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# BURUNDI POLICY REFORM

**FY 2009 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2008 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**

**October 2009**

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**Contract No. DFD-I-00-05-00219-00 Task Order #217**

**Cover Photo: A victim of torture from Bujumbura Rurale speaks out about her experience at the hands of the military, who accused her of hiding rebels. Thanks to a project grant to a local organization, this victim received medical and psychological assistance and participated in a social reintegration program.**

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The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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## I. OVERVIEW

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This annual report presents the results of the project's work during Year 2. This work was accomplished through the efforts of the project team, a number of local and international consultants, as well as a range of civil society organizations and ministries, including the Ministry of Good Governance, the project's ministry of reference.

This report includes an overview, sections on each of the four components plus the supplementary work done on land, an indicator table measuring the project's performance according to indicators for each component, and summary financial information. The annexes contain the monitoring and evaluation report, as well as reports and report extracts of possible interest.

### A. Background

A change order effective October 1, 2008 introduced a new scope of work for Year 2, which included earmarks on water, women's leadership, women in development, and victims of torture, as well as activities related to elections. The project presented a work plan on October 31 and Modification 3 signed on November 20 set out the final version of the new scope of work, which prescribed specific tasks and expected results for each component. The work plan was revised following discussions with USAID and approved on January 8, 2009.

### B. Major Activities of the Year

The project carried out studies, training, roundtables, trips to international conferences, and international study tours. It also provided grants to civil society organizations. Taking each component in turn:

- *Water resources.* We organized seven workshops and carried out three studies. The first workshop allowed stakeholders at the community level to discuss various aspects of water resource management and needed policy reforms. Later workshops at the regional and national levels discussed findings of the three studies and validated proposed reforms.
- *Women's leadership.* We organized 20 trainings, 17 in the area of conflict resolution and fight against corruption, 2 in the field of gender and development, and 1 in the area of advocacy techniques. In addition to these workshops, we organized two trips for women parliamentarians, ministers, and jurists to attend international conferences in Ethiopia and South Africa.
- *Victims of torture.* The project allocated 18 sub-grants to civil society organizations; eight of them provided medical and legal assistance to 453 victims of torture. We carried out five roundtables related to advocacy against torture and seven training courses to strengthen advocacy at community and national levels. In connection with the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, we carried out public events in five provinces. We also organized two study tours, to Cambodia and South Africa, with the participation of 26 members of civil society organizations and four government officials.
- *Elections.* We organized a roundtable where participants examined ways to improve transparency and integrity in the electoral process and to assure inclusion of groups at risk of being marginalized.

- *Land Code*: In collaboration with the European Union's Gutwara Neza program and the UN High Commission for Refugees, the project organized two workshops to educate Parliament on land policy issues and translated the land code into Kirundi.

### **C. Main Accomplishments**

During its second year, the project continued to build constructive relationships between the government, civil society, and media and to help prepare these groups to participate in the political process in an informed and productive manner. Highlights of the year include:

- *Water resources*. The project conducted three comprehensive studies on water resources management — two sectoral studies and an institutional framework — and facilitated policy dialogue around them. One sectoral study proposed ways to control water pollution caused by agricultural practices, the other addressed water pollution affecting public health. The institutional assessment recommended organizing the many ministries that deal with water into two groups: one comprising ministries responsible for water conservation and water resource planning; the other, ministries more involved in the use of water. This assessment also recommended creation of a national water authority to coordinate water management and resolve competing interests. The main recommendations from all three studies became part of the national water policy validated in September and currently under consideration by the council of ministers. In addition, through the project's participation on the interministerial committee for water, we helped policymakers make the first significant progress on the broader national water policy since the last effort stalled in 2001.
- *Women's leadership*. The project helped 229 Burundian women leaders build skills necessary for participation in the political process. Trainings in anti-corruption raised their consciousness about corruption and the need for women to participate in political advocacy to influence change and support development. Training in conflict management, including the more advanced courses added at the end of the year based on popular demand, gave women leaders skills to help manage conflict experienced in their homes and the society at large. Thanks to training of women involved in grassroots organizations, women now better understand notions of gender equality, equal economic opportunity, and equal participation in the political process. Some came to realize that they themselves had contributed to gender inequality by the way they raise their children. Through the conference in Addis Ababa on child development, women leaders learned about children's rights and have launched some initiatives to better support children in Burundi. Through the conference in South Africa about sexual violence, women learned how to advocate for stronger policies against sexual violence. Advocacy training after these conferences helped the women to develop advocacy plans in each of these areas.
- *Victims of torture*. Project activities contributed to an increased awareness and openness about the problem of torture, a subject that over the years had become taboo in many parts of society. In workshops, roundtables, and media panels, civil society organizations, members of government, and the population in general all expressed the importance of ending degrading treatment and violence towards detainees. Project grants to provide medical, legal, and healing services assisted approximately 453 victims of torture. Several grantees noted that the mere act of visiting prisons to assist victims of torture decreased its incidence; the public also became sensitized about torture and the services available to

victims due to announcements about the project's grants in churches and on the radio. Grants to boost organizational and financial capacity have helped partners develop strategic and organizational plans, which will eventually have an impact on the organizations' ability to provide services and engage in advocacy. Burundians' capacity to advocate against torture was also boosted by trainings, technical assistance in developing advocacy plans, and creation of a consortium of human rights groups to organize joint advocacy activities. Advocacy against torture gained momentum around the time of the June 26 International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, which was supported by many project activities. This momentum was further demonstrated when the First Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi declared, during his speech after the highly publicized VOT Day march in Bujumbura, that his government would not tolerate such abuses. A few days later the council of ministers announced that a national human rights commission would be created in accordance with international standards. Finally, study tours to Cambodia and South Africa showed participants how other countries have coped with torture and other grave human rights abuses; the trips also stimulated participants' thinking about what they could do to fight torture at both the community and national levels in Burundi.

- *Elections.* The project's main contribution to increased transparency and integrity in the electoral process was its in-depth study on the subject, followed by the roundtable in June, which helped representatives of political parties, civil society, government, various religious groups, and the media learn about international standards for elections and reach common ground on ways that the electoral code should be revised. Many of the participants were disappointed that the revised code they proposed was not the version ultimately adopted by the council of ministers and parliament, but it can be said that the roundtable left key political actors better informed and the final code did incorporate some of their recommendations, in particular the recommendation related to updating lists of registered voters and instituting use of national identity cards for voters to present on election day.
- *Land.* The main accomplishment was to translate the land code into Kirundi and to produce one document containing both the French and Kirundi versions of the code.

## D. Participation of the Government of Burundi

Given the broad technical scope of the project, several parts of the government were involved in Year 2 activities, as shown in the table below.

Component	Government Personnel Involved	Nature of Participation
All	Counselor to the Minister of Good Governance	Attended approximately 30 project events including trainings, roundtables, and consortium meetings
Water	Various ministry representatives and local officials	Participated in roundtable to validate institutional framework and sectoral policies
Women's Leadership	Female parliamentarians  Minister of the Fight Against AIDS  Representatives of the Ministries of Human Rights, National Solidarity, Education, and Foreign Affairs	Attended trainings and international conferences  Attended the conference on sexual violence in South Africa  Participated in the workshop applying advocacy skills to children's rights and the fight against AIDS
Victims of Torture	Representatives of the Ministries of Human Rights, Justice, and Good Governance  Minister of Good Governance, Minister of Human Rights, Minister of Public Works, Minister of Agriculture, Speaker of the Government and four governors of provinces ( Cibitoke, Gitega, Muyinga, Ngozi)  Minister of Good Governance and Vice President of the Tripartite Steering Committee  Vice President of the Republic	Participated in VOT Day events, regularly attended consortium meetings  Participated in VOT Day events  Participated in South Africa study tour  Gave a speech on VOT Day
Elections	Representatives of the Ministry of Interior	Participated in the roundtable on election transparency and integrity
Land	Members of the National Assembly and Senate	Attended orientation workshop on the draft land code

## E. Geographic Scope of the Project

To address the needs of people throughout the country, the project team worked with grantees, conducted training activities, and built relationships in all of the nation's 17 provinces. The three tables below show the geographic scope of selected activities.

**Exhibit I-1. Geographical Scope of Task 5.3.1: Grants to Assist Victims of Torture**

Grantee	Type of Assistance	Intervention Provinces	Intervention Communes
Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services (THARS)	Medical/psychosocial	Gitega	Gitega, Giheta, Makebuko
	Medical	Muramvya	Mbuye, Rutegama
	Psychosocial		All
	Medical/psychosocial	Ngozi	Gashikanwa, Mwumba, Ruhororo, Kiremba, Ngozi
	Medical/psychosocial	Cibitoke	Rugombo, Murwi, Mugina
	Medical/psychosocial	Bujumbura Mairie	Cibitoke, Buterere, Kinama, Gihosha, Kanyosha, Kamenge, Rohero
Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture (ACAT)	Medical	Bujumbura Rural	Mutimbuzi
		Bujumbura Rural	Gatumba
		Cibitoke	Rugombo
		Muramvya	Muramvya
		Mwaro	Kayokwe, Ndava
		Makamba	Makamba, Mabanda
		Bururi	Mugamba, Bururi
		Rutana	Musongati, Rutana
		Kayanza	Matongo, Kayanza
		Ngozi	Ngozi, Gash kanwa
		Muyinga	Muyinga, Giteranyi
		Kirundo	Kirundo, Ntega
		Karuzi	Karuzi, Gitaramuka
		Cankuzo	Cankuzo, Cendajuru
Ruyigi	Ruyigi, Butaganzwa		
Gitega	Gitega, Mutaho		
Fondation pour l'Unité la Paix et le Développement (FUPD)	Medical/social reintegration	Bujumbura Rural	Kanyosha, Isale, Nyabiraba
		Bujumbura Mairie	Buterere, Cibitoke, Kinama, Kamenge, Rohero, Bwiza, Buyenzi
		Bubanza	Musigati
		Cibitoke	Rugombo, Murwi
		Muramvya	Bukeye
		Kayanza	Kayanza, Rango, Muhanga
		Ngozi	Ngozi, Tangara, Ruhororo
		Karuzi	Bugenyuzi
		Gitega	Gitega
Association pour la Protection des Droits Humains et des Personnes Détenus (APRODH)	Legal	Bujumbura Mairie	Rohero, Musaga, Nyabiraba, Buyenzi, Kanyosha
		Mwaro	Bisoro
		Cibitoke	Mugina, Buganda
		Kayanza	Rango
		Bururi	Rumonge
Association Burundaise pour la Défense des Droits de la Femme (ADDF)	Medical/psychosocial	Bujumbura Mairie	Musaga, Rohero, Ngagara
Association Nturengaho	Medical/psychosocial	Gitega	Gitega
		Bujumbura Rural	Kabezi, Gatumba
Association Burundaise pour la Défense des Droits des Prisonniers (ABDP)	Medical/legal	Bujumbura Mairie	All
		Bujumbura Mairie	Musaga
	Medical/legal/social reintegration	Gitega	Gitega
	Medical/social reintegration	Ngozi	Ngozi
	Legal	Muramvya	Muramvya
Association pour la Promotion et la Protection des Droits des Enfants Marginalisés (APRODEM-GIRA IZINA)	Medical/social reintegration	Bujumbura Rural	Mutambu, Nyabiraba, Muk ke
	Medical/social reintegration	Cibitoke	Rugombo

