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Community Security and Arms Control Project

2017 Quarter One Progress Report

April 2017



Women and men from Rejaf Payam at the Conflict Analysis and Mediation training organized by UNDP in partnership with South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission. Photo: © UNDP



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Project Summary

Country: South Sudan

Project Duration: January 2014- June 2017

Total Project Budget: US\$23,862,733.61

2017 Budget: US\$ 2,327,813

Donor	Annual ¹ budget US\$
Sweden	1,541,462
DFID	581,986.50
Switzerland	78,780.20
Norway	125,584.12
Total	2,327,813

Quarter one expenditure: US\$ 1,469,115.66

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^{1 1} The CSAC project ends in quarter , and is succeeded by the Peace and Community Cohesion project

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Acronyms

AWP	Annual Work Plan
CPD	Country Programme Document
CSAC	Community Security and Arms Control
CSB	County Support Bases
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
RaPNET	Radio for Peace Network
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Executive Summary

The Community Security and Arms Control (CSAC) project, aims to strengthen community level relationships and mechanisms for addressing violent conflicts and building community resilience to the impacts of resources based, ethnically defined and politicized inter-community conflicts. The project also seeks to strengthen national and local authorities' interface with communities to address collective peace and conflict-related challenges. The following are key achievements of the project in the first quarter of 2017:

Achievements

- **Capacity of journalists for peace and conflict sensitive reporting enhanced** through a series of training on non-partisan, gender and conflict sensitive reporting, safety precautions for journalists and the legal and regulatory framework for media in South Sudan. Following the training, the journalists developed and broadcasted peace stories in their respective radio stations.
- **Impartial space for citizens to provide feedback on pertinent peace issues created** through public debates held on "Strengthening the social fabrics among South Sudanese communities" in Bor, Wau and Rumbek. The debates brought together more than 500 representatives from local authorities, students bodies, civil society organizations, youth and women groups. Following the debates, youth from different communities in Eastern Lakes State are conducting joint patrols.
- **Administrative structures to enhance community ownership of interdependency projects in Rejaf and Bor established.** Two 15-member steering committees were formed and 220 community members from the two location were imparted with skills to profitably run the affairs of the UNDP-constructed infrastructure.
- **Community buy-in and demand for peace conferences and dialogues created in greater Jonglei** following a series of community consultations and low level diplomacy by UNDP and local leaders to bring together conflicting Dinka and Lou Nuer communities for a peaceful resolution of the simmering conflicts. Follow up community level peace conferences and dialogues will be conducted from quarter two.

Lessons learned:

- Inclusive peace committees, encompassing all relevant stakeholders, are instrumental in achieving peace. Integration of youth in peace committees deters them from engaging in violent conflicts.
- Realization of peace at the local level requires cooperation and collaboration with all actors, especially local authorities.
- Most local level conflicts are driven by lack of livelihood and economic opportunities. Hence, linking local peace building work with livelihood initiatives bolster community cohesion, household livelihood security and peace at the grassroots level.

Provisional expenditure for the first quarter of 2017 was US\$ 1,469,155.66, representing a delivery of 63% of the 2017 budget (US\$ 2,327,813).

1. Situation Background

The UNDP Community Security and Arms Control (CSAC) project aims to strengthen community level relationships and mechanisms for addressing violent conflicts and building community resilience to the impacts of resources based, ethnically defined and politicized inter-community conflicts. The project also strengthens national and local authorities' interface with communities to address collective peace and conflict-related challenges.

Project implementation in the first quarter of 2017 was against a backdrop of a stalling peace process, worsening security and humanitarian situation, polarized political space, and economic and development crises. On 14 December 2016, President Salva Kiir initiated a national dialogue "to end violent conflicts in South Sudan, reconstitute national consensus, save the country from disintegration, and usher in a new era of peace, stability and prosperity." To facilitate the national dialogue process, the president appointed a secretariat made up of three national think tanks and religious institutions. On 15 December 2016, the Ministry of Justice appointed a technical committee to lead national consultations as part of the operationalization of the Committee on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing within the framework of the peace agreement. This pronouncement created an opportunity to engage with citizens on peace and reconciliation and a renewed energy for downstream implementation of project results through working with civil society organisations (CSOs) and government counterparts. The project focused on delivering results at the local level.

