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STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN SIERRA LEONE

10TH QUARTERLY REPORT: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
JULY 1, 2007 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

October 2007

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Strengthening of Democratic Governance in Sierra Leone

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I. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUARTER

Main events during the quarter included:

PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

The SDG program collaborated with a number of CSOs in the monitoring of the just-concluded presidential and parliamentary elections which the international observer teams in Sierra Leone appraised as peaceful, free and fair, and credible. One of the main opposition parties, the All Peoples Congress, won both the parliamentary and presidential elections, and their presidential candidate Ernest Bai Koroma has been sworn in as the new President of Sierra Leone.

USAID MISSION DIRECTOR VISITS MSI

The new Mission Director to Sierra Leone, Mr Clifford Brown, accompanied by Christine Sheckler, visited MSI offices in Freetown. The visiting USAID team included CTOs Eddie Benya and Abdulai Jalloh, and Program Officer Jenneh Jalloh. A slide presentation was made on SDG strategies, activities and achievements, with emphasis on its contributions during the last elections.

IRC GENDER WORKSHOP

In addition to the special activities carried out in the field on gender, SDG implementing partner, the International Rescue Committee, with specialty on gender and youth, organized a well-attended two-day workshop in Kailahun town. The workshop attracted 83 participants including SDG management, female Councilors from the SDG operational wards, and a number of Civil Society Organization representatives. The workshop looked at the marginalization of women in decision-making and in politics.

MATCHING FUNDS PROCESS

During the quarter, the Kailahun District Council was able to meet the criteria for SDG matching funds. A street naming and house numbering project is currently being undertaken in Kailahun so that all residents will eventually have a permanent address. Matching funds in the amount of Le 29,950,000 (approximately USD \$13,316) have been provided to Kailahun communities. SDG also made contact with the National Commission for Social Action officials to assess the potential of matching community development funds from this organization, channeled through the council. Meanwhile, Kono Chiefdom Councils that have already matched 5 projects in the program areas in Kono District received additional DACDF from the central government for development of the chiefdoms.

CSO-MANAGED FORUMS

The CSOs managing the forums in the communities held their first quarterly meeting in July 2007. The questionnaire for the participants' survey and the quality of the forums including the modalities for the conduct of the survey were finalized. In all, both the CSOs and the DPCs were satisfied with most of the action points arrived at after each forum and the increased community participation.

QUIZ COMPETITIONS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Two sets of quiz competitions were held for Ward Committee members and Junior Secondary School pupils as a way of refresher training on the Local Government Act. Ward Committee

representatives and school children from all SDG program areas, namely Koinadugu, Kono, Tongo Fields and Kailahun, took part in a lively, exciting and tense competition. The Tongo Fields Ward Committee emerged as winners. For the schools, the Kono pupils were the winners of the first prize.

RICC SUSTAINABILITY

A one-day workshop was held to look at possible ways in which to ensure the sustainability of the RICCs. It was agreed that a committee comprising different groups in the community including the youth, Council, teachers, Paramount Chiefs and women be set up. This committee will then appoint a community organization or CSO that will manage the RICC. It is expected that the Sierra Leone Library Board staff will be a member of this committee as it has the mandate to be involved in all public libraries in the country.

The program was visited by MARWOPNET (Mano River Women's Peace Network) and CFI (Computers Frontiers International) of Ghana regarding the possibility of collaboration with an intention that all parties, including SDG Kailahun, may gain from a planned internet facility that would be installed in Kailahun town.

PARAMOUNT CHIEFS LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Ed Comstock traveled to Sierra Leone and had discussions with Dec-Sec and the SDG on the pending Paramount Chief Leadership Symposium. The design for the workshop was thoroughly discussed and relevant amendments were made. A final agenda for the symposium was submitted to SDG and Dec-Sec. The agenda for the third SDG Field Strategy Meeting billed for early December 2007 was also finalized.

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DURING QUARTER

This section of the report is ordered in accordance with the Third Annual Work Plan, and follows the logic of the program's Special Objective (Democratic Governance Strengthened) and the two Intermediate Results directed towards achieving it:

- broadened political participation, and
- citizens, local government and CSOs better-informed.

I BROADENED POLITICAL PARTICIPATION (IRI)

This intermediate result consists of:

- CPPGs and matching funds
- Participatory forums
- Ward Committees
- Paramount Chiefs
- Election collaboration

1.1 Community Plans for Participation in Governance (CPPGs)

The CPPGs continue to provide the framework for the communities' involvement in governance as they aspire to access funds through the matching fund process to implement projects in their communities. In most of the communities, Councilors and eventually the Councils are being put under continuous pressure by the implementing team of the CPPGs and the communities to meet SDG criteria for the Matching Funds. In Koinadugu, where no funds have yet been accessed, the SDG team had discussions with the Council on the possibility of incorporating some of the projects in the CPPGs in their District Development Plan for the coming financial year which starts in January 2008.

In Kono where Matching Funds have been accessed, the CPPG continues to be the reference and framework used to determine projects to be funded. Additional burning issues in Kono included:

- Fencing of recreational ground
- Accommodation for community Health Officer
- Nursery school in Jaiana Nimikoro community
- Primary school in Yormandu

In Kailahun and Tongo Fields the burning issues have not changed and the CPPGs remained the same. This might be due to the fact that more attention was paid to the past general elections hence fewer Councilors have been resident in their wards during the quarter.

Matching Funds

The SDG program met officials of the National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA) in Kailahun and explained the criteria to be met for its matching funds. The World Bank sponsored NaCSA community initiative and SDG support for the implementation of the CPPGs seem to be in consonance as funds intended for development ventures from NaCSA go through the council. SDG will therefore in future match NaCSA programs and funds that pass through the council.

The status of SDG Matching Funds at the end of the reporting period is included as Annex A. Thus far, only Kono and Kailahun Districts have qualified for Matching Funds. Five communities in Kono have received a total of Le 50 million worth of building materials and services. To date, only Paramount Chiefs, through the Chiefdom Councils, have come up with funds for the five community projects. The funds committed by the chiefs are part of the Diamond Area Community Development Fund (DACDF) allocation disbursed to the chiefs for chiefdom development. The Kono District Council and the Koidu/New Sembehun City Council have made verbal and written commitments to some of the wards. The wards are still waiting for the promised funds. Four of the five projects are now ongoing with work almost at window height. Materials for the Peyima project are still with the suppliers, awaiting the communities and council to meet their respective commitments, as is required to access SDG Matching Funds.

The Kailahun District Council is the first District Council that has provided funds for the implementation of CPPGs. A total of 4 micro-projects are currently being implemented. One project for the construction of town roads in Daru is being matched by the Chiefdom Council, which has committed funds from the Chief's DACDF allocation.

The SDG team in Kailahun organized a follow-up matching funds meeting for 63 participants including community people, Ward Committee members and Councilors. At the meeting, an overview of the matching funds process and criteria was given and challenges were outlined and

discussed.

Overall challenges in the process:

- The delay in the receipt of funds from Councils, especially with the coming rains.
- Some Councilors feel that their communities (indirectly the CMs) are putting them under undue pressure since Council has no money
- Communication breakdown between CMs and Councilors
- Communities not meeting their commitments on time
- Continuous reviews of the budget templates as prices change with time
- The 2007 electioneering activities hampering the release of funds from the central government
- Low revenues from market dues and local tax collection

Lessons Learnt so far:

- The process can be continued even when there are no budgeted funds in Council, by encouraging communities to ensure that their projects are in the next Council development plan and budget.
- Even with no funds people are appreciative of the process and will use it in future.
- Communities are surprised at what can be done with small amounts of money.
- The importance of the community meeting to agree on the project and their commitments before presentation to the Ward Committee for transmission to the Councils by their councilors
- Some projects may need follow-up once completed; for example, ensuring that schools are assigned teachers and that health clinics are provided staff.

1.2 Participatory Forums

The four CSOs awarded subagreements to manage community forums, namely NMJD, PACE, OMaT and CePSRHE, continued to organize forums in the communities during the reporting quarter. A summary of topics discussed and community attendance at each forum held in the four districts is included in Annex C. At the end of September, the target number of forums was met by all the CSOs except NMJD. This CSO was overburdened by the general election monitoring activities and has asked for a week's extension for completion of 12 forums.

In Tongo Fields, the forum topics debated included: effective communication for unity and development; love lost in Pangoma; effective communication and youth inclusion in community development; and political tolerance for peace and development. In all, 491 participants (of which 357 were male and 134 were female) attended the 8 forums organized in the communities in Tongo Fields. At the forum themed "Love Lost in Pangoma," the main points discussed were on unity and diversity, prevalence of drug abuse, boundary disputes, disunity between youths and elders, and kangaroo courts and high fines. Action points arrived at the debates were:

- Reorganization of youth clubs
- Sensitization of Chiefs on their roles and responsibilities
- Training on peace-building
- Inclusion of women and youth in decision-making
- Training of leaders in democratic principles
- Inclusion of youth in infrastructure development
- Organization of peace and reconciliation meetings
- Ensure maintenance of law and order

The police, elders, chiefs, council, and community leaders would implement the action points.

