

Submitted: **Date:** 10 / 04 / 2022

To Dr. Hiroshi Niwano  
Chairman  
Niwano Peace Foundation

Code No : 20 – A – 094

**Organization Name: Peace and Reconciliation Movement (PRM SL)**

**Activity Report** (1 April, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022)

**Title of the granted project:** Strengthening Community stakeholders in Peace building in Massaquoi II Section , Sierra Leone

**1. Purpose of the project** (In around 300 words)

The project was designed to improve community peaceful co-existence and cohesion in Massaquoi II Session Soro Gbema Chiefdom, Pujehun District. Through training of 60 community stakeholders in ADRMs. The Participants were selected from 18 Villages and towns within Massaquoi II Section. After training, the trainees incorporated the skills and Knowledge acquired from the training session into their daily conflict resolution and peace building activities hence improved their skills in mediations, dialogue and service delivery and more capacity that benefit more than six thousand people living in the section.

In additions the Trainees undertook an active conflict mediation, dialogue and peace education activities on Voluntarily basis to reduce conflict and promote peaceful co-existence in their respective communities in Massaquoi Chiefdom in general.

**2. Contents of the project, and how those were implemented** (In around 600 words)

For the period under review (1<sup>st</sup> April 2021- March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022) PRM SL trained 58 participants instead of 60 participants, they were training in dispute resolution mechanisms skills such as mediation, reconciliation, negotiation etc. However, PRM SL implemented the project activities based on the approved budget and activities. The activities implemented are as follow:

**Two Training Sessions were organized that is for 58 community stakeholders in alternative**



dispute resolutions mechanisms at Juring Town Massaquoi II. The 1<sup>st</sup> training session of Community stakeholders was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021 with 30 participants. The second Training session was organized on May 12<sup>th</sup>– 15 2021 with 28 participants. The participants were selected from 17 Villages from the Massaquoi II section. The method uses to facilitate the training session include Facilitations, group works, presentation by participants, brainstorm, Reflections, handouts distributions and social scanning on

issues affecting peace and undermined community development in the section and the chiefdom in general. The participants were trained in Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms skills such topics included mediations, Negotiation, Dialogue, reconciliation, etc. other topics include conflict analysis Tools, peace building, community mobilization skills to work with all members of community to promote peace and development Partners etc.

at the end of the training sessions action plans were developed as follow:

- Each participant to give feedback to their respective communities /Village or town
- Do network with development partners have similar goals such as members' of traditional justice sectors, and local authorities
- Peace monitoring within their communities and report to appropriate authorities
- Mobilizing community stakeholders to promote community peaceful co-existence and sustainable development initiatives
- Mediating and resolving minor conflict within family and friends
- Team work to promote peace and reconciliation
- Periodic follow up by PRM SL STAFF/TRAINERS on cases /reports by trainees to helped address some cases that need their technical inputs

It is expected the action plan will help the trainees practice the skills and knowledge they have acquired from the training sessions.



The training Session opening and closing ceremonies were organized in each training Session, key community stakeholders were invited, such as religious and traditional leaders, local authorities, women and youth leaders etc. and some gave statements in support of the training session and urge the trainees to deliver in line with their expectation and objective which aimed to strengthen traditional justice system in the section and create conducive atmospheres that enhance development in the section. A women leader and town chief of Malenla in her statement thanked PRM SL and Niwano Peace Foundation for financial support to organized the training Sessions for community

stakeholders in Massaquoi II section, Soro Gbema chiefdom Pujehun district, Southern Sierra

Leone.

**Experience sharing workshop** was organized at Juring town, the workshop was held on 15<sup>th</sup>



-16<sup>th</sup> August 2021, with 81 participants participated in the workshop, information was shared on field experiences, relating to conflict resolved. During the experience sharing session, the trainees report on challenges, such as high cost of transportation and successes in resolving conflicts and team working was more helpful in dealing with conflict. Types of conflicts the trainees

intervened include domestic violence, youth related conflicts, conflict between youths and elders, conflict between bike riders, Family based conflict and domestic violence in the project communities. During workshop the trainees worked in team by sharing field experience and groups presentations

**Group Discussion:** As you can see from the picture below discussed on issues helped prevent conflict in their respective homes and communities are as follow:



- Honesty in dealing with development issues
  - Sharing information
  - Inclusive in decision –making
  - Respect each other views
  - Peace education/ sensitization on community development initiatives
  - Unity and forgiveness
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- Team work
  - Improve communication within the Family and stakeholders
  - Providing food for the Family members

**Key Challenges Emerging:** Key Challenges faces during the project implementation are as follow:

- Selections of targeted participants compared the increasing demand from the community members for participation.
- Insufficient logistical support to adequately support some trainee to cover certain conflict /cases
- Number of cases reported were high than expected or logistical support
- It was difficult to convince or work with some local authorities as they have use to exploit money from people and service of the trainees is free of charge

