support to the work of the TRC by providing monitoring and investigative activities that will be central to work of the TRC.
3. Enhanced capacity of the TRC to effectively carry out its functions.

4. Greater awareness amongst the general population on the work of the TRC taking advantage of the local knowledge of local human rights groups and ensuring greater participation by the public in the work of the Commission.
5. Resources mobilized and managed on behalf of the TRC

Proposed Work plan

Expectations / Outputs	Key Activities	Implementing Partner(s)	Estimated implementing periods	Estimated cost
1. Clearer understanding of the TRC of the role of civil society in the reconciliatory process and increased capacity of the TRC and civil society to collaborate in the reconciliatory process.	1.1 Allowance for Commissioners (9) 1.2 Allowance for administrative staff (20)	TRC, UN partners, GoL	March - May	\$ 26,200.00
2. Enhanced capacity of the TRC to effectively carry out its function	2.1 International Technical Advisor 2.2 Development of training modules 2.3 Training of Commissioners and staff 2.4 Training of civil society groups 2.5 Security Consultant 2.6 Training of Commissioners and ITAC members and the Executive Secretary in South Africa in human rights, and principles and practice issues 2.7 Research consultant 2.8 Appointment and separation of ITAC 2.9 Sub regional tour (Ghana, Guinea and Sierra Leone)	TRC, national and international partners, UN partners, GoL	March - May	208,725.00
3 Logistic Support to the work of the TRC	3.1 Procurement of a generator (150 KVA) 3.2 Fuel and lubricant for the generator 3.3 stationery 3.4 Desktop computer (1) 3.5 Lap top computers (4) 3.6 Overhead projector and screen (1) 3.7 Communication (scratch cards) 3.8 Digital camera and video camera 3.9 Cross country vehicles (4x4) (4) 3.10 Office rental (maintenance and utilities)	TRC, GoL, UN partners	March 06 – February 2007	259,600.00
4. Greater awareness amongst the general population on the work of the TRC created in collaboration with local human rights groups.	4.1 Production cost of public information material 4.2 Public outreach and community support mobilization	TRC, GoL, Local human rights groups, UN partners	March 06 – February 2007	54,000.00
6. More resources mobilized for the TRC to do its work effectively	5.1 Undertake fund raising activities locally	TRC, national and international partners, UN partners, GoL	March 06 – February 2007	22,000.00
	Sundries			29,475.00
Total				600,000

Budget

III EXECUTION ARRANGEMENTS

Management arrangements

The Project will be directly executed by UNDP following the Direct Execution procedures (DEX). The DEX modality is permitted only in exceptional circumstances, such as post-conflict countries, where the national government lacks technical capacity to manage and implement programmes in its portfolio. Under this modality, **TRC takes full responsibility for implementation; achievement of the project objectives and UNDP takes full responsibility for managing the project.** The overall work plan of a DEX modality includes building of Government capacity so as to be able to phase out from the DEX mode and return to the National Execution (NEX) mode as soon as possible.

Presently, DEX is involved in the execution of UNDP's Programmes by linking the Country Office's Programme to operations, which include financial management of funds, financial analysis of the programmes, procurement, recruitment, and capacity assessments of implementing partners, reporting to donors and monitoring and evaluation.

Contributions to the TRC will be paid directly into a special TRC project window under the existing LEGTF. UNDP will undertake the day-to-day managerial supervision of the implementation arrangements of the project. For management purposes, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be formed, which will be composed of the UNDP, other UN Agencies, UNMIL, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs and chaired by the TRC. The PSC will meet regularly and its main functions will be evaluation of progress, making necessary amendments and operational planning. It will also be responsible for making specific decisions about the funding of sub-projects.

Transparency and accountability both to the donors and to the general public in Liberia necessitate the cooperation of UNDP, other UN Agencies and the Government of Liberia. For its part, UNDP will enter into specific agreement with donor institutions. This cooperation will include performance of specific agreed-upon activities by UNDP and the Government of Liberia.