Koinadugu held 9 forums between July and September and the topics discussed were: no health centers; roles and responsibility of Council in developing the community; no health care; and teenage pregnancy. The fact that traditionally women are more responsible for health matters explained why in attendance we have more women than men. A total of 1182 people participated, of which 663 were female. The action points decided were:

- Monitor the activities of the Council in the community
- Call monthly community meetings
- Contact Kabala Hospital and District Health Management Team to provide medical staff
- Establish a counseling team on teenage pregnancy

A health task force was formed to take action on the medical issues and counseling of teenage girls. The Council would make contact with the Health Management Team.

The Kailahun forum topics debated over the past quarter were: performance of Ward Committee as a factor for community development; roles and responsibility of citizens and Councilors in community development; factors that influence decision making in the community; and accountability and transparency leads to community development. As in the last report, the attendance was high with almost the same number of male and female participants. The action points taken were:

- Conduct monthly community meeting
- Training in resource mobilization for communities
- Community meeting with Councilor
- Enforcement of community bye-laws to stop stealing and crimes
- Notice Boards in the small towns to display council information
- Monthly forums on accountability for all sectors
- Reconciliation meeting between leaders and community members
- Ensure active youth participation in community activities
- Ensure participation of women in decision making

The Town Chiefs, Youth and Women Leaders, and the Ward Committee would ensure that the above happens.

In Kono, 6 forums were held during the quarter on the following topics:

- The importance of conducting regular and effective Ward Committee meetings
- The importance of cordial relationship between leaders for the development of the community
- The importance of political tolerance for peace and development.

The total number of forum participants in Kono was 645, of which 443 were male. Action points agreed upon at the forums include:

- Conduct monthly meetings for community leaders and Community
- Peace building and reconciliation
- Hold monthly Ward Committee meetings

The Councilor, Town Chiefs and the elders were selected to effect the above actions.

1.3 Ward Committees

Kono District Council and Koidu City Council have taken the lead on the number of Ward Committee meetings held (see Annex B and Table I, below). Low numbers of Ward Committee meetings, especially in Koinadugu and Tongo Fields, was attributed to the tense electioneering campaigns for the parliamentary and presidential elections, and the fact most of the Councilors in these areas are not resident in their wards.

Table I. Ward Committee Meetings, January-September 2007

District	No. of Wards	No. of meetings Jan-Mar	Average per ward Jan-Mar	No. of meetings Apr-Jun	Average per ward Apr-Jun	No. of meetings Jul-Sep	Average per ward Jul-Sep
Kailahun	21	30	1.43	34	1.62	18	0.86
Koinadugu	7	6	0.86	2	0.29	1	0.15
Kono DC	13	13	1.00	17	1.31	20	1.54
Koidu CC	3	1	0.33	3	0.33	9	3.00
Tongo Fields	6	7	1.17	2	0.33	1	0.17
Aggregate	50	57	1.17	58	1.14	49	0.98

The number of meetings in all 50 wards dropped by 8 meetings or 16% compared to the last quarter. The average number of meetings per ward (0.98) is the lowest so far for the year. Kailahun SDG wards, which have recorded high Ward Committee meetings since the beginning of the year, only had 18 meetings this period, which is a consequence of the intense electioneering campaigns in the whole Kailahun District. Now that the elections are over it is anticipated that there will be an improvement in the number of ward committee meetings. As the local government elections also billed for May 2008 draw near, Ward Committee members and their Councilors are expected to be more committed and responsible.

A substantial number of ward committee members and their councilors have taken part in development plan and budget reviews in the program area. The outcome of this fairly improved participation would hopefully result in more positive response from the Councils on matching funds requests from the Ward Committees.

Although the Ward Committee from Tongo Fields won the quiz competition organized for all ward committees in the program area, they have not recorded much success in the area of matching funds from both the Chiefdom and District Councils. This poor result could be reflected in the dismal number of a single ward committee meeting for the 3 months period.

Challenges:

- Continuous absence of Councilors from their wards
- Continuous absence of Paramount Chiefs in ward committee meetings
- No bye-elections for deceased Councilors and those that have vacated their wards.

1.4 Paramount Chiefs

The relationship between the Paramount Chiefs and the Councilors, and indeed between the Paramount Chiefs and the new APC Government, remains potentially problematic. There will inevitably be some alteration in respective positions following the change in government, but how this affects SDG's activities and relationships in the districts remains to be seen. In Kailahun, a handful of Paramount Chiefs have turned up for a few Ward Committee meetings and the popular community forums. In Kono we have had remarkable cooperation in the use of the DACDF (Diamond Areas Community Development Fund) for development through the

matching funds process. Some of the Paramount Chiefs have provided communities with funds, but not on the basis of being Ward Committee Members. The sum given was to demonstrate that the Paramount Chiefs are still very much supportive of development and that the Chiefdom Councils are still functional. The chiefs however, informed the Council of their support to the wards. Just before the election in August, DACDF funds were allocated to some Paramount Chiefs in Kono, Tongo Fields and Kailahun through the District and City Councils. The communities are optimistic that with the formation of the new government more Paramount Chiefs will be more open in supporting developments in their chiefdoms.

The Effective Leadership Symposium for Paramount Chiefs originally scheduled for this past quarter was postponed on the advice of DecSec due to the elections. The symposium has now been rescheduled for November 2007. Ed Comstock, the MSI Master Trainer, paid a visit to Freetown and finalized the agenda for the symposium with amendments and comments from both DecSec and SDG incorporated in the final design of the symposium. It is anticipated that the symposium will be concluded with action plans mapped out for implementation and the subsequent evolution of a positive change in the relationship between the council and the chiefs and the whole decentralization system and structures.

1.5 Election Collaboration

At the Miatta Conference Hall in Freetown, the SDG team supported a national level dialogue on non-violent elections. Statements were made by all the political parties in support of free fair and non-violent elections.

In Kono, collaboration with NMJD, TDS and NEW was effective around election observation in the district. The SDG program and the TDS field officers held radio discussions on non-violence in elections under the CCYA (Center for the Coordination of Youth Activities) Youth Engagement and Participation in the August 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections project which was funded by Open Society Initiative for West Africa-OSIWA and the British High Commission.

National Elections Watch (NEW) worked together with the SDG team in Kailahun to identify elections observers and observe both the parliamentary and presidential run-off elections. The SDG community mobilizers and DPC were asked to act as supervisors for the observers that were recruited by NEW.

In Koinadugu, CCYA collaborated with the program in conducting a district level conference on non-violent elections. Here statements were made by the Police and the political parties. In Tongo Fields apart from NEW, CCYA, and NEC, the SDG team collaborated with CGG and MRD (Movement for the Restoration of Democracy). On the whole election process, the program collaborated with many other civil society organizations and community-based organizations at the community level where the Community Mobilizers worked in concert with the district National Electoral Commission on election monitoring and observation.

2 CITIZENS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & CSOs BETTER INFORMED (IR2)

1. Regional Information and Community Centers (RICCs)
2. Drama performances

3. Civil Society Organizations
4. Information on elections

2.1 Regional Information and Community Centers (RICCS)

Resource Materials for RICCs

Each RICC has a stock of standard materials—the Local Government Act, the National Youth Policy and other government legislation; general health and development literature; local information such as Council minutes and financial statements. There are a number of materials on the election process including voter education audio-visual posters. Courtesy of World Vision’s “Gifts in Kind” program, all the RICCs were supplied with more books and sporting equipment like footballs, volley balls and hand balls.

The SDG program continues to make direct appeals to CSOs, INGOs and government institutions for relevant materials for the RICCs. The RICCs are now regarded not only as a place to obtain accurate and current information but also as learning centers. In Kailahun, adult literacy classes have been ongoing for over nine months with information sessions held for the learners at the end of the formal classes of literacy and numeracy. Adult literacy classes will commence in the other RICCs during the next quarter.

Utilization of RICCs

The RICCS have increasingly become the centers of attention for various activities in the districts. Apart from providing information, they are a venue for discussions, the repository of information about District Council affairs, and most recently electoral education material and voter education centers. In addition, the program currently has staff in all the RICCs who attend to the needs of the users. These assistants are always present, even in the absence of the DPCs, to provide necessary services as requested by the public.

Community Events Held at the RICCs

In addition to events run by the program, the RICCs provide space for other purposes. Below are tables listing events held in the RICCs during the quarter. Although the events vary, the program maintained its neutrality during the election campaigns despite various pressures.