### Exhibit I-2. Provinces Where the Project Promoted Advocacy against Torture (Task 5.3.3)

Province	Grantee
Bujumbura Mairie	Initiative des Juristes Chrétiens contre l'Injustice (JCI), Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture (ACAT)
C bitoke	Association Burundaise pour la Défense des Droits des Prisonniers (ABDP)
Gitega	Transcultural Psychosocial Organizations (TPO-Burundi)
Muyinga	Ligue Iteka
Ngozi	Association pour la Protection des Droits Humains et des Personnes Détenues (APRODH)

### Exhibit I-3. Home Provinces of Female Leaders Participating in Training

Period	Type of Training	Location	Home Provinces
December	Anti-corruption training and conflict resolution for female jurists and civil society leaders.	Bujumbura Mairie	Bujumbura Mairie, Bubanza, Muramvya, Bururi
March and August	Anti-corruption training and conflict resolution for female leaders of civil society organizations	Bujumbura Mairie	Bujumbura Mairie, Ngozi, Bubanza, Gitega
May	Anti-corruption training and conflict resolution for female members of parliament	Bujumbura Mairie	Bujumbura Mairie
July	Capacity-building workshop for grassroots female leaders	Muyinga	Muyinga, Cankuzo, Cibitoke, Ruyigi, Ngozi, Bubanza
August	Capacity-building workshop for grassroots female leaders	Mwaro	Mwaro, Bujumbura Rural, Bururi, Kirundo, Karuzi, Makamba, Bujumbura Rural

## F. Challenges

The project faced several challenges during the year. These included:

*Timing.* The task order modification adding the new scope of work was signed on November 20, 2008, so although Year 2 started on October 1, the project was able to start work on the new activities only in late November.

*Scope of work based on earmarks.* The new scope of work required a shift in technical focus and involved a new set of government and civil society partners. The project and its partners had to devote extra effort to implementing the work in a way that was consistent with both the earmark requirements and partners' priorities.

*Sensitivity of the elections work.* Our elections work required us to bring together a wide range of actors who feel strongly about elections issues. We worked carefully to find common ground among these groups and at the roundtable facilitated a consensus on a comprehensive set of reforms to the electoral code. Although some representatives of the government were at the roundtable, many of the revisions were not accepted by the council of

ministers. Eventually, USAID withdrew the target to develop a legal framework for election integrity.

*Number of approvals.* The number of approvals required by the task order, as written at the beginning of the year, created an administrative burden for the project and USAID; it also slowed down implementation of the work. During the year, the contracting officer worked with Chemonics to reduce the numbers of approvals required, thus partially alleviating the problem. We continue to look for ways to streamline the approval process so we can schedule activities with more certainty and be seen as a more reliable partner.

*New chief of party.* This challenge came at the end of the year with the decision to change our chief of party. Our new chief of party will begin November 16.

All in all, despite the challenges, the new scope of work allowed the project to work on topics that were quite relevant for the country, and both the team and partners were very committed to the work, so a lot was accomplished during the year.

## II. WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

### A. Required Tasks and Expected Results

The task order set out the following requirements for this component:

Water Resources Management Component	
Task	Expected Result
5.1.1a. Conduct an analytical review and assessment of the existing institutional framework for water resources management. Recommend options for strengthening the institutional framework, conduct consultations to review the options. Incorporate the recommendations into a draft decree defining and allocating responsibility for integrated water management; submit this to the Council of Ministers.	1a. An institutional framework for water resources management is developed.
5.1.1b. Conduct an analytical review and assessment of the existing National Water Act in collaboration with the Ministry of Water, Energy, and Mines, paying particular attention to issues related to public health and agriculture, especially as found in areas where USAID is carrying out maternal child health and agribusiness activities. Draft revised policies on water as it relates to public health and agriculture.	1b. Two sectoral policies on water resource management relative to health and agriculture are revised.
5.1.2. Organize five workshops to validate the results of the sectoral studies and agree on the legal implementation framework for the resulting sectoral policies with concerned government of Burundi ministries, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Health. Submit the proposed legal framework to the Council of Ministers.	2. A legal implementation framework for the two sectoral policies is developed.
5.1.3. Organize at least five workshops for consultations with local communities, civil society organizations, and local administration to inform the sectoral studies, focusing on geographic areas where USAID is implementing child health and agribusiness programs.	3. Two sectoral policies on water resource management are informed and validated in consultation with local communities, civil society organizations, local administration, especially in areas where USAID is programming complementary maternal child health and agribusiness activities, and concerned government ministries.

All expected results were achieved, except for 5.1.2, the legal framework for the sectoral policies; this result was eliminated following USAID's technical guidance. For ease of understanding, we organize our discussion below according to the two main initiatives undertaken during the year: work on an institutional framework for the water sector and development of two sectoral policies. Selected studies underpinning this work are summarized in Annex B.

### B. Institutional Framework

As described in our Year 2 proposal and work plan, the integrated management of water resources in Burundi is hampered by the fact that there are several ministries involved in the water sector and no national structure to coordinate the sector. To address this problem, the project did a study to examine options for a more workable institutional framework. This study was discussed in a workshop in April attended by 45 participants. The study identified overlapping missions among the different ministries, overlaps linked to the fact that decrees

by government sometimes grant missions that do not comply with the provisions of the 1992 Decree-Law. This law organizes the public domain of water and various codes that are hierarchically superior to those decrees, such as the health code and the environment code.

One recommendation of the workshop was to separate ministries responsible for protection, conservation, and water resources planning from ministries dealing with the use of water. The workshop also recommended the establishment of a national authority for the overall regulation and coordination of the water sector. These recommendations were included in the draft national policy on water, which was validated in September.

#### **An Institutional Framework for the Future**

After seeing the project's analysis of all the overlapping responsibilities in the water sector and how they interfere with good management of water resources, an advisor to the Presidency said of the framework: "Here is a tool that should now be used by the Government in the future."

— *Herman Tuyaga,*  
*Senior Advisor,*  
*Presidency of the Republic*  
*In Charge of Economic Issues*

### **C. Sectoral Policies**

During the last year, a group of donors led by GTZ assisted the government in developing a national water policy. Following discussions with the minister who deals with water and USAID, it was decided that the project could make the most useful contribution to this work by preparing two sectoral policies, which would be used to address the use of water in health and agriculture, the main users of water resources. We began this work in March 2009 when a team of one international and two local consultants started community consultations in the province of Kayanza to evaluate the availability and management of water in the province, the constraints, and the proposed solutions to achieve an integrated management of water.

The studies covered water and health, and water and agriculture. These studies focused on the provinces of Muyinga, Ngozi, Kayanza, Kirundo in the north, Gitega in the center, and Cibitoke in the west—provinces where other USAID projects are active, especially the maternal and child health project and the agribusiness project.

*Process.* Particular emphasis was placed on the participatory approach, so we began preparing the studies by having a community consultation workshop in Kayanza and regional consultation workshops in Muyinga, Gitega, and Cibitoke. The workshops brought together the opinions and expectations of different actors regarding the integrated management of water resources. These studies were validated in two national workshops, which were held in Bujumbura in June.

These workshops involved all stakeholders in the sector, including the executive, the development partners (especially GTZ and the World Bank), NGOs, civil society, the private sector, and the media. Since the water sector is a very sensitive area and a cross-cutting theme, most of the high-ranking government officials invited to the various workshops wanted to participate. The senior advisors to the presidency, the director generals from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the high officials from the Ministry of Public Health, and officials from the Ministry in Charge of Water were all present.

Although the studies focused on the provinces where other USAID projects were being implemented, the results were shared with most of the other provinces. Thus, the regional workshop organized in April in Muyinga (northern region), was attended by 50 people who

came from the provinces of Muyinga, Kirundo, Ngozi, and Kayanza. The regional workshop held in May in Gitega registered participation of 67 people from the provinces of Gitega, Cankuzo, Ruyigi, Rutana, Karuzi, Muramvya, and Mwaro. This workshop, unlike the others, saw the participation of governors from the provinces of Gitega, Karuzi, Mwaro, and Ruyigi. Each one of these high-level officials tried to make the audience understand the health and economic problems related to the lack of access to potable water.

The workshop organized in June in Cibitoke (western region) had the participation of 47 people from the provinces of Cibitoke and Bubanza. It was during this workshop that the communal council's president of Buganda spoke of a simmering conflict between the people of Buganda and Murwi following the installation of a water supply system in Buganda, although its source is in the commune of Murwi. This was an opportunity to recommend the establishment of watershed committees so as to prevent such conflicts.

*Results.* Each of the studies produced several major recommendations. The most important recommendations from the study on water and health are as follows:

- Build public latrines and put in place maintenance mechanisms for these facilities.
- Accelerate the implementation of a national policy on hygiene and sanitation.

The main recommendations from the study on water and agriculture were:

- With regard to water used in the agricultural processing, establish pre-processing and recycling systems for wastewater before it is re-used or released back into a river or ground water source.
- Adopt techniques for collecting and storing rainwater for supplemental irrigation or small-scale agriculture.
- Rename the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and call it the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries; create a branch for fisheries and fish farming.

In addition to these results, the discussions around these policies resulted in an increase in awareness and some initial behavior change on the part of Burundians using water for agriculture. For example, the coffee washing stations management team agreed for the first time that the discharge of sewage into watercourses was a pollution threat, and they agreed to install pre-processing stations for wastewater.

Finally, the project's work had an additional impact beyond the policy level: our analytical work came to the attention of a student doing her thesis on communication strategy for behavior change to protect watercourses. She conducted surveys with the people living near the coffee washing stations and the health centers in the province of Kayanza. This work helped populations in these areas better understand the issues.

## Coffee Washing Stations: Major Threat to Water Quality throughout the Country



This washing station, located on a hillside near a small river, does not treat its waste.



A machine depulps the coffee cherries.



Vats separate the cherries from the pulp. They use large quantities of water.



This vat holds water used in the washing process. It is toxic to the environment.



Water from the station goes into the river without being treated. The project's policy paper lays out regulations requiring water be recycled or treated before being put back into the river.



