Organization Name: Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment-West Nile (RICE-WN)

Other implementing Partners: Radio Pacis

Project Title: Radio Programming for Refugees and Host Communities in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement for Long Lasting Peace and Development – Phase II

Grant Number: USAIDSAFE/PR/APS/RICEWN/0004

End of APS Grant Project Report
April 18, 2015 to November 18, 2015

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Signature:

A young women narrating her ordeal of taking care of 2 children after losing the husband in battle two years ago during a community dialogue in Tika IV Cluster in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. Unlike in the past, women have been very active during the community dialogues which were aired on Radio Pacis 90.9 FM.
1. PROGRAMME BACKGROUND DATA

Programme Thematic Area(s): Peace Building

Contract Base Period: 18/04/2015 to 18/11/2015

Project Beneficiaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target group</th>
<th>Denominators*</th>
<th>Numbers Served/Reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Female</td>
<td>Youth Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TBD: To be determined after verification from OPM

District(s) and sub-counties of operation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Sub-county (ies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Arua</td>
<td>Uriama, Rigbo, Odupi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total cost of the project as per contract: 111,052,000 USH

Funds utilized to date as per submitted bank statements: 110,935,627 USH

Balance of funds Available: 116,373 USH

Reporting Period: April to November 2015

Date report prepared: 15th /12/2015

Date Report Submitted: 18th /12/2015

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1 Registration Presentation from OPM for July-September 2015 Quarter presented on 25/09/2015
2 Total reached through community dialogues and those reached through listeners groups
3 Refugee Welfare Council Members excluding Local Council executives of the host communities
4 Total number of local leaders trained on conflict resolution and peacebuilding this quarter
# Table of Contents

1. PROGRAMME BACKGROUND DATA ................................................................. 2
2. GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS ........................................................................ 4
3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION .............................................................................. 5
4. ACHIEVEMENTS/RESULTS .......................................................................... 7
   4.1 OUTPUTS ................................................................................................. 7
   1.1 Community Radio Dialogues .................................................................. 7
   1.2 Peace Spot Messages ............................................................................ 7
   1.3 Radio Drama .......................................................................................... 8
   2.1 Community Peace Monitors .................................................................. 8
   2.2 Community Listening Groups ............................................................... 9
   2.3 Trainings in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation ............................. 10
4.2 OUTCOMES ............................................................................................... 11
   4.2.1 Media Component ............................................................................ 11
   4.2.2 Strengthened Community Structures ................................................ 12
5. ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST THE PLANNED TARGETS ............................. 13
   5 (a). What factors facilitated attainment of the above achievements ......... 16
   5 (b). Describe your coordination and collaboration with the partners ....... 16
   5 (c). Explain how your CSO has benefited from implementing the project 16
6. LESSONS LEARNED .................................................................................... 17
7. BEST PRACTICES ......................................................................................... 17
8. SUPPORT FROM SAFE TECHNICAL TEAM ............................................. 18
9. GENDER RELATED ISSUES ........................................................................ 18
10. YOUTH RELATED ....................................................................................... 19
11. ETHNIC ...................................................................................................... 19
12. ANTI CORRUPTION ................................................................................... 19
13. RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD ......................................... 20
   14 (a). What recommendations do you have for USAID-SAFE to better support you if you were to implement a similar project? ........................................ 20
   14 (b). What way forward do you have regarding successful project implementation? .... 20
# 2. GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APS</td>
<td>Annual Peace Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAO</td>
<td>Chief Administrative Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CGA</td>
<td>Common Ground Approach</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPM</td>
<td>Community Peace Monitor</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>Danish Refugee Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECD</td>
<td>Early Childhood Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP's</td>
<td>Implementing Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC 1</td>
<td>Local Council 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC 2</td>
<td>Local Council 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>LC 3</td>
<td>Local Council 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC 5</td>
<td>Local Council 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTI</td>
<td>Medical Teams International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP's</td>
<td>Operating Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPM</td>
<td>Office of the Prime Minister</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTSD</td>
<td>Post-traumatic Stress Disorder</td>
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<tr>
<td>RDC</td>
<td>Resident District Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>RICE-WN</td>
<td>Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment-West Nile</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWC</td>
<td>Refugee Welfare Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWC I</td>
<td>Refugee Welfare Council I</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWC II</td>
<td>Refugee Welfare Council II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWC III</td>
<td>Refugee Welfare Council II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFE</td>
<td>Supporting Access to Justice, Fostering Equity and Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>Save the Children International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGBV</td>
<td>Sexual Gender Based Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPLM</td>
<td>The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URC</td>
<td>Uganda Red Cross</td>
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</table>
3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In October 2014 RICE-WN undertook the implementation of a peace project in Rhino Camp, via funding from USAID SAFE APS Grant. Conflict reduction was targeted via media facilitated community dialogues, dramas and spot messages. The program has been welcomed at large by the population. However its initial duration of six (6) months was viewed as too short to achieve best results. It is in light of the programs potential that RICE-WN wishes to continue working in the camp under the auspice of USAID SAFE to mitigate potential conflicts and increase peaceful co-existence.