Events held at RICC – Tongo Fields

No.	Date	Event	Run by Whom	Purpose	Attendance
1	1/7/07	Meeting	Tribal Heads	Formation of tribal members	217
2	2/7/07	Workshop	IDMP	Corporate Social Responsibilities for Mining Companies	50
3	5/7/07	Meeting	Nyagua Theatre Group	Script Writing	10
4	10/7/07	Meeting	CePSRHE	Celebration of World Population Day	200
5	25/7/07	Forum	TDS	To bring out Political Manifesto (Aspirant)	200
6	13/8/07	Election Activities	NEC	Storage of Election Materials	31
7	9/8/07	Training	NEW	Training of Election Observers for the 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections	62
8	29/8/07	Meeting	IDMP	To hold meeting with Youths in Tree Planting	50

9	29/8/07	Meeting	Paramount Chief	HIV/AIDS sensitization	100
10	31/8/07	Workshop	United Mine Workers Union (UMU)	Sensitization on mining issues	90
11	14/9/07	Meeting	Erasmus University, Netherlands	Sociology research	7
12	27/9/07	Forum	CePSRHE	To discuss political tolerance	69

Events held at RICC – Koinadugu

	Date	Event	Run by whom?	Purpose	Attendance
1	01/08/07	Meeting	CCF GBV program	To map out strategies to address child protection issues in relation to Gender Based Violence	35
2	21/09/07	Meeting	Oxfam-Kabala	To create awareness on the Gender Bill/Act that has been ratified by Parliament	40
3	25-26/09/07	Seminar	ARC-LINKS Program	Adult Literacy and Numeracy training for their beneficiaries	20

Events held at RICC – Kailahun

	Date	Type of Event	Organised by	Attendance		
				M	F	Tot
1	3-5/07/07	Training of farmers on vegetable cultivation	GTZ-FSR	38	13	51
2	16-22/07/07	Community Drama Training	SFCG/TDS	17	8	25
3	23/07/07	Inter-District Quiz Competitions among Junior Secondary Schools & Ward Committees from SDG operational areas of Koinadugu, Kono, Kailahun and Tongo Fields	MSI/SDG	67	33	100
4	24-25/07/07	Gender and Governance Forum	IRC/SDG	50	33	83
5	30/07/07	Training of Constituency Center Monitors on polling and counting procedures for the August 11, 07 parliamentary and presidential elections	National Electoral Commission (NEC)	16	2	18
6	02/08/07	Training of NGOs & CBOs on voter education	NEC	10	8	18
7	03/08/07	Training of District Team	National Elections Watch (NEW)	17	8	25
8	17/08/07	GBV Workshop Children's Clubs	Save the Children – UK	11	19	30
9	21/08/07	Workshop on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) for drama casts in Kailahun	Talking Drum Studio	17	8	25
10	29/08/07	Matching Fund Assessment Meeting	IRC/SDG	49	13	62
11	30/08/07	Training of Constituency Centre Monitors for the September 8, 2007 Presidential elections run-off	NEC	16	2	18
12	26-28/ 09/07	Income Generating Activities	Africare	30	15	45
Total Attendance				338	162	500

Events held at RICC – Kono

Date	Activity/Event	Organizers	Attendance
11/7/07	Quarterly meeting of National Elections Watch Executive	National Secretariat of NEW	15
20/7/07	General/Monthly Council meeting	Koidu New Sembehun City Council	20
30/7/07	Training of Trainers for domestic Election Observers	National Elections Watch District Team	12
02/8/07	Training of Trainers for Election Observers	National Elections Watch District Team	20
05/8/07	General/Monthly Council meeting	Koidu New Sembehun City Council	15
15/8/07	Review of Annual Development Plan	Koidu New Sembehun City Council	12
21/8/07	Project Writing Workshop	Koidu New Sembehun City Council	25
26/8/07	HIV/AIDS Advocacy Training Workshop	Young Women in Need of Development	32
26/9/07	Meeting between the DPC and education committee members of the two Local Councils including the District Director of Education	MSI and KNSCC (Koidu New Sembehun City Council)	8
28/9/07	2008 to 2010 Development and Budget Review meeting	KNSCC	10
30/9/07	Interactive Planning meeting on literacy sessions in RICC	DPC	5

RICC Sustainability

A one-day workshop was held on ensuring RICC sustainability (see Annex D). The workshop concluded that RICC Management Committees be set up in the four program areas. The Council and a staff member of the Sierra Leone Library Board will be represented in this Committee.

The DPCs have already started to look for opportunities to infuse sustainability elements within the current structure of the management of the RICCs. In Kailahun, the team is looking at the proximity of the Sierra Leone Library Board public library built by Plan International and well stocked with some books and seating accommodation. Exchange of resources, programs, and support for each other's needs could be put into place with more collaboration.

MARWOPNET (Mano River Women Peace Network), a CSO in Kailahun, may benefit from an Internet Café to be set up by CFI Ghana. If this café is located near the Kailahun RICC, it could be another opportunity for collaboration and possible contribution towards sustaining the RICC. As in Kailahun, the relationship with the public library in Kono is significant, even more so because the RICC is located within the building designated for use by the Sierra Leone Library Board. SDG Management had audience with the Mayor of Koidu City Council and reiterated the outcome of the RICC Sustainability Workshop. She welcomed the setting up of a RICC Management Committee and demanded that contact be made with the Library Board for recruitment of a Librarian. The Sierra Leone Library Board would recruit the librarian for Kono immediately the appropriate grant is received from central government.

2.2 Drama performances

The drama performances in the wards still remain the most popular, entertaining and exciting medium through which to educate the communities on council affairs and to put the council and councilors on the spot regarding their functions and roles. Communities have requested more drama plays. The underlying reason being the fact that the dramas have provided the right medium and platform for community evaluation of the functioning of the decentralization structures. Even the councils have expressed interest in the utilization of the drama groups in their revenue collection drives and forthcoming local tax payment campaigns.

Drama performances and follow-up discussions have been successfully held in 44 of the 50 wards being covered by the program. The remaining 6 drama performances would be done in the wards in Tongo Fields by The Tegloma Cultural Theater group. Questions following the performances clarity are answered by the accompanying Community Mobilizers.

The drama skits in the wards centered on the role of citizens, community leaders, councilors and council. One play depicts a good councilor who consults his ward committee, is transparent and accountable, brings feedback from the council and mobilizes resources for the community. Due to this demonstrated commitment the citizens are motivated and participate fully in development ventures. The bad councilor is the opposite: lacks commitment, is neither transparent nor accountable and does not share information with his ward members and communities. Here the youth and women are marginalized especially in decision-making. With the elections now over, another popular skit was that of the disunity amongst stakeholders, community leaders and the youth. This performance is a replica of what is happening in most of the wards and it displays sound reconciliation and peace-building strategies. A summary analysis of the drama performances including attendances disaggregated by gender will be available in the next quarterly report.

2.3 Civil Society Organizations

SDG continues to employ and thereby build the capacity of four CSOs and four Drama Groups. In addition to providing continuous program-related guidance and coaching, SDG staff also help these organizations to market their skills and products to other donors.

In an effort to build on potential synergies between program funded by USAID, SDG staff have had discussions with Mr. Ahmed Aboubacrine and Sia Mbayo both of CARE and CORAD – (Consortium for Rehabilitation and Development) and involved in the implementation of USAID-funded LEAD (Livelihood Expansion and Asset Development) program. CARE is the lead organization for the implementation of the governance aspect of the program and they are planning a governance workshop in the coming quarter. Aboubacrine and Mbayo expressed interest in interviewing SDG CMs and likely inviting several to be co-facilitators in their workshop. The objectives of their workshop are: to understand what governance means and what the principles of good governance are; to highlight illustrative governance activities and good governance practices (MSI experience); to tackle local governance issues.

Finally, the Scope of Work for the CSO study described in the previous Quarterly Report was finalized this quarter and the study will be completed in the next quarter. It is envisaged that the recommendations of the study will map out a way forward for engagement with CSOs in the future.

2.4 Electoral Information

SDG collaborated with other elections support initiatives (funded by USAID as well as other

donors). The National Elections Watch (NEW) organized meetings and workshops on voter education before the elections. In the field there were almost daily contacts between the CSOs and the SDG team, including the Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD), Oxfam, Campaign for Good Governance (CGG), the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the National Electoral Commission (NEC), and the Radio Stations. The DPCs also attended a number of meetings and seminars organized by the Center for the Coordination of Youth Activities (CCYA). CCYA was implementing a USAID program on youth participation in the National Elections process.

In Kono, the SDG Community Mobilizers and the DPC participated fully in both pre-voting and voting day observation under the auspices of National Elections Watch (NEW). Prior to polling day, the team participated first as trainers of selected domestic elections observers drawn from various communities in all eight constituencies in Kono District. During polling day, all five CMs participated as National Elections Watch Supervisors whose responsibility was to monitor the activities of elections observers during polling day and report any incident or occurrence that might have destabilizing effect on voting to the Incident Reporting Coordinator stationed in the district headquarter town. The CMs in the other program areas performed similar roles as those in Kono District.

Members of the SDG team were able to monitor polling stations located in remote communities which are difficult to access by other coalition members who were not mobile. In this vein, the participation of SDG members in polling day observation was critical to the entire process that ended successfully.