Coffee husks, often piled next to washing stations, are a source of pollution when they wash into the river. In recent years, people have begun to use husks as organic fertilizer.

One of the biggest environmental threats caused by agriculture in the north of Burundi comes from the processing of coffee. In other regions, the pollution is from palm-oil processing and tea factories. All of this agricultural processing uses large quantities of water. During preparation of the policy on water and agriculture, the project carried out a community consultation to discuss environmental challenges and identify solutions. In the case above, the project visited the coffee washing station and helped the director understand the problems he was creating. After the visit, he said he planned to seek financing for equipment that would treat the water before it goes in the river.

### III. WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

#### A. Required Tasks and Expected Results

The women's leadership component comprises activities financed by two earmarks: women in leadership and women in development. The task order set out the following requirements for the component:

Women's Leadership	
Task	Expected Result
5.2.1 Finance participation of at least 18 female lawyers, parliamentarians, and ministers in international conferences abroad on subjects that enhance their ability to address challenges facing female legislators. The objective of these conferences is to enable women to heighten their awareness and skills necessary to broadly participate in political processes and hold government accountable to its policies and processes.	1. At least 18 female lawyers, parliamentarians, and ministries participate in international conferences on subject matters that enhance their ability to address challenges facing female legislators.
5.2.2 Organize in-country training programs for at least 50 female members of grassroots organizations on subject matters that enhance their participation in political processes.	2. At least two training events of at least 25 participants each to strengthen the role of women-led grassroots organizations in their participation to political processes are organized.
5.2.3 Organize four training events for up to 160 female lawyers, parliamentarians, and female leaders of civil society organizations to strengthen the skills in conflict resolution and in the mechanisms to fight against corruption.	3. At least four U.S. government-facilitated events geared toward strengthening female leaders in mitigating conflicts and on mechanisms to fight against corruption are organized.
	4. At least 160 female leaders are trained in conflict mitigation skills and mechanisms to fight against corruption with U.S. government assistance.

All expected results were achieved or surpassed. These results are described below.

#### B. International Conferences

The project organized the participation of women leaders at two international conferences, which helped them learn about subject matters of relevance to women in Burundi today and how to better advocate for reforms in these areas. The delegations were composed of women leaders from civil society and parliamentarians who participated in our anti-corruption and conflict-mitigation trainings. This pre-requisite allowed the project to build on the training and create ongoing relationships with the beneficiaries. An additional benefit of both conferences was that they were held in Africa, which encouraged a regional exchange of knowledge and experiences.

## B1. Ethiopia Conference on Children's Rights



Women leaders from Burundi found inspiration and support at the 6th African Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect with Focus on Early Childhood Development and Education, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Child abuse and neglect in Burundi was raised as a widespread concern at a project-sponsored government retreat in September 2008, along with the recognition that few leaders are knowledgeable on the topic. To change that, the project sent a Burundi delegation to the 6th African Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect with Focus on Early Childhood Development and Education, held May 4-6 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Despite missing the first day because of a cancelled flight, the group was able to attend presentations on the following topics:

- The right to pre-school education
- Common examples of child neglect by parents
- Disregard of children's right to playtime and forced labor in childhood
- Lack of green spaces for the kids to play
- Lack of legislation protecting the rights of the children

The conference had presenters from all over Africa; however, we wanted to take advantage of being in Ethiopia as well and complemented the conference with an advocacy training day with Women's Campaign International. This U.S. organization in Ethiopia promotes women's participation in politics and civil society. The Burundian group received introductory training on advocacy techniques and learned how Ethiopian women supported by the organization carried out their own advocacy efforts in Ethiopia. In this training, we discovered that Burundian women leaders had a significant lack of understanding of advocacy concepts and techniques. Based on this experience, the project made it a priority to use additional funds to fill this knowledge gap by holding more in-depth advocacy trainings in Burundi.

Each evening the delegation discussed the information presented, and at the end of the trip the group drafted recommendations to follow up on in Burundi, such as creating a national committee on the rights of children, advocating for more play space for children (such as parks), organizing an awareness campaign on the importance of play, and promoting pre-school education.

Upon return from Ethiopia, the participants raised awareness of children's rights at a press conference that served to share what the women learned in Ethiopia. They stated that Burundi has a long way to go in protecting children's rights and called on the government to implement a legal framework that governs these rights. Following the press conference, this group of jurists took other initiatives:

- They met to continue reflecting on the defense of children's rights and to organize an advocacy campaign requesting municipal and national authorities create more green spaces for children, because playing is essential to their psychosocial development.
- They got involved immediately in the preparation for the Day of the African Child, which was celebrated in Burundi on June 16, and participated in events led by the Ministry of Human Rights.

The women jurists convened several times to discuss how they could follow up and advocate for children in Burundi. The participants wanted to begin working on the recommendations, but the first question to address was in what capacity they would work on these issues, given the fact that they came from a variety of organizations. They decided to create an association to fight for children's rights and are currently working on registration of the association.

## **B2. South Africa Conference on Sexual Violence**



The Burundian delegation says No! to violence against women at a conference in South Africa organized by the Sexual Violence Research Initiative.

The July 6-9 conference in South Africa organized by the Sexual Violence Research Initiative sought to promote research on sexual violence, highlighting innovation and encouraging networking. The conference was part of a global initiative that disseminates policy-relevant, action-oriented research to reduce and respond to sexual violence. Our delegation comprised seven members of parliament, including the minister in charge of the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The conference gathered representatives from all continents, which allowed the women to meet and exchange ideas with a variety of people. The presentations related to abuses suffered by women, prevention, effects of violence (medical, psychological, economic), and the role men play in the fight against sexual abuse. The main lessons learned included the importance of advocacy, the link between quality research and advocacy, and the fact that one way to reduce violence against women is to reduce their financial dependence on men.

The delegation came away with a better understanding of how important it is for Burundi to have a database on sexual abuses against women. The only data now come from victims supported by international or national associations. Such cases cannot reflect the national situation as a whole; a national comprehensive database is needed to support advocacy claims with real figures. Upon their return to Burundi, the women parliamentarians found that the political climate was focused on revisions to the electoral code. Political parties were prohibited from organizing meetings, and it was difficult for them to get together to discuss further advocacy.

To build upon the conferences, the project organized an additional advocacy training that addressed concrete techniques and gave the women the opportunity to create an advocacy plan for children's rights and violence against women. The trainers spent significant time undoing misconceptions and reinforcing new ideas. It was an opportunity to create and deepen understanding so that the women could execute their initiatives with more organization and strategic planning.

### C. Training for Women in Grassroots Organizations



Members of grassroots organizations participate in a training exercise on ways for women to take on leadership roles in society.

In Muyinga and Mwaro, more than 50 women participated in two capacity-building workshops designed to promote leadership and political participation. Participants were women leaders or members of civil society organizations working at the grassroots level. A few attendees were women who work in rural areas but live near Bujumbura.

The workshops raised awareness about the importance of fighting inequality, injustice, and exclusion of women in society and political processes. Participants explored concepts such as equality before the law; equal distribution of roles, resources and benefits; equal economic opportunity and control of resources; and equal participation in the political process. The women shared experiences about discrimination and discussed what prevents them from opening up and contributing to development.

The women realized they themselves perpetuate inequality: They discriminate against their own daughters by granting more opportunities to their sons; by blindly respecting tradition that has always endowed power to men; and by over-burdening girls at a young age, depriving them of their right to play because they are confined to the family enclosure with their mothers, who in turn are burdened with household chores and child-rearing responsibilities. The participants decided to adopt new attitudes to promote equal and sustainable development, first within their households through the education of their children. In addition, participants want to do more to defend their rights. They explored such concepts as:

- Gender is an element of the social fabric that affects all the members of society.
- Working against injustice is acting in the interest of and not against society as a whole.
- Culture is an evolving phenomenon, meaning it's subject to transformations and to adaptations dictated by the emergence and the course of events.

- Change is inevitable, but we may be able to influence its course.
- The evolution of social relationships between men and women is inevitable and necessary.
- The real question to ask is what change does the community itself want to promote.

Following the two trainings, participants made the following commitments, aimed at changing attitudes and behavior toward gender equality to stimulate change in their local associations and the community in general:

Individual Commitments at the Family Level	Commitment at the Association Level
Promote equality in families	Take gender into account in the activities (trainings, meetings of IEC, etc.)
Avoid any type of favoritism	Think before acting
Pass along the training to the grassroots	Avoid any type of favoritism
Mutual assistance in the family	Pass along the training to the grassroots
Communication in the family	Visits of members
Be the leader in the family	Awareness meetings of the members
Avoid distrust and exclusion	Peaceful resolution of conflicts within the association
Explain to children the elements of culture	Acceptance of everyone in the association without any discrimination in terms of sex, age, wealth, etc.
Avoid the exclusion and the self-exclusion of young girls	Good relationships with all the members of the association
Establish good relationships with the family circle	Be a role model in the association
Serve as a role model for the family circle	Participate in all the meetings on development
Purchase a farm animal	Information visits in the neighboring associations
Be humble in front of everyone	Support and counsel people living with HIV/AIDS
Defend human rights	
Exercise the right to speak	
Forgive my husband	
Exercise patience when excluded	
Support and counsel an AIDS patient	
Carry out a family project	
Renovate our house	

The participants concluded that the major thing keeping women in their current predicament is economic dependence on their husbands. However, they recognized that a first step in combating problems is to break the silence using effective communication techniques. If they encounter difficulties, they will try to bring the family council into the discussion for support. They promised to promote greater equality among their children and influence the next generation to behave differently than their own.

#### **D. Training for Women Leaders at the National Level**

The Burundi Policy Reform Program's second year work plan set out to train 160 leading female parliamentarians, lawyers, and representatives of the civil society organizations in conflict management and anti-corruption. All in all, 177 women received training. In December 2008, the first trainings were delivered to 17 women lawyers. In March 2009 a series of six trainings in conflict management and anti-corruption were delivered to 133

women civil society leaders, and in May 2009 similar trainings were delivered to 27 women parliamentarians.

### D1. Anti-Corruption Training

Corruption is prevalent in Burundi; fighting it requires courage, skill, and patience. The importance and dangers of fighting corruption were emphasized this year in the apparent assassination of Ernest Manirumva, a top leader of the anti-corruption organization OLUCOME. He had worked as a short-term consultant to our project in its first year and we are sorry for his death. It brought home the delicate nature of the topic, but the project also found that it further motivated Burundians to keep on fighting.