2. Progress towards development results

2.1 Progress towards project outputs

2.1.1 Project Output 1: The Bureau for Community Security & Small Arms Control's capacity is strengthened to advance the agenda for small arms control in South Sudan

Summary achievement against 2017 Annual Work Plan (AWP) target

Indicator	Indicator Target 2017	Summary achievement during the quarter	Status
Firearms control law in place	Road map for implementation of small arms in place	Draft road map towards the implementation of the firearms law completed	Achieved
Availability of baseline data on small and light weapons in South Sudan	Baseline report published	Baseline survey was completed, and report will be published in quarter two	Achieved
Overall status			Achieved

Road map for implementation of small arms in place

A draft implementation plan for the Firearms Policy was developed. The plan identifies 21 actions that should be undertaken to begin implementation of the Act and Policy.

Availability of baseline data on small and light weapons in South Sudan

The baseline survey on proliferation of small arms and light weapons was completed, and the report will be published in quarter two. Survey findings were disseminated to key national and state stakeholders. One of the notable outcomes of the survey is the promulgation to implement civilian disarmament strategy Firearms Law by the government of Western Lakes State.

Project Output 2: Inter- Communal stability and relations strengthened along common interests in targeted conflict clusters

Summary achievement against 2017 AWP target

Indicator	Target	Summary achievement during the quarter	Status
Number of active participants engaged in interactive public awareness programmes	2,460	3,857 active participants were reached during the quarter	Achieved
Number of community infrastructures to accelerate peaceful co-existence completed and utilised.	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 community infrastructure under construction. ○ Procurement of contractor for a peace complex in <u>Wowow Mourpodit</u> is ongoing. 	Ongoing
Number of knowledge products produced	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ End-line survey completed ○ Draft summative evaluation report of the CSAC project validated. 	Achieved
Overall status			Achieved

2,460 active participants engaged in interactive public debate/awareness programmes

Citizens' feedback and concerns on the implementation of the peace agreement were articulated through the interactive radio drama (Kuburi Bridge) and participatory theatre series that were conducted in different parts of the country reaching 3,857 active participants. Listeners called in and participated in the interactive radio talk shows on radio Miraya. Fifty-six experts on sexual and gender based violence (SGBV), security, small arms, cattle raiding, revenge killing, trauma, the peace agreement and reconciliation appeared as guest speakers during the talk shows, and engaged with listeners on these issues. The talk shows provided an opportunity for the government and development partners to understand the different perspectives, interests and positions of the citizens on a range of issues. *"The youth are now not idle as they engage in developing peace plays for the community"* says the RRC coordinator for Rumbek East, Mr. Gabriel Deng Majok.

Four community infrastructures to accelerate peaceful co-existence completed and utilised

Construction of the Rejaf market and Fish cold storage in Bor is underway. To facilitate communities' autonomy and ability to sustainably manage the infrastructures, 220 community members ([160 from Rejaf](#), and 60 from Bor) were imparted with knowledge and skills on conflict analysis, mediation and basic business management. Two steering committees were established in each location, and the members were equipped with specialized skills in business administration and marketing.

Two knowledge products produced

CSAC summative evaluation was conducted and provided useful forward looking recommendations to inform the new Peace and Community Cohesion project. The end-line survey to test five project indicators is nearing completion.

2.1.2 Project Output 3: South Sudan institutions, constituencies and communities work together for inclusive peace and reconciliation

Summary achievement against 2017 AWP targets

Indicator	Target	Summary achievement during the quarter	Status
Number of engagements between South Sudan's religious leaders and political /security actors.	3	After a series of engagements between Duk and Ayod counties, community peace dialogues are planned for quarter two	Ongoing
Actions undertaken to support a common forum for dialogue across conflicting communities	Actions for dialogue conducted	6 actions undertaken, bringing to 42 number of actions undertaken since 2015.	Achieved
Overall status			Ongoing

Meetings between South Sudan's religious leadership and political and security actors

Following a series of the low-level diplomacy between UNDP and local leaders from Duk and Ayod counties, the traditionally conflicting Dinka and Lou Nuer communities agreed to engage in dialogue to resolve the simmering conflicts. Three inter community peace conferences and dialogues are scheduled for quarter two.