Main problems related to the subject that this project addresses

Since October 1, 2014, RICE-WN via funding from USAID SAFE, has been undertaking a peace building program, targeting both host and refugee communities in Rhino camp refugee settlement. The project (5/2015-11/2015) aims to resolve potential conflicts between the two communities and service providers in the camp via media facilitated community-stakeholder engagement. Following project assessment in January 14/15, 2015, the management team noted the following gaps/challenges related to the implementation of the peace building initiative such as increased influx of refugees, poor mobile network for mobilization, limited visibility due to lack of sign board or banners, and lack of field staff.

Overall Project Goal

‘Contribute towards a reduction in tension and prospects for violent conflict among the refugee and host communities of three sub counties and thirteen clusters in Arua district by the end of September 2015’. 

This project goal relates to the mandate and programmatic priorities of USAID SAFE with particular emphasis on ‘enhancing the capacity of local actors and strengthening mechanism for resolving and mitigating conflicts (…) and transform emerging conflicts into peaceful outcomes’.

The main concern of this project is to address challenges relating to inter-community (host community-refugee) and inter-ethnic (ethnic groups in or outside the camps) co-habitation. This directive will require bridging division through the establishment of a diverse media component that will provide an opportunity for target listeners to receive timely and accurate information, gain awareness of diverse perspectives, and discuss opportunities and challenges to peaceful coexistence. This will later be used as a springboard to engage in community dialogue surrounding the above radio discussions and identify key stakeholders for weekly participation of radio programming which will be facilitated by community peace monitors and ‘radio listener’ groups.

Procedurally the project is envisioned to create conditions favourable for positive inter community interaction and mutual understanding between all stakeholders present.

Project Objectives

**Objective 1:** To facilitate information dissemination to 5000 members of the refugee and host community in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.

**Measurable:** 12 community dialogue radio programs, 168 peace spot messages; 4 three part radio drama series; 48 drama group members participating in radio drama production.

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5 USAID-SAFE Program website: [www.safeprogram.ug](http://www.safeprogram.ug)
**Objective 2:** To strengthen refugee and host communities’ participation in conflict resolution among 80 local leaders in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.

**Measurable:** 13 community peace monitors; 175 radio transmitters; 13 community peace monitor bicycles; 65 radio listener groups (five per cluster); 4 conflict reconciliation and resolution trainings; 80 RWC Leaders trained in conflict resolution and reconciliation; 13 community peace monitor bicycles, 102 t-shirts for visibility.

**Specific Activities Description**

1.1 **Community Radio Dialogues:** Organise the development and airing of 12 community dialogue radio programs, two per month. In total the twelve (12) events will entail the mobilisation of five hundred (500) community participants and will be facilitated by a minimum of one (1) IP/OP per event so as to ensure correct information dissemination (ten in total). The dialogues will cover the areas of peaceful co-existence, tolerance and accurate information dissemination to inform stakeholders and community members such as health care provision, education provision and infrastructural development. The resulting dialogues will then be edited and aired the following week over the radio so as to increase population access to dialogue content.

1.2 **Peace Spot Messages:** The community dialogues will be reinforced by the additional development and airing of 168 (daily) peace spot messages, one per day. Each spot message will engage the population with the content of the upcoming radio program and also sensitise the population on peaceful coexistence.

1.3 **Radio Drama:** The community media engagement activity will develop four (4) radio drama series that will provide both entertainment and a sensitisation medium for increasing community awareness of the importance of peaceful living and tolerance. Their creation will entail the participation of (in total) forty eight (48) drama group members sourced from both the refugee community and host community.

2.1 **Community Peace Monitors:** RICE-WN will identify and incorporate thirteen (13) community peace monitors within the camp. These individuals will be interviewed prior to dispersal and will be on a voluntary basis for the duration of the project. Their role in the project will be to monitor the five (5) radio listening groups per cluster for topic identification, operational challenges and early conflict warning (65 in total). Their participation will be facilitated via the provision of one (1) bicycle per volunteer, thirteen (13) in totals and 102 t-shirts.

2.2 **Community Listening Groups:** The second component of the activity will be the provision of radio transmitters within the camp. A total of 65 radio listening groups will be established, followed by the provision of 175 radio sets to increase community participation and create awareness on project content and messages of peaceful living.