A hundred and fifty five women members of civil society organizations and 27 women working in state institutions have benefited from capacity-building workshops related to the repression of corruption. These workshops addressed:

- The different aspects of corruption and its socio-economic consequences
- National and international corruption mechanisms to fight corruption
- Citizen intervention techniques and ways women civil society leaders and women deputies can help reduce corruption
- National strategies and interventions, such as networking and consolidation of coalitions to minimize risks

“The training I received was very useful. At first, I ignored certain small forms of corruption such as giving a little extra cash when requesting a public service. From now on, I’m aware and have started to change in my professional and personal life.”

— *Judith Ndabahaganye,*  
national coordinator for  
a teacher’s association

The women were shocked and yet embraced the realization that corruption in Burundi is widespread throughout society, that it has affected social inequality, and that they contribute to the problem as women leaders. They also understood their responsibility as women leaders and independent mothers and wives in combating corruption. The women left the training with techniques on how to denounce corruption in their social and profession circles.

Some women leaders took specific action. The project formed cohort groups so that the women could stay in contact and support each other in initiatives. Several met afterwards, using the project office as a venue. A woman leader from the Scouts and Guides association organized discussions on corruption and how to prevent it. One businesswoman, Jacqueline Kandara, began to resist paying extra “taxes” in the form of alcoholic beverages at border crossings. At first, on her own, she was unsuccessful. However, she convinced other businesswomen on the same Bujumbura-Kampala route to participate in her approach. The women elevated their demands even to the customs management office. Now they only pay the legally required taxes.

“I came to realize the impact that even just one woman can have in the fight against corruption.”

— *Béatrice Ntibarufa*  
Businesswoman

Fighting corruption in Burundi remains a challenge, as it is difficult to prosecute powerful people who are supported by members of the government. The legal principle that allows prosecuting people who have sought refuge abroad has not yet been integrated in Burundian legislation. Thus, it seems that decision makers and influential people in general are covered and protected, as they cannot be denounced in cases of fraud and embezzlement. Nonetheless,

the workshops came up with recommendations to pursue the fight, including organization of an awareness-raising day on the devastating effects of corruption, development of advocacy plans, and creation of a group of women leaders united against corruption.

## **D2. Conflict Mitigation and Women's Leadership**

Repercussions of the long conflict in Burundi are still being felt, and although the conflict has officially ended, it has taken root in society in a variety of ways. There is conflict over land, resources, political power, and more. The project worked this year to give women leaders the skills to mitigate conflicts in their professional, communal, and personal lives. The project held nine capacity-building workshops for 153 women leaders in civil society and 30 women from parliament. The workshops were held in December 2008 for jurists, March 2009 for women in civil society, May 2009 for parliamentarians, and August 2009, as a supplemental training, for women from civil society. The training had three main objectives:

- Become familiar with the main concepts of conflict resolution, including the underlying causes of conflicts, tools for conflict analysis, and strategies for resolving conflict
- Learn to use communication and interest-based negotiation to resolve conflicts
- Develop a deeper understanding of leadership as a concept

The leadership session, based on field research by Harvard University, helped the women understand how they can exert leadership as members of civil society. The participants discussed their own experiences in leadership, and drew lessons and key points for ways to improve their skills and knowledge in this area.

The group dynamic during the topic of conflict resolution was stimulating: thanks to the participatory methodology, each participant was involved in the exercises, plenary analyses, and debates. Discussion during the wrap-up sessions indicated high levels of understanding and improved knowledge for each conflict-related topic, which had also been demonstrated in group exercises and case studies. To capitalize on the momentum of the training and provide mutual support in the practice of the newly acquired skills, each group of women formed a cohort and nominated a representative who would lead the group in future meetings and help create an informal network with the others.

*Impact evaluation.* In August, our conflict-resolution consultant was able to evaluate the effect of the trainings carried out in March. The results were positive and clearly demonstrate the high quality and impact of the trainings. Sixteen women leaders, representing 10 percent of the March participants, were asked about the impact the conflict-resolution training had on their professional and private life. Even though the period covered by this assessment was short, the results are noteworthy:

"I've learned how to manage my communications. I've got the relevant training materials for future trainings for the members. This training enhanced my knowledge which will help me to live peacefully in the society."

—Training participant

- "Instead of going on strike to defend our rights, we changed the strategy and collaboratively and peacefully obtained an important amendment to a governmental act supporting the interests of our teachers."
- "The collaboration and interests-based approach helped me to solve a conflict between the director and the teachers of a school."

- “I used the model of the conflict spiral, which illustrated how the conflict escalates and what strategies can be used in each life cycle of conflict, to solve a ten-year-old conflict between two women. The same model helped me to facilitate a peaceful solution for a seven-year-old conflict over land.”
- “The mediation helped me to mediate a family conflict between two neighbors.
- “I am making efforts to better listen to members of my family.”
- “I participated effectively in the development of a questionnaire for public consultation within a communication program of the Ministry of Public Health.”
- “I facilitated the peaceful resolution of a conflict between the population and the local authorities, in the framework of a social reinsertion program in a commune.”
- “I helped establish an NGO fighting for the succession rights of women.”

*Expanding conflict-resolution skills.* Toward the end of the year, the project provided additional training to women leaders to reinforce what they had learned earlier. Although such training was not initially envisioned under Task 5.2.3, it responded to a strong demand by the beneficiaries to build on the success of the previous trainings. Participants in the trainings in March had the opportunity to learn certain concepts and skills, but there was not enough time to *practice* tools in negotiation, communication, facilitation, and mediation. The additional trainings, conducted in August, focused on those skills:

- Communication modules focused on strategies to deal with obstacles to interpersonal communication in different settings and on increasing awareness of the importance and power of visual elements in communication, mainly body language.
- The facilitation module focused on the role and skills of the facilitator and how to deliver effective group-facilitation processes.
- The negotiation module focused on the various stages of negotiation and how to interact with the other party in a way that does not damage the relationship, but generates solutions for all.
- The mediation module allowed participants to see all the stages of a mediation process.

At the end of Task 5.2.3, the project surpassed its target of 160 women, reaching — with trainings in both conflict management and anti-corruption — a total of 177 participants.

## IV. VICTIMS OF TORTURE

### A. Required Tasks and Expected Results

The task order set out the following requirements for this component:

Victims of Torture Component	
Task	Expected Result
5.3.1 Implement a sub-award program to provide legal services or healing opportunities to at least 125 victims of torture.	1. At least 125 victims of torture receive legal services and benefit from healing opportunities from U.S. government-supported organizations.
5.3.2 Provide managerial skills through a sub-award to civil society organizations working with victims of torture to expand the availability of legal recourses, as well as healing opportunities.	2. At least two U.S. government-supported civil society organizations have enhanced management skills to provide legal services and healing opportunities to victims of torture.
5.3.3 Provide technical assistance to civil society organizations to enable them to engage in processes of consulting primary stakeholders when it comes to advocating for reforms that eradicate torture in Burundi.	3. One consortium of civil society organizations receives technical assistance necessary to advocate for political reforms that eradicate torture in Burundi.
5.3.4 Provide organizational and financial support to victim-led associations through roundtables and media programs to promote advocacy against torture on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.	4. At least five victim-led associations receive organizational and financial support to promote advocacy against torture on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.
5.3.5 Provide funding for the participation of at least 25 members of victims associations to international study tours on victims of torture issues. The main objective of the study tours is to help enhance the capacity of their organizations to heighten awareness of torture-related issues at the community level.	5. At least 25 members of victims associations have participated in international study tours to help increase the capacity of their organizations to increase awareness of torture-related issues at the community level.

In Burundi, torture has been practiced and victims have had little recourse because those in positions of authority, such as public security agents, presidential police, soldiers, local government officials, and rebel groups have all practiced torture without being held accountable for their actions. Through its activities, the project has been able to help Burundians open up a dialogue about this issue. Whether by creating a consortium of human rights organizations, celebrating International VOT day in five provinces with extensive media attention, or providing assistance via the grants program, we have brought the issue to the fore. Many Burundians who attended our events this year commented that people say torture doesn't exist in the country, but it is prevalent. Our inclusive and participatory approach brought civil society, government representatives, and victims together to recognize that torture does exist in Burundi and needs to cease.

### B. Grants to Assist Victims of Torture

During the last year, the project assisted 453

#### Grants Program at a Glance

- More than 400 victims assisted.
- Greater awareness of torture issues, especially in rural communes outside the capital.
- Regular visitation of prisoners appeared to act as a deterrent to torture, because authorities saw that someone was paying attention to their well-being.
- The support to field workers allowed a greater breadth of assistance and victims could be cared for in or very near their communes.
- Increased capacity of staff in organizations providing assistance.

victims of torture throughout many provinces in the country thanks to the sub-grants it provided to eight civil society organizations. The project provided medical, psychosocial healing, and legal and judicial assistance. The grants were provided to organizations with previous experience in this area, however, working with us as sub-grantees as well as in the consortium against torture (see section D); there was an increased emphasis on synergy and cooperation between organizations. Please see below a table outlining the types of assistance each grantee provided.

Organization	Medical Assistance	Psychosocial Support	Legal Assistance and Counsel
APRODH			X
ACAT	X		
FUPD	X	X	X
NTURENGAHO	X	X	
APRODEM	X		
*AJCB			X
ADDF	X		X
THARS	X	X	X
ABDP	X		X

\*AJCB grant canceled

### B1. Medical Assistance

The most obvious need for a victim of torture is medical assistance. Many are debilitated or prevented from working due to the injuries, and others live with the physical scars and residual pain. The assistance consisted of providing victims medicine, hospitalization, and specialized care. Seven grantees carried out and provided medical assistance to victims in various provinces.

One example of the medical services provided by grantees is the work done by Action Chrétien Contre la Torture (ACAT), an organization that carried out medical services in 26 communes. The grant allowed ACAT to assist many victims in a short period of time over a broad geographic scope. It was the first time that victims were assisted in health centers near their residences accompanied by a field worker who facilitated and expedited the medical service. This grant also reinforced the network of human rights field workers by allowing them to get out to find and counsel victims more easily. This created greater visibility among the community for the services available for victims. A simplified manual was also created to reinforce the capacity of the field workers containing the definition of torture, what qualifies as torture, consequences of inflicting torture including international and national laws, and how to prevent torture. The field workers benefitted from this type of support. In addition, as part of another activity, the project provided training for ACAT members and others on the responsibilities and laws governing and supporting human rights defenders.

"I thank from the bottom of my heart the benefactors of ABDP, particularly Mrs. Léa for her devotion and for having facilitated medical consultation and physical therapy. "

— Ndizurundi Salvator, VOT  
detained in Gitega Prison with  
symptoms of post-traumatic  
lumbago, September 29, 2009

## Healing the Wounds of Torture

"I was tortured in August 2008 by police officers," says Fabrice, one of four hospitalized prisoners in the Mpimba prison in Bujumbura being aided by the Burundian Association for the Defense of Prisoners' Rights (ABDP). "I received a bullet in my leg and blows from a rifle."