3. MANAGEMENT, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING & EVALUATION

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO USAID DURING THE QUARTER

In accordance with contractual requirements, the following documents were submitted

- The program's 9th Quarterly Report (for the period April- June 2007)
- The scope of work for the CSO study
- Scope of work for National Consultant for CSO study
- Reconfirmed targets for the program's three standard indicators under good governance

INTERACTION WITH USAID OFFICE AND US EMBASSY

Ed Comstock, MSI Master Trainer in Washington, met with Christine Sheckler, USAID Country Program Manager, Abdulai Jalloh, SDG CTO, and Jenneh Jalloh, Program Officer, when the new USAID Mission Director visited Sierra Leone.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CHANGES

As planned from the program's inception, Ritchie Jones, formerly Deputy Chief of Party, became Chief of Party of the program in mid-September. Francis Johnston, formerly the program's Chief of Party, has been approved by USAID in his new capacity as Technical Advisor.

ONGOING PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND COLLABORATION

Collaboration with Talking Drum Studio

Field collaboration between Talking Drum Studio Field Producers and the DPCs continued during this quarter in Kabala, Tongo Fields and Kono, and Kailahun. TDS producers are part of the SDG team that determined the community forum topics that are debated in the communities under the management of the 4 contracted CSOs. On radio programs, the TDS officers continued to moderate a number of radio programs. In Kono, the DPC and the DCOP and the CMs were involved in a number of radio programs on the elections. In Kabala, in the Koinadugu District, apart from the radio discussion program on youth and female participation in the electioneering process, Radio Bintumani continued to air their weekly governance program. In Kailahun, the TDS Producer facilitated a number of radio programs on the outcome of the gender workshops. Extracts from the quiz competition program were also aired on the radio and a video recording was done.

Gender Workshop

On July 24-25, a Gender and Governance Forum was held in the Kailahun RICC. This forum was planned and run by IRC, the program's partner organization with special responsibility for gender issues.

A total of 83 participants included female councilors from the SDG operational wards, SDG teams, women's group representatives (Mano River Women Peace Network, 50-50 group, Women in Action, IRC/GBV Women Action Groups (WAG)), management of MSI, Deputy Chairman for Kailahun District Council, security representatives from the police and Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces, Coordinator for National Elections Watch (NEW), IRC Field Coordinator, IRC/GBV Program Coordinator, the Tegroma Cultural Theatre (TCT) group, and NGO/CBO representatives. The participants were drawn from the SDG operational districts of Koinadugu, Kono, Kenema (Tongo Field specifically) and Kailahun.

The gender workshop discussed issues related to the marginalization of women in decision-making and in politics and highlighted ways forward for women's involvement and participation in decision-making and politics. It began with a drama performance by the Kailahun-based Tegroma Cultural Theatre Group. The captivating drama set the tone of the workshop and captured the general critical issues including the challenges that women face in terms of leadership, and traditional concepts built around women in a male-dominated traditional society. The drama moved the participants further by pointing out to them that women have the capacity to get over the challenges of marginalization and traditional barriers if they stand strong and remain committed. This was portrayed by a female character in the drama who won the support of the youth and women to become a councilor.

The topics covered during the two-day forum included:

- Gender inequalities and impediments to women's participation in decision-making
- Advantages and disadvantages for women in politics

- Practical experience sharing: Women in politics working hand in hand with men
- Impact of the Gender Bill on the lives of the women in Sierra Leone
- Prevention/Minimizing the marginalization of women

The facilitators for the forum were as follows:

Name	Title	Topic Facilitated
Amie Kandeh	IRC/GBV Coordinator	Gender Inequalities an Impediment to Women's Participation in Decision-Making
Fatmata Sannoh	Councilor, Luawa Ward II, Kailahun	Advantages and Disadvantages for Women in Politics
Nancy Boi Tangola	Project Officer, Promoting A Culture of Equal Representation (PACER) - OXFAM	Practical Experience-Sharing: Women in Politics Working Hand in Hand with Men
Yasmin Jusu-Sheriff	Human Rights Commissioner Lawyer	The Impact of the Gender Bill on the Lives of Sierra Leonean Women
Fallah Albert Bockarie	Coordinator for National Elections Watch (NEW), Kailahun District	Prevention/Minimizing the Marginalization of Women

As a follow-up activity, the DPC for Kailahun accompanied the Tegloma Cultural Theater Group to all the other program area headquarters towns where the gender drama was repeated for the communities, council and ward committee members.

First Quarterly Meeting and Survey – CSOs managing forums

A meeting was held with the CSOs managing the community forums (see Annex E). The challenges discussed at the meeting included:

- Vague and impracticable action points
- Failure of some CSOs to attend monthly meetings to get the forum topics
- Sending the filled forum forms in time for SDG quarterly reports
- Remaining politically neutral in the light of political campaigns

The four CSOs contributed to the final outcome of the quarterly survey questionnaire (please see Annex F). The questionnaires have already been administered and the analysis will be in the next report.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of program activities continued with the team and contracted CSOs collecting and collating data on all public forums and drama performances held. In the communities, the number of ward committee meetings was recorded. The WVI monitoring team started a validation of data exercise in the wards in Tongo Fields. The program made comments on the preliminary results which would be taken into consideration in the other validation exercises. On the USAID new Operational Plan, the program reconfirmed the target numbers given for the three Standard Indicators for Good Governance.

These indicators are:

1. Number of Local Mechanisms Supported with USG Assistance for Citizens to Engage their Sub-national Government
2. Number of Individuals Who Received USG Assisted Training, including Management Skills and Fiscal Management, to strengthen Local Government and/or Decentralization

3. Number of mechanisms for external oversight of public resource use supported by USG Assistance

The new indicators will be complemented by an ongoing record of ward committee meetings and a revised survey of forum participants, as shown in Annex F.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A financial statement showing costs billed and incurred through the end of the reporting period is included as Annex G.

4. MAJOR ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING QUARTER

- Commencement of adult literacy and numeracy classes in the RICCs
- Program Management Team meeting
- Conflict management and resolution workshop
- Set up Committee on the Local Government Elections
- Leadership Symposium for Paramount Chiefs
- TDS/SDG collaborative workshop
- Production video and radio recordings of the drama performances
- Collaboration with NDI and TDS on local government elections
- Second quarterly meeting of CSOs managing community participatory forums
- Analysis of survey in communities where forums were held
- Civil Society Study results and final report
- Third annual SDG Field Strategy meeting

ANNEXES

ANNEX A	MATCHING FUNDS PROCESS TRACKING SHEET
ANNEX B	MEETINGS OF WARD COMMITTEES
ANNEX C	TOPICS AND ATTENDANCE AT COMMUNITY FORUMS
ANNEX D	MINUTES OF MEETING ON RICC SUSTAINABILITY
ANNEX E	MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING OF DPCS WITH CSOS MANAGING COMMUNITY FORUMS
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ANNEX G	FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ANNEX A

Match Funds Process Tracking Sheet

Date September 2007

ID	Community	District	Burning issue selected	Project objective	Action Plan completed	Budget completed	Community Meeting held	Ward Committee meeting held	Plan & budget submitted to Council	Council commitment received	SDG Approval given	SDG contribution (Le)	%age Funds disbursed	Project completed
1	Koindu	Kailahun	x	Youth Centre	x	x	x	x	x					
2	Kangama		x	25 VIP Latrines	x	x	x	x	x					
3	Dia		x	Construction of a guest house	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000.00	100%	
4	Buedu		x	30 VIP Latrines	x	x	x	x	x					
5	Kailahun		x	Naming of streets& no. of houses in town	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9,950,000.00	100%	
6	Nyandehun		x	Construction of youth centre	x	x	x	x	x					
7	Mofindor		x	Construction of 5-room guest house	x	x	x	x						
8	Kpandebu		x	Construction of 35-two seater toilets	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000.00	100%	
9	Pendembu													
10	Sياما		x	Store for the health post	x	x	x	x	x					
11	Levuma		x	Rice Mill	x	x	x	x	x					
12	Mobai		x	20 VIP toilets	x									
13	Kuiva		x	Community Barry	x	x	x							
14	Jojoima		x	Guest House	x	x	x							
15	Baiwala		x	Culvert in township	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000.00	100%	
16	Daru		x	3 class room school building	x	x	x	x	x					
17	Kortuma		x	Court Barry	x	x	x	x	x					
18	Segbwema		x	Water Wells (3)	x	x	x	x	x					
19	Bunumbu		x	Ward Committee Office										
20	Jokibu		x	Drying Floor	x	x	x	x	x					
21	Peje-Baoma		x	Community Barry	x	x	x	x						
22	Bandajuma		x	10 toilets construction	x	x	x							
23	Manowah		x	Construction of Teachers quarter										