Responsibilities

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

- Undertakes initial advocacy and public information to apprise pertinent stakeholders of the purpose and scope of the initiative in the overall context of Liberia's peace and reconciliation agenda.
- Identifies specific exit strategy and time-line of replacing donor contributions with the national budget;
- Ensures the timely submission of reports and other contractual requirements
- Prepares grant agreements with the individuals occupying identified positions in accordance to Liberia's legislation;
- Submits to UNDP the list of these individuals, together with their CVs and information on their bank accounts and copies of the grant agreements;
- Informs UNDP of any changes in their status vis-à-vis government positions;

UNDP:

- Enters into agreements with other UN Agencies and donors contributing to the project;
- Manages the Project to its completion, using the DEX modality;
- Advises on financial administration, planning, contracting, etc;

- Establishes regular financial reports every quarter or as provided for in the different MoU, should other Donors use the LEGTF window;
- Conducts monitoring and evaluation of institutions/public officials' performance in line with the agreement entered with the government;
- Where appropriate, provides hands on assistance in the execution of procurement procedures and recruitment, including preparation of documentation.

As seen in the budget, the contribution of US\$ 600,000 will be spread across UNDP's support areas for the TRC: technical assistance and capacity building support for the TRC Commissioners, support to collaborative programme activities between the TRC and national human rights groups to enable their effective participation in the TRC process, and support to the nationwide awareness raising and sensitization campaign on the TRC. This contribution is intended to jump-start the reconciliatory process, while additional resources are being mobilized by UNDP and partners.

Partners

Partners have responded to calls for support to the TRC and they include pledges by the European Union who are also providing logistical support, consultants including technical assistant for a 15 month period to act as coordinator and support operational/organisational matters to commence in May and basic office items for TRC Secretariat. The actual funds allocated for the TRC amounts to 355,650 Euros.

USAID is committing \$500,000 to the TRC as of July when the funds are expected to come in. They have agreed that the funds will be administered through UNDP's Trust Fund.

DFID have expressed some interest to support the TRC but have not as of yet made any firm pledges.

ECOWAS will continue to contribute technical assistance and coordinate the activities of the TRC working Group.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Output evaluation of the project activities on an annual basis is a pre-condition for receiving the contribution from donors and other partners via UNDP. Based on the findings of the evaluation, UNDP will determine if the support should be continued. In this case, UNDP will provide evaluation reports on an annual basis to the donors and other partners. The report will outline progress made in achieving the stated project objective of assisting the Truth and Reconciliatory Commission in the implementation of its reconciliatory programme. It should provide examples of concrete and measurable outputs attained as a result of this support. The report should include a gender analysis, elaborating on the different programme impact for women, men and children.

Potential Risks

The ongoing commitment from the government to enhance its reconciliatory agenda remains a valid point for the success of the TRC (building capacities in the timeline of this project). Consequently, inability to honour obligations and commitments on the part of government is a potential risk. Similarly, inability to provide additional funding required for the rest of the first year and the second year, as token commitment and evidence of progress, may jeopardise the process. However, there is high commitment from both Government and donors, not only in Liberia, but internationally, to support and achieve effective reconciliation and to address human rights concerns. Therefore, it is fairly safe to assume that the Government will continue to live up to its reconciliation programme and donors will continue to be supportive in this endeavor. There is then a low risk that efforts may slow down if successful outcomes are slow to emerge.

Exit strategy

Upon completion, the findings of the TRC will feed into the broader agenda of the Independent National Human Rights Commission. The final report will make recommendations to the Government of Liberia on a series of issues including possible reparation for victims and the treatment of alleged perpetrators. During its lifespan, the Government is committed to continue supporting the TRC although it envisages that international support will be expected throughout the two and a half year lifespan of the Commission.

IV LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement signed between the Government of Liberia and the United Nations Development Programme.

The following types of revisions to the project document can be made with the sole signature of the UNDP Resident Representative or the UNDP Country Director, provided the other signatories have no objections:

- a. Revisions to any of the annexes to the project document or additions to each;
- b. Revisions that do not imply significant changes in the immediate objective or the results of the activities of the project provided that the changes are due to a redistribution of inputs previously agreed, an increment in expenses due to inflation; or other justified reasons;
- c. Obligatory annual revisions to modify the agreed inputs of the projects, as a result of an increment in experts' costs, inflation or any other kind of justified cause; and
- d. Any change in the duration, amount of the project and/or provisions of the services to be rendered by the UNDP will also be subjected to consultation of the parties, in order to reach a joint agreement.