Through subsidies to ABDP and seven other civil society organizations, USAID's Burundi Policy Reform Project in 2009 provided legal, medical, and psychosocial assistance to more than 400 victims of torture in 16 provinces throughout the country. Fabrice's story is typical, but also his own.

"Before the operation, I had constant aches that prevented me from sleeping," says Fabrice. "At first, I stayed in bed but now I am able to move three toes and sit in a wheelchair." Fabrice was accused of complicity in the killing of a livestock trader but was found innocent of the charges. ABDP hired a lawyer for his legal assistance.

With 14 years of civil war behind them, Burundians still face torture at the hands of local authorities and security officers. Between 2005 and 2007, 394 allegations of torture were reported by Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture, a Christian organization that advocates for the eradication of torture.

When Fabrice is stronger, he may also benefit from ABDP's "Capacitar" sessions, as have 35 other detainees at Mpimba prison. Capacitar trainers guide participants through a series of holistic, body-mind exercises designed to help them overcome suffering, to "let go" and learn to trust themselves and others again. It has been used successfully with people suffering from stress, trauma, professional exhaustion, or compassion fatigue. Now it is helping Burundians regain their morale and heal from psychological wounds. Fabrice's fellow prisoners testified that following the training, ideas of hatred, revenge, and despair vanished, and they felt liberated and could even forgive their torturers. Their wish is that this program benefit other victims of torture.

Fabrice, meanwhile, waits for a second surgical procedure. He hopes that when he heals and gets out of prison he can resume his former life as a bicycle or motorbike taxi driver. "It is thanks to ABDP that I underwent surgery to remove the bullet," he says.

"I am grateful to them."



Victims of torture concentrate on connecting mind and body during a Capacitar healing session at Mpimba prison in Bujumbura.

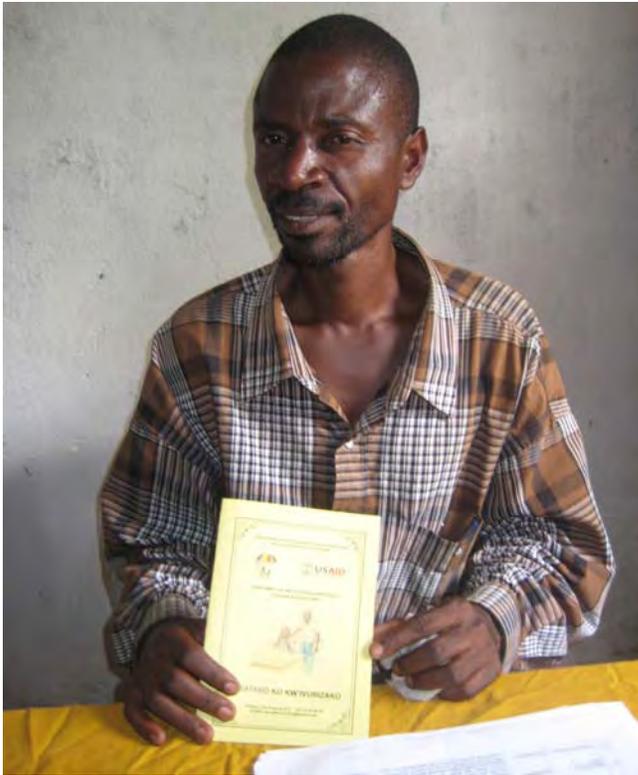
## B2. Psychosocial and Healing Assistance

Torture is physically, emotionally, and psychologically traumatic. Even if physical scars are treated and have healed, there are the lasting psychological effects.

One of the grantees providing assistance in this area was Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services (THARS). They formed 11 support groups for victims and performed “memory repair” sessions in each group. During these sessions the victims would use drawing as a means of expressing and sharing their experiences with the others in the group. The support group created an atmosphere of empathy, affection, and security that the victims greatly appreciated — especially significant because most victims never dared to speak about their experiences. Victims also appreciated that their plight was being given attention; it helped them to feel worthy and comforted that programs exist to provide them various types of assistance. These types of healing sessions, including the “Capacitar” technique (see box at

“For the first time in a long time I am able to sleep throughout the night. Before, I would wake in the middle of the night worried about my problems.”

— *Victim of torture,  
Recipient of THARS assistance*



A psychosocial worker shows the notebook he uses to track victims' progress in counseling sessions. Project grants helped associations pay counselors, buy basic supplies, and pay for victims' travel to counseling centers.

the end of this section), greatly assist the victims in reducing their stress, anger, and desire for revenge against their perpetrators. It also allows them to focus more on how to solve their problems, diffuse their stress and anger. The Capacitar technique was greatly appreciated by the prisoners, who continually asked for more sessions.

In addition to traditional psychological assistance, the grants program included some social and economic rehabilitation assistance. Victims were reintegrated back into families and communities that had rejected them. Victims often are unemployed or are unable to work after torture and feel demotivated and ostracized from the community. This can cause psychological repercussions in addition to the effect of the physical torture. Social and economic integration into the community helps the victims to fully recover holistically. APRODEM-Gira Izina created similar support groups like THARS, where the victims groups researched and made a proposal for what they would like to do together as an income-generating activity. Some chose to plant potatoes to sell in the market, others chose to raise pigs or goats, and the project provided the means for the victims groups to start these activities.

### **B3. Legal/Judicial Assistance**

The most challenging area for assistance to victims of torture is legal. Numerous constraints are at play: the inefficiencies of the legal system, the distance of victims from courts and prosecutors, and the culture of impunity towards torture offenders. The legal/judicial assistance in our grants program included legal advice and recommendations in relation to applicable law and the procedures, referrals to relevant authorities to deal with complaints, and assistance at different stages of the legal process. In addition to victims pursuing their perpetrators, this assistance also applied to prisoners who were rightly or wrongly detained, but mistreated at the hands of authority.

#### **Working More Effectively in the Fight Against Torture**

“This training will help our organization understand better the environment we work in and our organization itself...it opened our eyes to what can be accomplished in fighting against torture, but also...to the forethought needed to work effectively.”

— *Human Health Aid participant  
to 5.3.2 civil society  
capacity-building training*

As an example of grantees’ work in this area, we cite the Association pour la Protection de Droits Humains et des Personnes Detenues (APRODH), who worked with more than 15 victims by providing judicial or legal assistance at different stages of the legal process. Two cases were successfully decided in the victim’s favor, although they are currently under appeal; two other cases are currently being tried at the provincial court level. APRODH accompanies and assists victims at the police station, the public prosecutor’s office, and up through the communal and provincial courts by providing travel, lodging, and legal advice. APRODH would meet with the prosecutor and magistrate to assure that the victim’s cases were quickly dealt with and not left aside. It often occurs that members of the justice system ignore torture cases and downplay the offenses. However, as the community feels freer to condemn torture and increasingly does so, APRODH, like many other grantees, has noticed a reduction in torture offenses.

## B4. Challenges

While progress was made in bringing awareness to torture issues and assistance to victims, the Burundian context, society, and environment still poses challenges to the eradication of torture. Some difficulties noted by our partners were:

- Torture is such an engrained practice in the society that some authority figures continue to have difficulty understanding what torture is and its grave impact on human rights.
- There is still a culture of impunity toward those who commit acts of torture.
- Sometimes getting access to prisoners is difficult; the authorities have discretion over visitors.
- Needed medical assistance is costly and/or long-term.
- Legal processes are lengthy.
- Authority figures attempt to hide offenses by their subordinates.
- Lack of reparation for victims.

## C. Grants to Build Management Capacity

In-kind grants to build capacity in organizational and financial management were awarded to three civil society organizations: Ligue ITEKA, IJCI, and Human Health Aid (HHA). Initially, six organizations submitted proposals with their capacity building needs; the project conducted visits and talked with the potential beneficiaries, after which the three organizations were selected. These trainings are geared towards helping the organizations increase their strategic planning, internal organization and management, and financial management to be able to better plan, organize, and execute their missions. Two organizations that specialize in management training, PREFED and AGRICONSULT, were selected to carry out the trainings in human resource and financial management, and strategic planning respectively. The table below shows the number of individuals projected to benefit from each type of training.

Organization	Strategic Planning	Human Resource Management	Financial and Accounting Management
IJCI	20	20	20
Ligue ITEKA	30	30	30
H.H.Aid	15	15	25
Total	65 beneficiaries	65 beneficiaries	65 beneficiaries

During the weeklong trainings on each topic, the participants of each organization received generalized information during the presentations and focused on their organization's needs in break out groups. For strategic planning, for example, they were helped to think about their process, structure, and context for strategic planning and to identify planning mechanisms suitable for their organization. During the training, Ligue ITEKA realized, for example, that they were following a routine that was not analyzed and adapted to their environment, while IJCI remarked that it was an opportunity to give their nascent organization a solid and effective foundation. Each organization created a draft strategic plan for 2010.

## D. Building a Consortium and Technical Assistance in Advocacy

One organization cannot influence change alone and so to strengthen advocacy against torture in Burundi, the project convened civil society organizations that work in human rights and

torture to start a dialogue on what is needed in this area and propose the idea of creating a consortium. The first meeting held in November 2009 included representatives from three government ministries, BINUB, OCHA, Search for Common Ground, THARS, GVC representatives, and three victims-related civil society organization representatives. All parties involved were interested in creating a consortium to coordinate advocacy for the eradication of torture in Burundi. At subsequent meetings, the number of civil society organizations more than doubled and by the time the consortium, Consortium Action Contre la Torture (CACT), was incorporated it represented most of Burundian civil society working in human rights, with 26 organizations and government entities in all.

With the technical assistance of a BlueLaw International consultant, the project began reinforcing and sometimes teaching new advocacy techniques to several members of the consortium. As we had discovered with the women's component, it was found that there existed misconceptions or lack of knowledge about advocacy. The project maximized the benefits of the advocacy training by including trainers in the training. This approach strengthened organizations' knowledge in advocacy and also provided for that knowledge to be passed on through other trainings in the future. Several of the trainers immediately put their skills to use during the week leading up to International VOT day. With the support of two local consultants, 34 participants from 16 partner organizations participated. Follow-up and more in-depth sessions were organized for 8 selected trainers to use their skills in advocacy trainings in four rural provinces (Gitega, Muyinga, Ngozi, and Cibitoke) for VOT Day.

During the preparation of the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture and to promote advocacy at the community level, the project organized workshops in four provinces (Muyinga, Ngozi, Gitega, and Cibitoke). The workshops aimed at building the advocacy skills of those working in the area of torture and human rights more broadly. They also discussed application of the techniques to real situations to eradicate torture at the community level.