ID	Community	District	Burning issue selected	Project objective	Action Plan completed	Budget completed	Community Meeting held	Ward Committee meeting held	Plan & budget submitted to Council	Council commitment received	SDG Approval given	SDG contribution (Le)	%age Funds disbursed	Project completed	
24	Mamboma	Koinadugu	x	10-hole toilets	x	x	x	x	x						
25	Woroma		x	Rice Mill	x	x	x	x	x						
26	Dankawalie														
27	Kasunya														
28	Gbenekoro														
29	Yogomaia			X	Culvert	x	x	x							
30	Kondeya														
31	Kamadugu Sokuralla														
32	Bambukoro (I)			x	Two Drying Floors	x	x	x							
33	Koinadugu			x	Store	x	x	x							
34	Yiraia			x	Community School	x	x	x							
35	Yomadugu			x	Store	x	x	x							
36	Heremakono			x	Multi-purpose centre	x	x	x	x	x					
37	Yataya			x	Seed Rice	x	x	x	x	x					
38	Gbawuria														
39	Katombo II			x	Rehabilitation of water well	x	x	x							
40	Madina Gbonkobon			x	Community school	x	x	x							
41	Kassassie			x	Community school	x	x	x							
42	Thankorosidia			x	Rehabilitation of school	x	x	x							
43	Kamasapie														
44	Manan														
45	Yaedia														
46	Sinkunia														
47	Gbindi														
48	Gberefeh														
49	Sinikoro														
50	Serekolia		x	Store	x	x	x								
51	Tumania		x	Multi-purpose centre	x	x	x								
52	Koakwima	Koidu	x	Construction of football field	x	x	x	x							

ID	Community	District	Burning issue selected	Project objective	Action Plan completed	Budget completed	Community Meeting held	Ward Committee meeting held	Plan & budget submitted to Council	Council commitment received	SDG Approval given	SDG contribution (Le)	%age Funds disbursed	Project completed
53	Bongalow	City	x	Market	x	x	x	x						
54	Koeyor		x	Market	x	x	x	x						
55	Sinnah Town		x	Court Barry	x	x	x	x						
56	Small Sefadu		x	Community Town Hall	x	x	x	x	x	x				
57	Yardu	Kono District	x	Health Centre	x	x	x	x						
58	Tombodu		x	Rehabilitation of jnr Sec. School	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000	100%	
59	Peyima		x	Court Barry	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000	100%	
60	Baiana		x	Community Market	x	x	x	x						
61	Tongoro		x	Road	x	x	x	x						
62	Njagbwema		x	Health Post living Quarters	x	x	x	x						
63	Waima		x	Health Centre	x	x	x	x						
64	Jaiama Sewafe 1		x	Construction of jnr Sec. School	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12,800,000	100%	
65	Jaiama Sewafe 2		x	Construction of jnr Sec. School	x	x	x	x	x	x				
66	Jaiama Sewafe 3		x	Construction of jnr Sec. School	x	x	x	x	x	x				
67	Massabendu		x	Community Centre	x	x	x	x						
68	Tefeya		x	Community Guest House	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10,000,000	100%	
69	Yomandu		x	Rehabilitation of Ansarul School	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12,200,000	100%	
70	Jaiama Town		x	Construction of Nursery School	x	x	x	x						
71	Bumpeh		x	Court Barry	x	x	x	x						
72	Ngaiya		x	Community Centre	x	x	x	x						
73	Simbakoro	x	Market	x	x	x	x							
74	Panguma	Kenema	X	Market	x	x	x	x	x					
75	Kamboma		X	Agriculture	x	x	x	x	x					
76	Lalehun		X	School	x	x	x	x	x					
77	Tokpombu 1&2		X	Community Barry	x	x	x	x	x					
78	Foindu		X	Agriculture	x	x	x	x	x					
79	Wuima		X	School	x	x	x	x	x					
80	Lowuma		X	Agriculture	x	x	x	x	x					
81	Konjo		X	Agriculture	x	x	x	x	x					

ANNEX B

Number of Ward Committee Meetings by Ward

KAILAHUN DISTRICT		NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS											
COMMUNITY	WARD	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Koindu	Kissi Teng 2	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
Kangama	Kissi Teng 1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Dia	Kissi Kama 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Buedu	Kissi Tongi 2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Kailahun	Luawa 1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nyandehun	Luawa 5	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
Mofindor	Luawa 4	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Kpandebu	Luawa 8	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Pendebu	Upper Bambara 2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Siam	Upper Bambara 1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Levuma	Mandu 2	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Mobai	Mandu 1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Kuiva	Mandu 1												
Jojoima	Malema 1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Baiwala	Dea 1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Daru	Jawei 1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Kortuma	Jawei 1												
Segbwema	Jaluhun 1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Bunumbu	Peje West 1												0
Jokibu	Peje West 1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	
Peja-Baoma	Peja West 1												
Bandajuma	Yawei 1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Manowa	Peje Bongre 2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Mamboma	Peje Bongre 1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Woroma	Pengua 1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

KOINADUGU DISTRICT		NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS											
COMMUNITY	WARD	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Dankawalie	Sengbeh 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kasunya	Sengbeh 2												
Kamadugu Sokuralla	Sengbeh 2												
Yiraia	Sengbeh 2												
Gbenekoro	Sengbeh 1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Yogomaia	Sengbeh 1												
Kondeya	Sengbeh 1												
Bambukoro	Sengbeh 1												
Koinadugu	Sengbeh 1												
Yomadugu	Sengbeh 1												
Heremakono	Wara Wara Yangala 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Yataya	Wara Wara Yangala 1												
Gbawuria	Wara Wara Yangala 1												
Katombo 2	Wara Wara Yangala 1												
Madina Gbonkobon	Kasunko 3	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kassassie	Kasunko 2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Thankorosidia	Kasunko 2												
Kamasapie	Kasunko 2												
Manan	Dembelia Sinkunia 1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yaedia	Dembelia Sinkunia 1												
Sinkunia	Dembelia Sinkunia 1												
Gbidi	Dembelia Sinkunia 1												
Gberefefeh	Mongo Bendugu 3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sinikoro	Mongo Bendugu 3												
Serekolia	Mongo Bendugu 3												
Tumania	Mongo Bendugu 3												

KENEMA DISTRICT / TONGO FIELDS		NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS											
COMMUNITY	WARD	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Panguma	Lower Bambara 6	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kamboma	Lower Bambara 6												
Lalehun	Lower Bambara 1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tokpombu	Lower Bambara 1												
Foindu	Lower Bambara 3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Wuima	Lower Bambara 5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lowuma	Lower Bambara 2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Konjo	Lower Bambara 4	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

KONO DISTRICT		NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS											
COMMUNITY	WARD	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Yardu	Gbense 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Tombodu	Kamara 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Peyima	Kamara 2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Baiama	Tankoro 1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tongoro	Tankoro 1												
Njagbwema	Fiama 1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Waima	Fiama 1												
Jaima Sewafe	Nimiyama 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Masabendu	Nimiyama 1												
Jaima Sewafe	Nimiyama 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Jaima Sewafe	Nimiyama 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tefeya	Sandor 1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
Yamandu	Sandor 2	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
Jaiama Town	Nimikoro 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Bumpeh	Nimikoro 5												
Ngaiya (Yengema)	Nimikoro 3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Simbakoro	Nimikoro 2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1

KONO DISTRICT / KNSTC		NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS											
COMMUNITY	WARD	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Koakwima	KNSTC 3 (South)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Bongalow													
Koeyor	KNSTC 1 (East)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Sinnah Town													
Small Sefadu	KNSTC 2 (West)	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1

ANNEX C

Outline summary of community attendance and the forum topics discussed

CePSRHE Forums – Tongo Fields

Date	Community	Male Adult	Male Youth	Female Adult	Female Youth	Male Total	Female Total	Grand Total	Topic
08/05/07	Lowoma	50	15	25	05	65	30	95	Responsive leadership and citizens participation
25/5/07	Tokpombu	09	41	06	10	50	16	66	Youth Marginalization in Tokpombu
05/06/07	Kamboma	40	37	09	09	77	18	95	Effective communication for unity and development
23/06/07	Foindu	25	21	04	07	46	11	57	Effective communication and youth inclusion in community development
Total						238	75	313	
26/07/07	Pangoma	38	27	9	7	65	16	81	Love lost in Pangoma
27/07/07	Lalehun	29	28	8	8	57	16	73	Effective Communication for Unity and Development
30/07/07	Kojo	27	22	11	8	49	19	68	Responsive Leadership and Youth Participation
31/07/07	Wuima	25	19	14	10	44	24	68	Effective communication and youth participation in development
27/09/07	Lalehun	10	21	9	11	31	20	51	Political tolerance for peace and development
27/09/07	Tokpombu I & II	12	37	9	11	49	20	69	Political tolerance for peace and development
29/09/07	Panguma	11	18	6	2	29	08	37	Political tolerance for peace and development
29/09/07	Lowoma	26	7	2	9	33	11	44	Effective communication and youth participation in development.
Total						357	134	491	