**Action to address the challenge:**

The trainees called upon PRM SL staff to do more follow ups and educate local authorities and key community stakeholders on the project approved activities and limitation. And educate on the roles and responsibilities of any stakeholders in promoting community development Programme

**Monthly follow up visits:** PRM SL Field staff pay periodic visits to the project operation areas in order to monitor the works of the trainees on the field and to help address some challenges faced by the trainees for example cooperation of local authorities was difficult at the begging of project, unless when PRM SL Field staff pay follow up visits to the authorities and educate them about project activities. For the period under review, Cases relating to Family based conflicts, farming land /and youths related conflict were handled appropriately. Referral pathway was fully observed for cases outside mandate such as rape, winding, murder etc.

**Key Challenges Emerging:** Majority of the trainees were illiterate and they did not know how to document reports and high cost were involved in resolving some cases such as transportation cost, stationaries, time consuming etc.

**Actions:** As a result PRM SL recommended to trainees to do team works to overcome some challenges like illiteracy, etc. And to do networking with partners shared common goal with them. They were advised to analyses conflict properly before intervention in order to identify helping factors and obstacles before decided to intervened.

3. **Time line records in general in chronological order** (In around 300 words)

PRM SL implemented the project activities as planned there were no major shifts:

- First Community Stakeholders Training workshop was on 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at Juring town, Massaquoi II section, Soro Gbema chief down.
- Second community stakeholders training session in ADRMs was held on 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2021, with 28 participants at Juring town.
- Experience sharing session was organised on November 6-th 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Juring town, Massaquoi II Section with 81 Participants, the session last for two days with representative from various 16 Villages. These activities helped shared and published the project stakeholders in the chiefdom in genera

- Periodic / monthly follow up visits were conducted 10 times by the project staff (field supervisor to monitor the progress of the project activities implemented and provide technical support for trainees. For the period under review, meetings were organised by trainees to deal with conflicts and attending community development meeting to help sensitize the participant about the project activities and the chiefdom development agenda and one to one peace educations were undertaking by trainees.
4. **Achievements** (In around 300 words )
- For the period under review: PRM SL achieved in the implementing the project as planned, and achieved training of 58 community stakeholders in Alternative Conflict Resolution Mechanisms skills and these enable the trainees become more effective in mediation and resolving conflicts. 10 periodic follow up visits were made in the operational areas, and during these follow up Visit PRM SL Staffs were able to reach out estimated 266 people. The trainees did peace education in focus group discussions and meetings organized by them, and they also did peace education in community meetings organized by community stakeholders, it was estimated that the message reached 1,553 people. However, the activities implemented include:
- 3-days Training workshop was conducted with 30 participants, and last for 3 days, the workshop or the training session was held at Juring town
  - The second Training session was conducted at Juring town with 28 participants instead of 30 participants, the two of the participant later informed PRM SL that they were sick, this is reasons for their absence.
  - 2 -day experience sharing session was organized with 81 participants, the trainees shared field experiences among themselves and selected members of Massaquoi II section. In this session it was also learnt that the trainee has become more effective in delivery community justice sector. It was clear that the knowledge and skills acquired by trainees have benefited themselves and people living in the communities and contributed toward peaceful co-existence in the sections. This was evidenced during intervention of youth and elders related conflict that is alleged injustice by youth leader in dealing with issues arising between youth and elders in the township of Latu
  - It was also observed that cooperation among the stakeholders has increased as indicated by increasing numbers of men and women, youths and elders participated in the follow up visit meetings and actively contributed to the discussions
  - Trainees are use both traditional and model methods to resolve conflict in their respective communities, this is indicated by numbers of cases successfully resolved by the trainees increased compared to the time they have not being train
5. **Tasks or challenge in future, or what is remain to be done** (In around 300 words)

PRM SL organized project exit meeting at Juring town on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2022. The meeting participants included Trainees, and some key community stakeholders including local authorities. The project exit meeting participants were 56 in numbers. After length of discussions on the project sustainability strategies such as Knowledge and skills acquired from the project, working with partners that share common goals, intervene and media in conflicts using the knowledge and skills learnt.

The participants also asked PRM and Niwano Peace foundation to:-

solicit funds to address youth unemployment in the and to help address women poverty in the Massaquoi II section, this was identified as main factor that undermined peaceful co-existence in the section. PRM SL to organize periodic follow up visit to the trainees as usual. the meeting participants also called on THE TRAINEES to do networking and share information on their progress and activity plan. PRM to solicit funds to extend the project activities to other sections of the chiefdom as it has been requested by community members and Local authorities.

Submitted by .....

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