Facilitating dialogue across conflicting communities

Three peace committees from Mvolo, Rumbek East and Yirol West were provided with 20 bicycles to facilitate their movement and access to conflict affected areas. As reported by one Gweleng youth "with the bicycles, we are able to move fast to reach an area where the incident has happened but we can move even faster with a motorcycle"



Handover of bicycles to peace committees in Yirol East, Mar 2017

Community consultations in Juba and Torit led to the resuscitation of peace committees in four counties. Training of committee members is scheduled for quarter two.

There is improved coordination among peace actors following the establishment of a national peace actors' working group and working group meetings in Rumbek (2) and Bor (1). With UNDP's technical support, the working group produced an action plan for 2017 and committed to

establish working groups in Eastern, Gok Lakes and other conflict affected states.

In response to early warning alerts by IGAD regarding cross-border movement of Turkana, Toposa herders [into Uganda in search of water and pastures](#), the South Sudan early warning response unit-headed by the South Sudan Peace Commission facilitated dialogue between the local and migrating Toposa communities. The dialogues recommended terms for peaceful migration into Uganda. These terms included disarming the migrating community before they enter those communities. The outcomes of the dialogue informed South Sudan's presentation at the IGAD Disaster, Drought, Sustainability Initiative meeting.

In response to increasing call for UNDP to support the national dialogue process, UNDP facilitated engagements between the proposed secretariat of the national dialogue, United States Institute for Peace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Germany and Berghof Foundation. This culminated in the development of a common UN strategy and consensus on conditions for success of the national dialogue process.

2.1.3 Project Output 4: Operational capacity of county governments in conflict-prone counties improved through infrastructure rehabilitation and provision of equipment

No progress under this output during the quarter pending approval of request of an extension of the third-party cost sharing agreement with the donor.

2.1.4 Project Output 5: Strengthen civil society voice, promote accountability and engender social cohesion

Summary achievement against 2017 AWP target

Indicator	Target	Summary achievement during the quarter	Status
Number of CSOs that engage in peace and reconciliation initiatives	20	23 CSOs were engaged in peace initiatives since 2015.	Achieved
Number of policy briefs	2	Two policy briefs are under development.	Ongoing
Bi-monthly public debates held	6	Three public debates were held in Bor, Rumbek and Wau, bringing the total number of debates held to six.	Achieved
Overall status			Achieved

Twenty CSOs engage in peace and reconciliation initiatives

Twenty-three CSOs engaged in peace and reconciliation with UNDP's support since 2015. During the first quarter, seven CSOs extended their contracts and continued to serve the communities:

New Page for Peace and Development organized a youth conference Amadi State attended by 112 participants - youth, government, chiefs, military, and church and women leaders. The participants resolved to regulate movement and relocation of cattle to curb cattle theft. They also agreed to document and regulate customary laws in line with the Local Government Act.

Woman Aid Vision facilitated the formation of youth peace clubs in Wulu County. The peace clubs have become safe learning grounds for youth, and their contribution to learning has been acknowledged by the state ministry of education.

Improved peace messaging

Targeted peace messages were aired in the local radio stations. This follows the training of 51 members (14 female) of Radio for Peace Network (RaPNET) in conflict sensitive reporting. The training enhanced the journalist' knowledge on non-partisan, gender and conflict sensitive reporting, safety for journalists in conflict situations and the legal and regulatory framework for media in South Sudan.

"Moses Okwera Daniel, 23, a reporter with Voice of Freedom in Magwi said: *"It was my first time to attend such a training. Now I know how to plan and conduct interviews. I have learnt that journalists working in a conflict situation should always take safety precautions in the course of their work"*.

Six public debates held

Stakeholders and community members exchanged views, identified conflict drivers and ways of addressing them during public debates on “Strengthening the social fabrics among South Sudanese communities” in Bor, Wau and Rumbek. The debates were held in collaboration with Juba University’s Centre for Peace and Development Studies and the states based universities. More than 500 representatives from local authorities, students, and CSOs, youth and women groups participated in the debates.