To effectively fight for reforms against torture, the consortium needed its own strategic and advocacy plan. Priorities for reform were identified in January when the consortium was first formed; in June and July, during the advocacy training, the organizations took to drafting actual advocacy plans. Specific reforms were assigned to different organizations and a coordinator was assigned to consolidate the separate elements into a comprehensive plan for consideration by the consortium. The BlueLaw consultant provided hands-on assistance to two organizations: ABDP and Ligue Iteka. ABDP was in charge of political and social reforms; Ligue ITEKA was in charge of legal reforms. The consultant also worked closely with the Ministry of Human Rights and Gender on reforms related to information, education, and communication. The organization with a plan was ACAT, who proposed a strategic

<b>Members of the Consortium</b>	
<i>Civil Society</i>	
•	CAFOB (Collectif des Associations Féminines et ONGs du Burundi)
•	ACAT
•	APRODH
•	ABDP
•	Ligue ITEKA
•	ISF (Infirmières Sans Frontières)
•	AJCB
•	FUPD
•	TPO
•	THARS
•	NTURENGAHO
•	ADDF
•	COPEDI
•	OPB (Observatoire des Prisons du Burundi)
•	IJCI
•	APRODEM-GIRA IZINA
<i>Government</i>	
•	Ministry of Good Governance
•	Ministry of Justice
•	Ministry of Human Rights
<i>Donors/International Partners</i>	
•	BINUB (Bureau Intégré des Nations Unies au Burundi)
•	Avocats Sans Frontières
•	American Bar Association

advocacy plan for administrative and political reforms aiming at eradicating torture in the community. The four reform advocacy plans have now been consolidated into a comprehensive advocacy plan for the consortium.

Technical assistance to the consortium continued in September and October 2009 through regional trainings (Gitega and Bujumbura) on protection mechanisms for human rights activists and on the national and international instruments to promote and protect human rights. The trainings aimed at providing tools to human rights defenders so that they can advocate in accordance with national and international laws, thus protecting themselves with legal norms from possible negative reprisal.<sup>110</sup> representatives of organization members of the Consortium coming from at least 10 provinces in Burundi benefitted from the capacity building.

Periodically the Burundian government drafts a report on the situation of torture in Burundi. Civil society traditionally drafts an alternative report on the same problem for the United Nations Committee Against Torture (CAT) so that the committee may independently analyze the situation and draft recommendations for the government. By contributing to CAT's recommendations, civil society has usually used the CAT's final report to the government as a basis for their advocacy for reforms.

The previous report drafted by ACAT, Ligue ITEKA, APRODH, and AJCB, did not properly follow the international convention on torture. The Burundi Policy Reform project recognized the need for support in understanding the international convention and drafting a report that could be useful and represent the reality of torture in Burundi. The project therefore executed trainings in how to draft such a sectoral report and in investigation techniques so that the report could be based on valid data. At the end of the training, several organizations were selected and are working together on drafting this alternative report.

## **E. International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**

To support victims' associations in celebrating the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, the project provided grants to four civil society organizations to organize advocacy workshops in Gitega, Muyinga, Ngozi, and Cibitoke and to support marches and public events. Two organizations were supported with grants to organize a major public march in Bujumbura. The table on the next page shows the six organizations and the nature of their involvement.

"In September, we received a training on investigative techniques and denunciation and now we know the proper skills a good human rights investigator should have. We will be able to perform better research on torture and other human rights violations."

— *Ella Ndikumana*  
*Treasurer, I.J.C.I.*

To coordinate these various and extensive activities, the project worked via the consortium structure. The General Assembly of the Consortium that was held on June 8 assigned an ad hoc committee to assist the grantees in preparing the activities. The Director General of the

Organization	Workshop on Advocacy Techniques	Logistical Organization of the International VOT Day	Contacts and Advertising
APRODH (Ngozi)	X	X	X
ABDP (Cibitoke)	X	X	X
Ligue ITEKA (Muyinga)	X	X	X
T.P.O. (Gitega)	X	X	X
ACAT (all provinces)		X	X
IJCI (Bujumbura)		X	X

Right of People to Education, Peace, and Reconciliation chaired the ad hoc committee, and other members included BINUB, ACAT, IJCI, the Ministry of Interior, Bujumbura City Hall, the Ministry of Public Health, and the project. The civil society and government worked well together to organize these large and extensive events.

A media campaign was organized during the week of the celebration June 22-26. Communications, programs, testimonies, and documentaries helped raise awareness among the population and the authorities on the necessity to eradicate torture in Burundi. In Bujumbura, a roundtable on torture was organized on June 22 and 23 by the project around the three themes linked to torture: proof, punishment, and compensation. The roundtable was an opportunity for participants to exchange on the clauses of the new code related to torture and its applicability. An exhibition-conference was opened to the public on June 25 where a few organizations from civil society presented their achievements. Among these organizations were Ligue Iteka, APRODH, TPO, THARS, ACAT, BINUB, and ASF.

In Bujumbura, a major march was organized on June 27 (the day after the official VOT day, but a Saturday when more people could participate) where at least 3,000 people and media walked throughout the city raising awareness about torture. The First Vice-President of the Republic, five ministers, the U.S. ambassador, government, and United Nations officials attended the speeches and presentations at the stadium. It was an opportunity for the civil society organizations to advocate in favor of the eradication of torture in Burundi thanks to messages, slogans, signs, and banners. Bujumbura's neighborhoods responded massively to this big gathering. The ceremonial speeches showed that the important personalities who participated in this event are in favor of the movement aiming at eradicating torture in Burundi.



A local association, supported by the project, marches in Cibitoke in recognition of the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. The project organized marches in five locations. In Bujumbura, the capital, the march was led by five government officials: the secretary general and spokesperson for the government, the minister of good governance, the minister of human rights, the minister of agriculture, and the minister of public works and equipment.

## **F. International Study Tours**

The project arranged for 26 members of victims associations to participate in international study tours to learn how other countries have dealt with torture-related issues and enhance the capacity of their organizations to heighten awareness of these issues at the community level. After the trips, the participants from both groups all met to discuss their impressions, consider ways to apply their learning, and participate in a roundtable with other stakeholders (e.g. representatives of associations) to identify how to raise awareness and foster sensitization of torture-related issues at the community level.

### **F1. Cambodia Study Tour**

The visit to Cambodia provided a lot of food for thought for the 15 Burundian participants. With monuments, documentation, and an international tribunal underway, Cambodia has a strategy to promote healing and reconciliation with its past. The Burundians recognized the need for their own country to move forward in this manner. Visits to the Genocide Museum and the Killing Fields were stark reminders to the Burundians of the atrocities that occurred in their own country during the 1993-1996 period. There are many similarities between the two countries, yet the contrasts enabled the Burundians to place their own society in a better context.

Highlights of the visit to Cambodia included a model prison and courtrooms, substantive meetings with NGO leaders, and visits to sites providing services and rehabilitation to victims, abused women, and children. Two trips were made to the Extraordinary Chambers of the Court of Cambodia to observe the ongoing trial of a former Khmer Rouge leader for

crimes against humanity. Two visits with villagers in rural communities provided positive examples of community mobilization to defend personal and property rights.

The meetings and site visits in Cambodia enabled the delegation members to objectively assess the strengths and weaknesses of Cambodian society relative to the rule of law and human rights environment in Burundi. The delegation discussed and noted short- and long-term initiatives that they could undertake in Burundi at the national and community levels. These efforts include community-level mobilization, broader advocacy, increased services for victims, greater utilization of the media, active pursuit of a tribunal or a truth commission to expose past crimes against humanity within the country, and more coordination with the international community on human rights issues.



A village elder in Pursat, Cambodia, tells visiting Burundians about villagers' community advocacy efforts with the government.

## F2. South Africa Study Tour



Bishop Desmond Tutu met with the delegation members and encouraged all Burundians to put an end to ethnic divisions and adopt the path of reconciliation.

The 16 participants from Burundi who visited South Africa for nine days in August met torture victims, saw community-level efforts to meet the needs of victims, and visited institutions in Johannesburg and Cape Town that focus on issues related to torture and other forms of violence. The participants also visited judicial and human rights institutions established within the framework of transitional justice for the post-conflict South African society.

At the Khulmani Support Group, the Burundians learned how torture victims and survivors of apartheid-era political violence have organized to lobby and advocate for community-level reparations, prosecutions of perpetrators and investigations of disappeared persons. The Steve Biko Center for Bioethics is a university-based institution focusing on issues related to medical torture. The participants found the Center's work to be relevant to situations existing in Burundi and were anxious to have additional information, follow-up and future cooperation on the subject of medical torture and related ethical issues.

The Trauma Center for Survivors of Violence and Torture impressed upon the delegation that the healing of memories is a necessary ingredient in the rehabilitation of survivors and victims of torture. Participants also had the opportunity to interact with torture victims from District Six in Cape Town. The Burundians learned that South Africa has virtually eliminated torture through specific prohibition at the constitutional level. The point was reinforced that torture issues can be most effectively addressed through the mechanisms of a transitional justice program. At the same time, the delegation was exposed to varied public, civil society and community-based approaches to treatment, rehabilitation, and reparations for survivors and victims of torture.

Through meetings and dialogue with representatives of the South African Human Rights Commission, the Human Rights Institute for South Africa, the Foundation for Human Rights, and the International Center for Transitional Justice, the Burundian Delegation obtained detailed information on the South African Constitution, the role of the Constitutional Court, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and prosecutions for apartheid-era crimes through the justice system. Participants heard panel presentations and discussions on the strengths and weaknesses of the truth and reconciliation process and the broader transitional justice process at the Foundation for Human Rights and the International Center for Transitional Justice. The delegation heard that victims of political violence were not adequately included in the truth and reconciliation process.

The delegation was impressed with the opportunities to meet with Albie Sachs, Justice on the Constitutional Court of South Africa, and Bishop Desmond Tutu, social activist and former Chairman of Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Both of these famous individuals gave advice and counsel to the delegation on the need to end impunity and work toward peace and reconciliation.

Upon returning to Burundi, the participants began the process of follow-up, information dissemination, and recommendations resulting from the South Africa experience. The major issue raised by the participants is that of determining those mechanisms of transitional justice that are appropriate to the Burundian political and social context. They realized that Burundi cannot duplicate the South African experience, but lessons from South Africa are certainly applicable in crafting those transitional justice mechanisms that will serve Burundi.

Questions for the Burundians revolved around which transitional justice mechanisms would be appropriate at this point and how mechanisms used in South Africa could be adapted to a Burundian context. There was much dialogue and debate among the delegation on these issues. However, everyone agreed that the objective of national reconciliation is necessary. The Burundian delegation began the progress in the follow-up meeting in the minister's office upon returning and in the roundtable held on August 12. This roundtable allowed participants a chance to reflect on their experience and discuss with other leaders in Burundi potential means and mechanisms for ending torture as well as impunity with regards to torture and killing during the country's many years of conflict.