OMaT Forums – Koinadugu

Date	Community	Male Adult	Male Youth	Female Adult	Female Youth	Male Total	Female Total	Grand Total	Topic
21/05/07	Kassasie	59	67	72	67	126	139	265	A health center without medical personnel
22/5/07	Thankoro-sidia	42	29	29	46	71	75	146	No impact of council support in the community
23/05/07	Kamasapie	27	27	24	42	54	66	120	The role of Council in development
Total						251	280	531	
12/06/07	Serekolia	26	40	16	18	66	34	100	Roles and responsibility of Council in developing the community
13/06/07	Sinikoro	44	29	30	42	73	72	145	Roles and responsibility of Council in developing the community
14/06/07	Gberefeh	33	67	21	6	100	27	127	Roles and responsibility of Council in developing the community
9/07/07	Dankawalie	37	21	20	35	58	55	113	No proper medical attention
10/07/07	Kasuya	17	36	25	32	53	57	110	No health post
11/07/07	Tumania	30	42	11	45	72	56	128	No health post
6/08/07	Yiraia	38	38	39	30	76	69	145	Teenage pregnancy
7/08/07	Koinadugu	60	27	26	63	87	89	176	Teenage pregnancy
8/08/07	Kamadugu Sokutalla	48	30	25	35	78	60	138	Teenage pregnancy
Total						663	519	1182	

PACE Forums – Kailahun

Date	Community	Male Adult	Male Youth	Female Adult	Female Youth	Male Total	Female Total	Grand Total	Topic
18/05/07	Kangama	29	25	09	15	54	24	78	The roles and responsibilities of citizens and councilors in community development
24/5/07	Buedu	31	29	11	19	60	30	90	Performance of Ward Committee as a factor for community development
25/06/07	Kpandebu	19	23	14	18	42	32	74	The roles and responsibilities of citizens and councilors in community development
TOTAL						156	86	242	
26/06/07	Mofindor	18	21	20	23	39	43	82	Performance of Ward Committee as a factor for community development
28/06/07	Pendembu	11	27	7	20	38	27	65	Roles and responsibilities of citizens. What they are?
30/06/07	Njadehun	36	23	23	22	59	45	104	The roles and responsibilities of citizens in community development
26/07/07	Siama	13	31	9	19	44	28	72	The roles and responsibilities of citizens and councilors in community development
27/07/07	Levuma	32	44	16	21	76	37	113	The roles and responsibilities of citizens and councilors in community development
27/08/07	Mobai	31	35	23	34	66	57	123	Factors that influence decision making in the community
31/08/07	Kuiva	48	59	43	46	107	89	196	Factors that influence decision making in the community
27/09/07	Jojoima	47	70	38	42	117	80	197	Accountability and Transparency leads to community development
Total						487	406	952	

NMJD Forums – Kono

Date	Community	Male Adult	Male Youth	Female Adult	Female Youth	Male Total	Female Total	Grand Total	Topic
15/05/07	Tombodu	43	27	23	1	70	24	94	The importance of inclusion & cooperation between leaders.
24/5/07	Sewafe	40	7	37	21	47	58	105	The importance of effective and regular Ward Committee meetings
13/06/07	Tefeya	64	8	22	8	72	30	102	The importance of effective and regular Ward Committee meetings.
23/06/07	Jaiama Nimikoro	55	16	25	15	71	40	111	Women's empowerment and participation in governance and development
Total						260	152	412	
27/08/07	Yardu Gbense	58	10	31	11	68	42	110	The importance of conducting regular and effective Ward Committee meetings
27/08/07	Koeyor	49	19	29	19	68	48	116	The importance of conducting regular and effective Ward Committee meetings
04/10/07	Small Sefadu	66	24	28	12	90	40	130	The importance of cordial relationship between leaders for development of the community
04/10/07	Simbakoro	42	16	19	11	58	30	88	The importance of political tolerance for peace and development
06/10/07	Koakoyima	90	48	11	7	138	18	156	The importance of political tolerance for peace and development
09/10/07	Sinnah Town	14	7	16	8	21	24	45	The importance of conducting regular and effective Ward Committee meetings
Total						443	202	645	

ANNEX D

USAID STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE PROGRAM MEETING ON RICC SUSTAINABILITY

Hill Valley Hotel, Freetown
Monday 30 July 2007

Attendance:

Ahmid Thoronka (MSI), DPC Kono
Sheku Farm (WV), DPC Tongo Fields
Edward Fayia (IRC), DPC Kailahun
George Dambo (CCF), DPC Koinadugu
Lovetta Kordorwa (IRC), Literacy Trainer
Brima Sesay (Section Chief, Kailahun), Board Chairman, Radio Moa, Kailahun
Mohamed Bangura (Office of Security, President's Office), Board Chairman, Radio Bintumani, Kabala
Salia Turay (Library Board of Sierra Leone), Deputy Chief Librarian
Sia (Torto) Beckley (Search for Common Ground), Democracy and Governance Coordinator
Ritchie Jones (MSI) DCOP
Francis Johnston (MSI) COP

I Introductions

Ritchie Jones introduced participants, the District Participation Coordinators responsible for the four Regional Information and Community Centres (RICCs), the Literacy Trainer based at the Kailahun RICC, Sia Beckley from Talking Drum Studio, bringing her experience of the handover to “the community” of local radio stations established by Search for Common Ground, and (suggested by her) the Chairpersons of the boards of two of those radio stations. Later, the meeting was joined by the Deputy Chief Librarian of the Library Board of Sierra Leone.

2 Purpose of the meeting

Francis Johnston set the meeting in the context of the establishment of the four functioning centres and the anticipated ending of the Strengthening Democratic Governance program early next year.

He described the RICCs as being envisaged as multi-purpose centers, providing a venue for discreet events, giving access to a wide variety of constantly-updated resource material and offering a series of regular services and activities. The first one seems to be successful everywhere, the resources centers vary in the quantity and relevance of material and only in Kailahun (where literacy classes are offered) is there any regular scheduled program of activities.

With the ending of the project, the RICCs (as originally intended) will be handed over to “the community” and (like the radio stations, although less obviously) there is a technical aspect to running the centers that “the community” may not be aware of. (For example, who will stock the resource centre, and who will PAY for the costs – currently borne by the project – of running the centers?)

In addition, the project was designed in isolation from other development efforts and in nearly all cases the RICC is only one of a number of “community centers” in their respective locations. Consideration

needs to be given to integration and avoidance of duplication or dissipation of community effort and resources.

The experience of Talking Drum Studio and the now-independent radio stations may offer some lessons as we prepare to hand the RICCs over.

3 The RICCs as they are

The DPCs described their RICCs, noting successes as well as those aspects that might be improved.

3.1 Edward on Kailahun

- Events work very well and the RICC is always used by many different groups
- Use of the hall is free of charge (costs, of course, being paid by IRC)
- A caretaker has been employed to open, close and maintain the premises and make bookings for the hall, arrange seating for meetings, etc.
- A Literacy program has been set up and operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Resource room (library) is good, with a reasonable supply of materials, supplemented by some received from Irish Aid recently as well as the materials supplied by World Vision
- To publicize the resource centre, the team did some sensitization in schools and with communities
- The RICC is situated very close to the public library
- Notice boards providing a variety of information on council, etc., are displayed, but removed and locked each night to avoid being spoiled by rain
- The RICC seems to be appreciated by the community and “local authorities”

3.2 George on Kabala

- Two handymen have been appointed to take care of the premises
- The resource centre is in a separate building from the hall (the former cell of the old “Native Administration” complex)
- Schoolchildren are the main users of the resource centre, especially before exams, when it acts as a study centre – for which purpose they often run the generator in the evenings to provide light
- The notice board serves as the Council notice board for the ward in which the RICC is situated
- Resources include standard legislation, government gazettes, maps (obtained from DACO) census documents, etc.
- The RICC is a long way from the town library, so they also have some school text books available
- The meeting hall is the most spacious in Kabala (the former “community centre” being used as temporary hospital accommodation) and it is therefore much in demand by outside groups for meetings
- Councillors sometimes use the RICC to hold meetings with the community, because the court barrie is often occupied for hearing cases
- There is an additional “round hut” that can be used as a breakaway room during workshops
- Church, mosque or political party meetings are not permitted
- But during election preparations (such as voter education), meetings were held at which all political parties were welcome to send representatives
- There is no regular activity scheduled
- The RICC is open from 8-5 daily except Sunday

3.3 Ahmid on Koidu

- The Koidu RICC is annexed to the existing Town Library
- The only construction comprised an office for MSI and a resource centre
- The Koidu/New Sembehun City Council is currently pressing to have “its” building “returned to it”
- The library part of the building is used by the City Council for its meetings
- It is also used by others, free of charge, although before SDG it was rented out by Council t users
- It is regularly used by MSI, NMJD, NEW, CCYA and others for activities related to the SDG program
- It has also been used for ward committee training, district-level forums, drama performances, and even for social events
- It was once used by one of the Councilors to resolve a conflict with the Ward Committee
- Other CSOs have used it for events, but political party meetings have been forbidden
- The Council gives notice of meetings for which it requires use of the premises