“As students of this university, we will take the messages about peace, peace, peace, and bring it to the communities where we came from...we are going to enlighten them, and say, this is the importance of peace...these are the advantages, as we have discussed them here today”

Mr. Ariik Ariik, University of Rumbek

2.2 Human Interest Story

The violence in July 2016 disrupted livelihoods for many people. Hundreds of families relocated to the outskirts of Juba City and UNMISS Protection of Civilian sites for safety and protection.

“My husband is in Wau. I am in Juba and I cannot [just] wait for him [to provide for my family]. I am just at home, but I want to work to develop myself and be an empowered woman, get money and have an activity to support myself and my children,” affirms Vivian, a member of the host community in Rejaf County, Juba.

“I used to sell flour and rice imported from Uganda in the market in Munuki. The business was doing well but after July [crisis] the cost of buying went up and I had to close my shop. Now I do not have any source of income, but I believe if I get a place in the new market I will be selling local products and vegetables. I will again have a source of income to sustain my household,” says Loful Ikang, another woman from Rejaf.

The Rejaf community rely on rural farmers and host community who supply food to the markets in Gumbo Council. However, the food supplies and existing market structures are failing to cope with the swelling population.

“We are so many people now, and there is not enough food. We don’t have the means to create a business so that we can give something to eat to the new people coming. We don’t even have enough food for our own families, and this is becoming a problem. The situation is getting tense between my community and the newcomers,” explains Vivian.

“We believe problems are part of life and trying to solve them is also part of life. Not every woman will have a place in the market, and that will be the first problem, but that is why we are here to teach them a way to resolve problems peacefully,” says member of South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission Hon. Betty Oboy. “This facility requires cooperation. Women need to come together, so that they can be an example to others and live in harmony and peace in their community. All of us belong to this land, we are all South Sudanese and you are leaders for peace,” she explains, while addressing the women participants of the workshop.

150 women from the community received training in mediation and non-violent approaches to conflict resolution. The training provided the opportunity for women to acquire knowledge and skills needed to confidently mediate and resolved local disputes in their families and communities.

“I am grateful to the people who supported the construction of this market and the people of my community. The community is now divided into two, residents and displaced, but I believe that as women are a symbol of peace, they can find a solution to any problem. This market [being run] by women could help to solve the conflict driven due to food insecurity,” says Rejaf Executive Administrator Joseph Loro.

With the objective of strengthening the capacity of South Sudanese in peaceful conflict resolution, community members gained knowledge and understanding of conflict analysis and mediation process and developed the confidence to perform as a mediator in a conflict situation.

“This market will create a friendship. We will work together and we won’t be fighting but developing union,” says Muja, a community member. “We have learned how to resolve disputes and problems in different ways. A problem between two friends can be solved between the two friends or with a mediator, or even with a higher institution like the police. I prefer the two first ways because going to the police would spoil our relationship in the community.”

3. Cross cutting issues

3.1 Gender results

Gender results

All peace committee revived or established has 30% women representation.

Women were represented in steering committees to manage interdependency projects. A third of steering committee members of the Rejaf peace market are women.

3.2 Partnerships

UNDP continued to partner with UNESCO in support of RaPNET and with the Centre for Peace and Development Studies of the University of Juba and Rumbek, Bor and Wau universities in support of public debates conducted at state level. The existing partnership with the University of Juba has been expanded further through engagement of the National Transformational Leadership Institute (NTLI) and UN Women. These partnerships enabled UNDP to reach wider audience as well as build synergies based on collaborative advantage for each partner. The project is funded by DfID, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway and UNDP (core resources).