Participants in the South Africa study tour were impressed to see this room where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned on Robben Island.

## V. ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PROCESSES

### A. Required Tasks and Expected Results

The task order set out the following requirements for this component:

Elections and Political Processes	
Task	Expected Result
5.4.1. Work with Government of Burundi justice officials, parliamentarians, private-sector actors, and civil society to draft a legal framework (electoral law, penal law, civil society law) to foster election integrity by creating safeguards along with effective enforcement measures including, but not limited to: a clear definition of a type of offenses; the opportunity to make a complaint; a decision to investigate; a decision to initiate proceedings (to determine facts and obtain evidence); prosecution and judiciary proceedings (that make offenders accountable for their actions and that provide for a ruling and the opportunity to appeal; and penalties and sanctions for those found guilty).	1. A legal framework is drafted that fosters election integrity by creating safeguards along with effective enforcement measures.
5.4.2. Conduct a sector roundtable for Government of Burundi ministries, civil society, and the media to learn about and work on the democratic, consultative process and monitoring and reporting to the public to improve transparency in the electoral process and prevent fraud.	2. A sector roundtable of 60 participants is held with government ministries, civil society, and the media to learn about and work on the democratic, consultative process and monitoring and reporting to the public to improve transparency in the electoral process and prevent fraud.
5.4.3. Assess current policies, statutes, regulations, and/or laws (if any) to ascertain whether disenfranchised groups are specifically included or excluded in the electoral and voting process and to make recommendations to reform and/or develop appropriate policies, statutes, regulations, and/or laws in preparation for the 2010 elections. Disenfranchised groups include, but are not limited to, women, ethnic and religious minorities, the disabled and infirm, and the internally displaced.	3. An assessment of policies, statutes, regulations, and/or laws for the inclusion of disenfranchised groups in the electoral process is completed and recommendations to reform and/or develop appropriate policies, statutes, regulations, and/or laws are drafted.

### B. Roundtable on Ways to Improve Electoral Transparency and Integrity

The Burundian authorities are in the process of preparing the 2010 presidential, legislative, and communal elections. There have been growing demands among citizens and the political class that the problems during the 2005 elections be acknowledged and avoided. The project reviewed international standards for elections, analyzed the legal framework relating to the Burundian electoral process (including the Burundian constitution, the communal law, and the electoral code), and identified ways in which the Burundian legal framework could be improved to increase transparency and integrity.

Based on this research and on consultations with key national decision makers and international donors, a two-day roundtable was organized in June 2009, in cooperation with the government of Burundi and the European Community Project Gutwara Neza. Former presidents, government representatives, members of the national assembly, senators, governors, political party leaders and civil society representatives came to consensus on a set of recommendations that centered on revision of the electoral code.

Among the most debated provisions were the timing of the three upcoming elections, the design of ballots, the possibility of requiring identity cards, and the role and responsibilities of the National Independent Electoral Commission. The final report, which presents both the consultants' analysis and results of the roundtable, is summarized in Annex B.

The event began with presentations on international standards for elections, an overview of the Burundian electoral system, and on groups at risk for marginalization in the upcoming elections, namely:

- Those who were minors in 2005
- Refugees returning from exile
- Demobilized combatants from former movements
- The Twa community

Following these presentations, the consultants presented possible revisions to the electoral code and the communal law. These revisions had been developed after discussions with several key political actors and examination of existing legal texts, the constitution, and various pieces of existing legislation. Possible revisions were crafted to respect the viewpoints of the range of political actors interviewed during the period leading up to the roundtable. One of the key findings from discussions with this group was that most people did not want to change aspects of the peace agreements negotiated in Arusha, Tanzania, including parts dealing with ethnic balance and gender. The project also took care to avoid any contradiction between the provisions of the constitution and revisions of the electoral code or communal law.

This roundtable enabled the 69 participants to reach a consensus on proposed amendments to the electoral code. After rich exchanges, the participants recommended:

- Introduction of a single ballot to avoid intimidation.
- Establishment of special measures allowing a quick updating of voter lists.
- Development of a law to govern the national selection commission (CENI), improving its organization, composition, and functioning so that it would have more transparency, legitimacy, power, and sustainability.
- Stabilization of the municipal administrator's function for sustainable development.

One outcome of the roundtable was an opportunity for different political leaders, especially political parties serving in the National Assembly and the Senate, to publicly exchange views on issues that are rarely addressed. The roundtable produced a draft revised electoral code, which was cited by many leaders as other revisions were introduced at the council of ministers and subsequently passed by parliament. In the end, the government did not adopt several of the most substantial and important revisions coming out of the roundtable, revisions that could have ensured more transparency and therefore fostered more public confidence and trust in the upcoming electoral process. This was a disappointment to many of the participants. Some recommendations were retained, such as those related to updating lists of registered voters and to using national identity cards on election day.

## Roundtable on Ways to Improve Transparency and Integrity in the Electoral Process



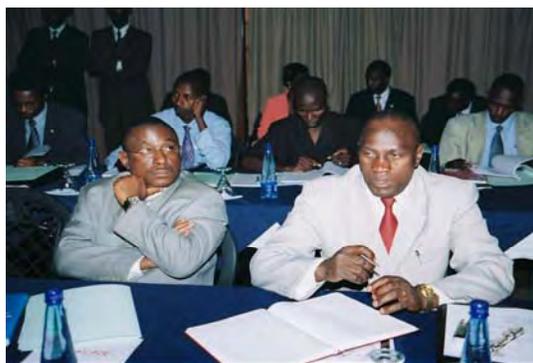
Opening the roundtable are (left to right): Mme Samia Mahgoub, Representative of the European Commission; M. Mboabuca Térénce, Directeur Général de l'Administration du Territoire, representing the Minister of Interior; and Jean H. Lavoie, Chief of Party.



Former President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya (left) talks with participants during a coffee break, including the Honorable Jérémie Ngendakumana (center), President of the CNDD-FDD, the party in power.



Mme Marguerite Bukuru, Vice-President of the CENI (electoral commission) takes notes, flanked by Monseigneur Evariste Ngoyagoye, Archbishop of the Diocese of Bujumbura. A wide range of political actors participated in the elections roundtable.



FRODEBU party spokesman M. Pancrace Cimpaye (left) and Honorable Jérémie Ngendakumana, President of the CNDD-FDD, follow the discussions.



Roundtable participants included Former Presidents Pierre Buyoya (right) and Sylvestre Ntibantunganya.

## VI. PERFORMANCE ACCORDING TO INDICATORS

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During Year 2, the project measured its performance according to indicators for each task. For each indicator, a target was set based on the requirements in the scope of work. Results are shown below:

- *Water.* We were supposed to produce two legal frameworks, but produced only one. USAID provided technical direction that we not pursue the second framework due to the delay in the passage of the national water policy, which was a prerequisite. We also carried out only seven of the eight workshops, but expect to do the eighth in the coming month if USAID agrees.
- *Women in leadership.* We met all eight targets and surpassed five of the eight.
- *Victims of torture.* We met all six targets and reached more than triple the targeted number of victims to receive healing or legal services. Grantees providing these services received more requests for assistance than expected, due to announcements on radio, through church announcements, and posters, which both raised awareness about the program and the issue of torture in general.
- *Elections.* Of the three targets, we met two. USAID provided technical direction to drop the legal framework target, because it was no longer appropriate.

The table on the next page shows the project's results according to each indicator.

Task/Expected Result #	Indicator	Target	Achieved
<b>Water</b>			
5.1.1a & 5.1.2	# of frameworks on water resource management developed	2	1
5.1.1b & 5.1.3	# of sector policies on water resource management developed and validated with USG assistance.	2	2
5.1.2	# of USG facilitated events to inform and validate proposed sector policies at the community and executive level	8	7
<b>Women</b>			
5.2.1	# of USG supported women leaders attending to international conferences to enhance their skills and awareness to participate to political processes	18	18
5.2.2	# of USG training events organized to promote women participation to political processes	2	2
	# of members of women-led organizations participating in USG training events	50	52
5.2.3	# of USG-supported facilitated events geared toward strengthening women leaders with mechanisms to fight corruption	8	8
	# of USG-supported events geared towards strengthening women leaders with mechanisms to mitigate conflicts	8	9
5.2.4	# of government officials receiving USG-supported anti-corruption training	20	27
	# of people affiliated with non-governmental organizations receiving USG-supported anti-corruption training	140	155
	# of women leaders receiving USG supported conflict mitigation training	160	183
<b>Victims of Torture</b>			
5.3.1	# of people benefiting from USG-supported legal and healing services	125	453
5.3.2	# of USG-assisted organizations and/or service delivery systems strengthened to provide legal and healing services to vulnerable populations	2	3
5.3.3	# of mechanisms created to advocate for political reform that eradicate torture as a result of USG assistance	1	1
	# of civil society organizations using USG assistance to promote political participation	3	16
5.3.4	# of victims-led associations supported by USG to promote advocacy against torture	5	6
5.3.5	# of members of victims associations participating to USG-supported programs to increase awareness of torture-related issues at the community level	25	26
<b>Elections and Political Processes</b>			
5.4.1	# of legal frameworks drafted to contribute to more credible elections	1	0
5.4.2	# of participants gathered to discuss electoral transparency and fraud prevention	60	69
5.4.3	# of assessments, including recommendations, completed on policies and statutes for the inclusion of disenfranchised groups in the electoral process	1	1

## **ANNEXES**

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## ANNEX A

### Burundi Policy Reform Program Year 2 Monitoring and Evaluation Report

Below is a set of tables that provide all Burundi Policy Reform Year 2 indicators, targets, and achievements made towards targets.