3.4 Sheku on Tongo Fields

- The Tongo Fields RICC is located near the police station and was an abandoned structure built for the community by GTZ
- World Vision fenced it off, resulting in some confusion about its ownership, some people understanding that it now belonged to World Vision
- Used by CSOs and by local schools for events including quiz competitions and concerts
- The hall is also used for training events, forums and other events – for which a structured booking system is in place
- Schools are the main users of the resources, although little of the available material is of relevance to them
- World Vision have employed a RICC Assistant to keep the place open when the DPC is away
- It has been made very clear to the community (and the Paramount Chief) that it may not be used for political party purposes (including when an attempt was made to hold a “dinner” for the Vice-President – which was, in fact, a party fund-raising event!)
- A Memorandum of Understanding was originally made with the community defining the mutual relationship and the basis of the renovation of the premises
- Following the recent acquisition of new equipment, film shows have been held (for example, on diamonds), and the people (especially schools) are asking for more

4 Literacy classes

Lovetta described the literacy classes provided in Kailahun, as follows:

- She originally did a survey of communities and held discussions with the local chiefs
- She began with 11 people in the group
- Each class includes literacy and numeracy sessions, followed by an information session – usually on a governance topic
- Together with her class, she prepared a sensitization workshop on literacy, using skits and recitations
- The workshop attracted an attendance of over 100 participants
- After this, the group expanded to 20

- In addition, she organized training of trainers for IRC’s Gender-Based Violence staff, covering the importance of literacy, principles of adult education and methods
- Those trained are now implementing literacy classes throughout the district for those with whom they work

5 Experience of Search for Common Ground in handing over radio stations

Sia described the work of Search for Common Ground as conflict mitigation, towards which objective they make use of both outreach and media. The media element is implemented by supporting the establishment of community radio stations, which they help in the start-up phase, providing station managers to run them – and which they then turn over to the community to recruit their own manager (even if the person recruited may have been the one appointed originally by SFCG) under the control of a Board of Directors and governed by a constitution.

This pattern was built into the project design and involved establishing a local Task Force from the beginning to sensitize communities and enlist their support (including financial support) in establishing the station. That Task Force was then charged with approving a constitution and establishing a Board of Directors. After the formation of the Board of Directors, SFCG ran the station for a period of six months during which they helped the Board to adjust to its responsibilities, and at the end of this period the stations were formally handed over.

Chief Brima confirmed that the process described had been followed in Kailahun, and things are going very well with Radio Moa, which even broadcasts as far as Tongo Fields. Each chiefdom agreed to pay Leones 50,000 per month towards station running costs.

Mohamed, however, was able to describe the unfortunate events that took place at Radio Bintumani in Kabala following the handover. There, a group of Kabala youth claimed that the station manager and the rest of the staff were all (wealthy, cattle-trading) Fullah and represented their interests on the radio, as against the majority of poorer arable-farming Limba. (A further implication was that the station supported the government to the detriment of the APC.) Mohamed was called in (as an official of the Office of National Security) to try to sort out the problem. It was impossible to dismiss the station manager, because there is no other person competent to undertake that role. They therefore dismissed the Board of Directors and re-constituted it. The new Board will then re-advertise the Station Manager position and appoint (or re-appoint) under their authority. In doing all this, they identified some flaws in the constitution, and these are now being amended. Previously, the constitution was based on chiefdoms, with representation from each. Inevitably, this put the power in the hands of the chiefs. The revision allows the chiefs to be represented (through their chosen representative, as is the case in council – someone who will represent their interests) but in addition the other elements of society are also represented – CSOs, youth, women’s organizations, etc. When “chiefdoms” formed the whole Board, it was as if the chiefs owned the radio station. Mohamed advised against “handing over the RICCs to the chiefs” and suggested that the key (to the constitution of the radio stations and to our issues with the RICCs) is the question “Who/what is the community?”.

6 Sierra Leone Library Board

Mr Turay described the setting-up of the Library Board in 1959 “to equip and manage all libraries in the country”. It was mandated to provide the various library functions of:

- reference
- lending
- children’s services
- extension

- user education.

Currently, it is engaged in the process of devolving certain of its functions to local councils. As part of that devolution, three distinct funds are utilized, as follows:

1. a quarterly subvention from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (for libraries, books, furnishings and stationery);
2. a salary grant from the Ministry of Finance to cover the costs of all staff;
3. support from the Local Government Finance Department to manage and develop libraries.

The first two are paid direct to the SL Library Board, while the third is paid direct to local councils. Councils therefore have the power to decide what they want to do with these funds, as long as it is in line with the mandate of the Library Board to provide library services.

The Library Board still maintains certain functions, such as recruitment and maintenance of staff and acquisition and management of stock.

So, with regard to the RICCs, it would be possible for the Library Board to provide the following:

- training and payment of staff
- management of stock
- updating and sourcing of materials
- support in bringing library services closer to the community (for example through outreach, discussions, literacy training, etc.)

In response to questions, Mr Turay said that resources acquired centrally (such as a recent World Bank-funded container-load of books) are sorted and catalogued by the Library Board centrally, and then allocated to the various libraries in the country. In theory, a specific request to the Library Board to provide a librarian could be reviewed by the Board and agreed to – for example in the case of Tongo Fields, which is theoretically provided for by the Regional Library in Kenema, but for which an argument could be made for establishing a Branch Library in Tongo Fields.

7 Discussion

A general discussion followed, with various possibilities, some specific to the different locations, shared and reviewed.

Ideas that received positive majority response included involvement of the library board where appropriate, establishment of a management committee of some sort, and avoidance of handing over the premises either to the local council or to the Paramount Chief, without clear guidelines and safeguards in place.

Participants divided into two groups to consider the following four issues:

1. Possibilities and options for the future
2. What could be improved in the current functioning of the RICCs?
3. What actions should we take now?
4. What will be the next steps?

The results are tabulated on the following page.

Francis Johnston
31 August 2007

Topic	Group 1 (Edward, Sia, Sheku and Chief Brima)	Group 2 (George, Ahmid, Lovetta and Mohamed)
Possibilities and options for the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RICC Management Committee, to comprise Paramount Chief, Council, CSOs, Library Board • This Committee could assess the capacity of local CSOs to be contracted to manage the RICC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CBO/CSO that is proactive in democratic governance programs to run RICC • Also, it needs to be in operation for the next 4 or 5 years • For Koinadugu, this could be Daindemben Federation (meaning “Help the Child”), a local CBO affiliated to CCF and assured of funding for 10-12 years. It is a child sponsorship program using the Bright Futures approach. CCF is mainstreaming democratic governance into all its programs. A position of Child Rights and Governance Officer is budgeted for the Federation
What could be improved in the current functioning of the RICCs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer facilities • Video equipment • Generator • Literacy training (where absent) • Encourage drama groups in the community to use RICC • Get more reading materials based on the key activities in the community • Sensitization by selling the idea of the resources available at the RICC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock the resource centre with text books and journals • Provision of satellite TV or other audio-visual materials • Provide electricity and computer facilities, especially for Kailahun • Adequate sensitization on the use of the RICC • Capacity-building/ training, especially on governance-related programs for SDG staff, within or outside the country • Strengthen/enhance inter-district visits for experience-sharing
What actions should we take now?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start to engage the community to identify Management Team • Dialogue with Paramount Chiefs, Local Council, CSOs on their roles and contribution towards sustainability of the use of the RICC • Start developing Terms of Reference and MOU for Management Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redefine the existing MOU • Encourage community participation in the use of RICC materials • Conduct adult literacy and numeracy sessions using the PRA methodology • Identify and start working with the potential organization that would eventually take over the running of the RICC
What will be the next steps?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gradually engage Management Team in running RICC through which SDG team can assess the Management Team • Sustainability training for Management Team • Final handing over to Committee, first week of December 2007 and monitoring/guidance by DPC until end of program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call a community meeting to explain program activities so far and design for the remaining months • Formal handing over to the identified group by end of December • Mentoring the identified group for 2 months – i.e. January-February 2008 • In March 2008, finally phase out

ANNEX E

USAID STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE PROGRAM QUARTERLY MEETING FOR DPCs AND CSOs RUNNING FORUMS

Hill Valley Hotel, Freetown
Tuesday 31 July 2007

Attendance:

Ahmid Thoronka (MSI), DPC Kono
Sheku Farm (WV), DPC Tongo Fields
Edward Fayia (IRC), DPC Kailahun
George Dambo (CCF), DPC Koinadugu
Foday Koroma (OMaT, Koinadugu)
Numukeh Sesay (OMaT, Koinadugu)
Edwin Fatorma (PACE, Kailahun)
Marian Samu (CePSRHE, Tongo Fields)
Patrick Tongu (NMJD, Kono)
Ritchie Jones (MSI) DCOP
Elizabeth Jalloh (WV), M&E Specialist
Lovetta Kordorwa (IRC), Literacy Trainer
Francis Johnston (MSI) COP

I.0 Reports from CSOs

I.1 PACE

Edwin reported on the 8 forums held in Kailahun to date. The major topic was “bad governance”, whether in relation to chiefs or councillors.

He made two interesting observations on attendance.

- (1) There was a poor attendance at Pendembu, because a drama performance had already been held and scared the councillor off! (Councillor refused to attend the forum!)
- (2) At Nyandehun, the community decided to hold the forum in the evening, and there was a very large turnout. (The PACE team used the headlights of their vehicle to provide light for the occasion – resulting in some difficulty in starting the car afterwards!)