3.3 Environmental Considerations

The project continued to monitor environmental impact from the construction of the fish cold storage in Bor. No negative impact was identified as the contractor was adhering to agreed standards.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Key M&E activity	Key outcomes/ observation	Recommendation	Action taken
UNDP and SIDA/Sweden undertook a week long joint monitoring of the community security and cohesion projects in Western Lakes and Western Equatoria states	UNDP Cluster approach in Lakes has contributed to addressing local level conflict. Working with inclusive peace committees with women and youth produced positive results in addressing drivers of conflict.	UNDP to mainstream gender and women rights in the community level peace and conflict management mechanism. It is important the PaCC project to commence immediately to avoid implementation gaps, and reversal of the momentum and results generated by CSAC.	A two weeks training for the peace committees, women groups and youth peace cadres, focusing on women rights, SGBV prevention and mitigation as well as transformation leadership is planned for 25 April- 5 May.
Monitoring progress of community interdependency activities	Construction of the fish cold storage was going on as per schedule. However, the structure is 70 meters away from the river and there is need to request additional land from local authorities for uninterrupted access to the river from the cold storage	The Bor Commissioner to write a recommendation letter for UNDP to request additional land around the fish cold storage	The land was requested and granted

5. Risk management

Risks	Mitigation Measures
Unpredictable Funding of the successor project of CSAC, threatening the gains made in CSAC.	A donor round table was organized and meetings held with potential funding. UNDP has also put in some money to kick start the project.

6. Challenges

Uncertainty in funding of the continuing project affected the roll-out of activities in the first quarter especially partnerships with national counterparts. UNDP assured national counterparts that priority actions will be undertaken through direct payment to allow for completion of most on-going activities.

7. Lessons Learned

- Inclusive peace committees encompassing relevant stakeholder are instrumental in achieving community peace. Youth have great potential to stop local level violence and conflicts if they are integrated in peace committees.
- To realise peace at the local level, it is imperative to collaborate with all actors including local government authorities.
- Most local level conflicts are driven by limited livelihood and economic opportunities for citizens. Linking local peacebuilding work with livelihood initiatives generate greater impact and community cohesion. Small local level projects for women and youth, while they may not have national level impact, can contribute immensely to household security and peace at the grassroots level.

8. Provisional Financial Summary

		2016 Budget (US\$)	Q1 expenditure	% Expenditure
Output 1: GRSS Bureau for Community Security & Small Arms Control capacity is Strengthened to advance the agenda for small arms control in South Sudan.				
Activity Result (AR) 1.1	Road map for implementation of small arms in place	14,085.00	3,009.71	21.37
AR 1.2	National policies and legislation on small arms control are developed and passed	249,890.00	202,624.23	81.09
Output 1 Sub-total		263,975	205,633.94	77.90
Output 2: Inter- Communal stability and relations strengthened along common interests in targeted conflict clusters				
AR 2.1	National Institutions undertake public outreach efforts through public awareness raising, peace promotion	86,400.00	-	-
AR 2.2	Inter-communal interdependencies and forms of exchange are strengthened to promote increased dialogue	144,328.00	72,112.68	49.96
AR 2.3	County Budgeting & Planning	172,800.00		
AR 2.4	Project Management	342,534.00	187,061.94	54.61
AR 2.5	Research and knowledge management	-	46,125.00	-
Output 2 Sub-total		746,062.00	305,299.62	40.92
Output 3: Infrastructure for peace are established and operational, ensuring effective coordination of national unity and reconciliation				
AR 3.1	Political and governance discourse are influenced towards peace and reconciliation	90,975.00	110,278.56	121.22
Output 1 Sub-total		90,975.00	110,278.56	121.22
Output 4: Operational capacity of county governments in conflict-prone counties improved through infrastructure rehabilitation and provision of equipment				
AR 4.1	County support bases (CBSs) fully completed	77,786.00		
Output 1 Sub-total		77,786.00	-	-
Output 5: Strengthen civil voice, Promote Accountability and Engender Social Cohesion.				
AR 5.1	Support Mitigation of conflict drivers through downstream dialogues and local government initiatives on security, social cohesion and Peacebuilding	544,215.00	612,221.76	112.50
AR 5.2	Facilitate upstream dialogue and civil society positioning on key social, political and economic decision making	525,960.00	200,542.16	38.13
AR5.3	Impact Assessment and Shared Learning	78,840.00	35,139.62	44.57
Output 1 Sub-total		1,149,015.00	847,903.54	73.79
Grand total		2,327,813.00	1,469,115.66	63.11

Note: The provisional financial report is based on the combined delivery report (CDR). Balances under commitments USD 671,979.48, undepreciated assets USD 86,523.54 and NEX advances USD 2,903.03