Water						
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation
Number of frameworks on water resource management developed	2	1	Atelier national de validation du cadre institutionnel du secteur eau au Burundi. Target for second framework withdrawn by USAID.	April 21	Yes	Rapport final de l'étude sur le développement du cadre institutionnel du secteur de l'eau au Burundi
Number of sector policies on water resource management developed and validated with USG assistance	2	2	Atelier national de validation de la politique nationale d'utilisation de l'eau en rapport avec l'agriculture	July 11	Yes	Copie de la politique sectorielle
			Atelier national de validation de la politique nationale d'utilisation de l'eau en rapport avec la santé	July 12	Yes	Copie de la politique sectorielle
Number of USG-facilitated events to inform and validate proposed sector policies at the community and executive level	8	7				
		1	Consultations communautaires sur l'utilisation de la ressource eau, Kayanza.	March 26	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier régional de pré-validation des études portant sur les politiques sectorielles de l'utilisation de l'eau et	April 23	Yes	Report

			l'agriculture, eau et santé, Muyinga			
		1	Atelier régional de pré-validation des études portant sur les politiques sectorielles de l'utilisation de l'eau et l'agriculture, eau et santé, Gitéga.	May 19	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier régional de pré-validation des études portant sur les politiques sectorielles de l'utilisation de l'eau et l'agriculture, eau et santé, Cibitoke	July 5	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier de validation des études portant sur la politique sectorielle d'utilisation de l'eau en rapport avec l'agriculture	July 11	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier de validation des études portant sur la politique sectorielle d'utilisation de l'eau en rapport avec la santé	July 12	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier de discussion sur les politiques sectorielles d'utilisation de l'eau en rapport avec la santé et l'eau en rapport avec l'agriculture, Bujumbura	July 3	Yes	Report
<b>Women</b>						
<b>Name of Indicator</b>	<b>Target No.</b>	<b>Progress Toward Target</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>	
Number of USG-supported women leaders attending international conference to enhance skills and awareness to participate in political processes	18	18				
		10	The sixth African Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect with focus on Early Childhood Development and Education, Addis Ababa	May 4-6	10	
		08	International conference on sexual violence, South Africa	July 6-9	8	

Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation
Number of USG training events organized to promote women participation to political processes	2	2				
		1	Atelier de renforcement des capacités des femmes leaders à la base, Muyinga	July 14-16	Yes	Report
		1	Atelier de renforcement des capacités des femmes leaders à la base, Muyinga	August 4-6	Yes	Report
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Number of Participants	
Number of members of women-led organizations participating in USG training events	50	52				
		26	Atelier de renforcement des capacités des femmes leaders à la base, Muyinga	July 14-16	26	
		26	Atelier de renforcement des capacités des femmes leaders à la base, Muyinga	August 4-6	26	
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation
Number of USG-supported events geared toward strengthening women leaders with mechanisms to fight corruption	8	8				
		1	Formation des femmes juristes en anti-corruption	December 17-18	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 9-11	Yes	Report

		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 12-13	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 16-18	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 19-20	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 23-25	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 26-27	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes parlementaires en anti-corruption	May 28-29	Yes	Report
Number of USG-supported events geared toward strengthening women leaders with mechanisms to mitigate conflicts	8	9				
		1	Formation des femmes Juristes en résolution des conflits	December 11-12	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 9-11	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 12-13	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 16-18	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	19- 20 March	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 23-25	Yes	Report
		1	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 26-27	Yes	Report

		1	Formation des femmes parlementaires en résolution des conflits	May 25-27	Yes	Report
		1	Formation technique en négociation des femmes leaders	August 10-19	Yes	Report
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Number of Participants	
Number of government officials receiving USG-supported anti-corruption training	20	27				
		27	Formation des femmes parlementaires en anti-corruption	May 28-29	27	
Number of people affiliated with non-governmental organizations receiving USG-supported anti-corruption training	140	155				
		22	Formation des femmes juristes en anti-corruption	December 17-18	22	
		21	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 9-11	21	
		19	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 12-13	19	
		16	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 16-18	16	
		15	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 19-20	15	
		32	Formation des femmes leaders des organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption	March 23-25	32	
		30	Formation des femmes leaders des	March 26-27	30	

			organisations de la société civile en anti-corruption		
Number of women leaders receiving USG-supported conflict mitigation training	160	183			
		17	Formation des femmes juristes en résolution des conflits	December 11-12	17
		23	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 9-11	23
		20	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 12-13	20
		15	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 16-18	15
		16	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 19-20	16
		31	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 23-25	31
		31	Formation des femmes leaders en résolution des conflits	March 26-27	31
		30	Formation des femmes parlementaires en résolution des conflits	May 25-27	30
<b>Victims of Torture</b>					
<b>Name of Indicator</b>	<b>Target No.</b>	<b>Progress Toward Target</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Number of Victims</b>
Number of people benefiting from USG-supported legal or healing services	125	453			
		453	Assistance médicale, judiciaire, et psychosociale aux VOTs	May-September 2009	453

Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation	
Number of USG-assisted organizations and/or service delivery systems strengthened to provide legal and healing services to vulnerable populations	2	3	Renforcement de la capacité managériale de trois OSCs	October 2009	Yes	Final training report	
Number of mechanisms created to advocate for political reform that eradicate torture as a result of USG assistance	1	1	Assessment to investigate the main barriers to reform and organization of general assemblies of the mechanism of advocacy for political reform that eradicate torture.	January-October	Yes	The copy of the assessment and the attendance lists	
Number of civil society organizations using USG assistance to promote political participation	4	16	Formation des organisations de la société civile en techniques de plaidoyer pour des réformes visant l'éradication de la torture	June 8-10	Yes	Liste des participants et rapport de la formation	
Number of victims-led associations supported by USG to promote advocacy against torture	5	6	Organisation d'une campagne de plaidoyer à l'occasion de la journée internationale de lutte contre la torture dans les provinces de Bujumbura Mairie, Cibitoke, Gitéga, Muyinga, Ngozi	June 26	Yes	Rapport des activités de plaidoyer par province et les copies des accords de subvention avec les associations subventionnées	
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	No. of Participants	Male	Female
Number of members of victims associations participating in USG-supported programs to increase awareness of torture-related issues at the community level	25	26					
		13	Study tour to Cambodia	May 15-27	13	8	5

		13	Study tour to South Africa	August 1-9	13	9	4
Elections and Political Processes							
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation	
Number of legal frameworks drafted to contribute to more credible elections	1	0	Not accomplished, target withdrawn by USAID.				
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	No. of Participants	Male	Female
Number of participants gathered to discuss transparency in electoral processes and fraud prevention	60	69	Table ronde sur l'amélioration de la transparence et de l'intégrité des élections	July 3-4	69	59	10
Name of Indicator	Target No.	Progress Toward Target	Activity	Dates	Documentation of Support Filed	Describe Documentation	
Number of assessments, including recommendations completed on policies and statutes for the inclusion of disenfranchised groups in the electoral process	1	1	Table ronde sur l'amélioration de la transparence et de l'intégrité des élections	July 3-4	Yes	Copie de l'assessment et des recommandations	

## **ANNEX B**

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### **Summaries of Selected Reports and Studies**

All project reports are being sent to USAID's Development Experience Clearinghouse and will eventually be on line at [www.dec.usaid.gov](http://www.dec.usaid.gov). In the meantime, we include abstracts of the four major studies conducted during the year.

#### **A. Water Resources**

##### **A1. Legal and Institutional Framework for the Water Sector in Burundi**

*Abstract.* From 1999 to 2001, a draft of a national water policy was prepared and adopted by the government, but was never submitted to the National Assembly due to tensions and a lack of coordination between the entities responsible for different aspects of water management and protection. In 2009, the government again took on the task of developing a national water policy and the Policy Reform Project conducted a study to help identify a more workable institutional framework. The study recommended an integrated framework based on cross-cutting relationships, decentralization, and participation of a wide range of interested parties. The study includes the following sections: 1) a summary of steps leading to the establishment of a national water policy, 2) a comparison of water management worldwide and nationally, 3) an inventory of existing legislation and regulations, and explanation of problems related to overlapping responsibilities between the ministries, and 4) proposed coordination mechanisms, identification of ministerial responsibilities, and recommendations for the creation of a national water authority. The study was reviewed and approved at a national workshop and several of its recommendations were integrated into the new national water policy validated in September 2009.

##### **A2. Sectoral Policy on Water and Health**

*Abstract.* In its national health policy for 2005-2015, the Government of Burundi set a goal of providing 70 percent of the population with access to safe drinking water. Still, 84 percent of the deaths of children less than 5 years old are related to unclean water, 90 percent of the population does not have access to latrines, and millions of Burundians suffer from malaria and cholera each year due to poor water management. The purpose of the study conducted by the USAID Burundi Policy Reform Project was to provide the government with recommendations for accelerating the process toward attaining the objectives set in the national policy. The study presents sections on the context for the project's work; an explanation of water uses in Burundi, including agribusiness, fishing, agriculture, and irrigation; challenges; current legal provisions and institutional structures for water protection; a summary of international norms; and recommendations for a new strategy and action plan.

Among the most important recommendations of this study, validated by experts and civil servants, are 1) creation of a national map showing where clean water problems remain, 2) rehabilitation of infrastructure, 3) creation of a national laboratory to control the water quality, 4) improved solid and liquid waste management, 5) establishment of pollution standards for manufacturing, 6) environmental standards for the lakes, rivers, and watersheds, and 7) creation of an inter-ministerial committee responsible for establishing water protection mechanisms and structures.

### **A3. Sector Policy on Water and Agriculture**

*Abstract.* Although water resources are plentiful compared to most African countries, management of those resources is deficient. More than 60 percent of the population is suffering from food insecurity, irrigation systems remain insufficient, water used in agricultural processing pollutes rivers and lakes, public health is threatened by pollution, and there is a lack of coordination mechanisms between government entities. Better water-resource planning and management could increase agriculture production and help reduce watershed pollution. The purpose of this study is to provide the government with ways to maximize the use of water while preserving and protecting it as a valuable resource. The study presents sections on the justification and context in which the project operated; an explanation of water uses, including agribusiness, fishing, agriculture and irrigation; challenges; the current legal provisions and institutional structures for water protection and access; a summary of international norms and conventions; and recommendations for a new strategy and action plan in relation to water and agriculture.

### **B. Elections**

#### **B1. Final Report on Improving the Transparency and Integrity of Elections**

*Abstract.* The Burundian authorities are in the process of preparing the 2010 presidential, legislative, and communal elections. There have been growing demands among citizens and the political class that the problems during the 2005 elections be acknowledged and avoided. The project reviewed international standards for elections, analyzed the legal framework relating to the Burundian electoral process (including the Burundian constitution, the communal law, and the electoral code), and identified ways in which the Burundian legal framework could be improved to increase transparency and integrity.

Based on this research and on consultations with key national decision makers and international donors, a two-day roundtable was organized in June 2009, in cooperation with the government of Burundi and the European Community Project Gutwara Neza. Former presidents, government representatives, members of the national assembly, senators, governors, political party leaders and civil society representatives came to consensus on a set of recommendations that centered on revision of the electoral code.

Among the most debated provisions were the timing of the three upcoming elections, the design of ballots, the possibility of requiring identity cards, and the role and responsibilities of the National Independent Electoral Commission. The final report, which presents both the consultants' analysis and results of the roundtable, is divided in four sections: 1) introduction, 2) an analysis of international norms, the current legal context, and description of groups at risk of marginalization during the election, 3) proposed amendments to the current legal framework, and 4) a summary of the roundtable discussions and recommendations.