Edward commented on the report, noting the very positive interaction between PACE and the SDG team following the first forum, during which observations were made and improvements discussed. He commended the willingness of the PACE team to adopt constructive suggestions, and noted particularly their work with community members to develop skits illustrating the issues to be discussed.

I.2 CePSRHE

Marian described the 7 forums held in Tongo Fields (the 8th was taking place while the meeting was going on). She noted a variety of community-specific topics, including a dispute between the “old town” and the “new town” in Panguma and the marginalization of youth in another case. In most instances, common governance issues were revealed, such as poor

communication, lack of transparency and lack of respect (particularly lack of respect for young people).

Sheku noted some problems of coordination between CePSRHE and the SDG team in arranging dates and times of forums. The meeting was reminded that it is the responsibility of the CSO to make these arrangements at the convenience of the community concerned, once the SDG team have agreed the communities and topics for the coming month. The DPC and CMs should not disrupt this. Sheku also referred to the difficulty of getting Councillors to attend the forums – caused by the continued non-residence of all Tongo Fields councillors in their wards.

1.3 NMJD

Patrick reported that only 5 forums had been successfully held, with a severe storm causing the postponement of another. He reported on the fact that although most forums had a Paramount Chief (or, usually, a representative) present, some councillors refused to attend because of NMJD's work on mining issues. He spoke of the advance publicity methods used, including radio announcements, distribution of handouts and use of a megaphone on the day before and the day of a forum. He mentioned that photographs had been taken of all forums, and a reminder of action points had been prepared and circulated to key stakeholders following the forums. Answering questions about the mining issue (and whether this was compromising the nature of the forums), Patrick explained that NMJD has been nominated to chair a Civil Society Monitoring Group to report to the District Development Coordinating Committee, which in turn is chaired by the Council. So individual councillors' behaviour would appear to be self-serving and not representative either of council or (especially) of those they are supposed to represent!

Ahmid, responding to the report (and an observation that CMs appear not always to be clear about what is happening with the forums), mentioned that there remains a problem to arrange monthly team meetings in which to agree communities and topics for the following month. This is an ongoing issue in Kono and relates to the fact that the CMs answer to World Vision and communication leaves something to be desired. Ritchie agreed to take this up once again with World Vision's local management in Kono.

1.4 OMaT

Numukeh reported that 9 forums had been held in Koinadugu. Topics had generally related to the failure of councillors to perform as expected, poor road condition and two instances of non-functional health facilities.

An interesting comment from one female participant noted that it is much better to be able to discuss such issues within their communities rather than sending two representatives to Kabala, as was the case for the district forums held at the RICC.

George observed that there had been some early difficulty in getting councillors to attend, but now notification of all forums is sent to all councillors, and attendance has improved.

2.0 Comments from DCOP

Ritchie, from his observation of some forums and from reports submitted, made several comments:

2.1 Action Plans

Some of the suggested follow-up actions were either too vague or else impracticable. For example, several in Koinadugu seemed to require the setting up of task forces rather than the accomplishment of specific tasks. Another example was the “decision” to construct a skills training centre – without any indication of who might do this or how it might be accomplished.

2.2 Reports

Ritchie suggested that, where possible, two “quotations” from each forum (if they are interesting) would provide useful material for reports – such as we had heard during today’s informal reporting.

2.3 Pressure on councillors

He noted that the pressure being put on councillors by the program’s three concurrent activities (drama performances, forums and matching funds) was beginning to show results. Tact would be needed to maintain this pressure while exploring ways to help them to respond constructively.

2.4 “Principal speakers”

Ritchie noted that often the “principal speakers” were from the CSO or the SDG team. He encouraged the use of external contributors to provide a stimulus to discussions.

3.0 Reporting format

3.1 Forum Record Form

3.1.1 It was suggested that **THREE MAIN ACTION POINTS** should be sufficient

3.1.2 Broadly accurate attendance figures are adequate (for male and female adults and youth) without going into too much detail

3.1.3 When recording who is responsible for follow-up action, try to help communities to identify specific individuals rather than “the ward committee”. Also try to get them to avoid naming the chief – because nobody can make him carry it out!

3.1.4 The line at the foot of the page requiring this form to be submitted within one week of the forum will be REMOVED. It is NOT necessary for this to be done, as long as all record forms are submitted along with the monthly report form ON TIME by the 10th of the following month.

3.2 Monthly Forum Report Form

3.2.1 NOTE that this form, along with a record form for EACH FORUM HELD DURING THE MONTH, should be submitted by the 10th of the following month in order that details can be included in program reports.

3.2.2 The problem of NUMBERING OF FORUMS was discussed, and it was agreed that we should number the forums consecutively. (E.g. if one month ends with Forum no. 5, the following month should begin with Forum no. 6) (Some CSOs had been (correctly!) referring to their original schedule of proposed dates, and, if one forum had to be postponed, their list of forums appeared out of numerical order on the form.)

4.0 Quarterly Survey

- 4.1 The proposed quarterly survey was discussed, and the outline format adjusted in accordance with participants' views. THE FINAL VERSION IS APPENDED IN THIS REPORT.
- 4.2 It was agreed that:
 - 4.2.1 the survey format should be finalized within one week
 - 4.2.2 the survey format should be circulated the following week
 - 4.2.3 the first survey should be carried out within one month (i.e. by mid-September)
 - 4.2.4 the first survey should cover all forums held during the months of May, June and July.

Francis Johnston
20 August 2007

ANNEX F

QUARTERLY FORUM SURVEY

To be administered by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Instructions

This survey is to be conducted at three-month intervals, and is to cover all forums held in the previous quarter (three months), as follows:

- **Survey 1:** To be done in AUGUST-SEPTEMBER covering forums held in MAY, JUNE AND JULY
- **Survey 2:** To be done in NOVEMBER covering forums held in AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER
- **Survey 3:** To be done in FEBRUARY covering forums held in NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

The following people should be identified and ask to respond for each forum:

- 2 of the named “principal speakers”
- 4 people who attended the forum
- 2 community members who did not attend the forum

Preliminary Information

INTERVIEW DATE: DAY [] MONTH [] YEAR []

INTERVIEWER'S NAME: _____ SUPERVISOR'S NAME: _____

DISTRICT: _____ CHIEFDOM: _____

CSO Name: _____ START TIME: _____ END TIME: _____

WARD: _____ SEX OF INTERVIEWEE: ___ MALE ___ FEMALE
(Check One)

Introduction

Hello, my name is and I am working for [NAME OF CSO]. I would like to ask you some questions regarding the forum meeting on [DATE]. We are trying to learn more about it.

BEGIN SURVEY ON THE NEXT PAGE

No.	Questions	Answers (circle or write answer in the space given)	Instructions (DO NOT READ OUT LOUD)
1.	Did you attend the forum on DATE at LOCATION?	1. Yes 2. No	Circle number that corresponds to answer given.
2.	Were you one of the "principal speakers"?	1. Yes 2. No	
3.	How relevant was the forum for you?	1. Very relevant 2. Somewhat relevant 3. Relevant 4. Not very relevant 5. Not at all relevant	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.
4.	Which of the following best describes your feelings about the extent to which the forum dealt with an issue of concern to you personally?	1. Very concerned with issue 2. Somewhat concerned 3. Concerned 4. Not very concerned 5. Not at all concerned	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.
5.	Which of the following best describes your feelings about the extent to which the forum dealt with an issue of concern to the community?	1. Very concerned with issue 2. Somewhat concerned 3. Concerned 4. Not very concerned 5. Not at all concerned	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.
6.	To what extent did the forum provide you with useful information?	1. Very relevant 2. Somewhat relevant 3. Relevant 4. Not very relevant 5. Not at all relevant	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.
7.	Are you aware of any concrete actions taken as a result of the forum?	1. Yes 2. No	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.
8.	How would you rate your satisfaction with the actions taken?	1. Very satisfied 2. Somewhat satisfied 3. Satisfied 4. Not very satisfied 5. Not at all satisfied	Read choices. Mark only the one answer that best fits the respondent's opinion.

9.	What do you think is the most important thing about the forum meetings?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brings together stakeholders 2. Provides a model for resolving disputes 3. Introduces community members to how their leaders should work with them 4. Other (please specify _____) 	Read the choices. Remind the respondent that we are looking for the most important thing, so circle the answer that corresponds to the choice that most fits their opinion.
10.	Do you think such forums may take place in future, if no "project" is there to organize them?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 	If YES, go to question 11 and skip question 12; if NO, go to question 12.
11.	If so, is there anything you can suggest to make them better?	<u>Answer:</u>	OPEN ENDED QUESTION. Record response in the space provided. SKIP question 12. Go on to question 13.
12.	If not, why not?	<u>Answer:</u>	OPEN ENDED QUESTION. Record response in the space provided.
13.	Is there any other comment you would like to make about the forum?	<u>Answer:</u>	OPEN ENDED QUESTION. Record response in the space provided.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. [PARTNER NAME] APPRECIATES YOUR PARTICIPATION.

END OF SURVEY