2.3 **Trainings in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation:** The third component will entail the training of eighty (80) Refugee Welfare Council (RWC) leaders in a series of four (4) tailored workshops on conflict resolution and reconciliation.
4. ACHIEVEMENTS/RESULTS

4.1 OUTPUTS

Objective 1: To facilitate information dissemination to 5000 members of the refugee and host communities in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.

1.1 Community Radio Dialogues

| Activity 1.1: Conduct Community Radio Dialogues |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # of Community Dialogues Recorded | # of Community Dialogues Aired | # of Key Participants Recorded during dialogues | # of Community Members who attended Dialogues |
| Target | 12 | 12 | 120 | 1200 |
| Achieved | 12 | 12 | 128 | 1715 |
| Female | 37 | 1047 |
| Male | 91 | 668 |

12 community radio dialogues recorded and aired: a total of 1715 (F=1047, M=668) community members reached during the dialogues and 128 community voices (F=37, M=91) recorded and played on radio.

1.2 Peace Spot Messages

| Activity 1.2: Peace Spot Messages and T-Shirts |
| --- | --- |
| # of Peace Spot Messages Aired | # of T-Shirts Produced and Distributed |
| Target | 168 | 102 |
| Achieved | 213 | 102 |
| English | 89 | 50 |
| Arabic | 68 | 52 |
| Lugbara | 56 | 0 |

168 English messages aired and 102 distributed, 89 Arabic messages aired and 50 distributed, 68 Lugbara messages aired and 52 distributed.
213 peace spot messages have been aired (68 in Arabic, 56 in Lugbara and 89 in English). The following message printed on the T-shirts: Choose Peace, Say NO to Violence. We Are One People.

102 T-shirts printed and distributed. Beneficiaries included, Community Peace Monitors, refugee welfare council officials (RCW I, II & III), local council (LC I) officials of host villages, youth and women representatives, staff from Office of the Prime Minister (Arua and Yoro), Project Team from Radio Pacis and RICE-WN.

1.3 Radio Drama

Activity 1.3: Radio Drama

![Graph showing # of Radio Drama Series recorded, # of Radio Drama Series aired, and # of drama group members participating in drama production.]

Objective 2: To strengthen refugee and host communities’ participation in conflict resolution among 80 local leaders in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.

2.1 Community Peace Monitors

Activity 2.1: Recruitment of Community Peace Monitors

![Graph showing # of Community Peace Monitors recruited and oriented and # of Bicycles distributed to CPMs.]

13 community peace monitors (F=1, M=12) recruited and oriented. Very few female members responded to the request for applications: 9 peace monitors received bicycles.
Following the verification of the 13 successful Community Peace Monitors (CPMs) by the Office of the Prime Minister, 4 were found to have received bicycles under another OPM program. Therefore, in order to avoid duplication, it was recommended by OPM Refugee Office that the four recipients of bicycles under their program be exempted from bicycles under USAID SAFE. New beneficiaries were identified with support from the RWC III staff.

2.2 Community Listening Groups

![Activity 2.2: Formation of Listeners Groups and Distribution of Radios](image)

Over 1322 community members (F=466, M=856) including men, women and youths formed in the listeners groups benefitted from the Radio sets.

![# of Radios Distributed By Cluster](image)
2.3 Trainings in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation

These trainings were organised for RWC and LC leaders of Zone A, B, C and CPMs. The following are the categories of local leaders who were trained: Chairpersons RWC I, Secretaries for Security, and Women Representatives to RWC I of the different clusters, LC I Chairpersons of the host communities, Chairpersons, Secretaries and Women representatives of the Zones, religious leaders and some elders representatives.

These local leaders were trained on the following topics: Understanding conflict, Intervening in conflicts, Mediation, Peace building program in Camp settings and reintegration back home, Leadership and reintegration back home.
4.2 OUTCOMES

4.2.1 Media Component

The following outcomes have been registered as a result of the media engagements undertaken:

- **Reduction in resource-based conflicts**: As a result of the community dialogues organized by RICE-WN and Radio Pacis, tension among refugee and host communities has generally reduced. Local leaders have acknowledged the reduction in trend of conflicts and ability of the lower local leaders to resolve minor conflicts among communities. Radio Pacis staff members were able to point out that initially a lot of resource-based conflicts featured during rural debates but has significantly reduced.

- **More partnerships registered by Radio Pacis**: As a result of innovative nature of the radio programming designed by RICE-WN and aired by Radio Pacis, Radio Pacis has registered new partnerships. The partners have come in to copy RICE-WN’s radio programming approach. Ms. Sarah Amviko, the Assistant Program Manager of RICE-WN said some contracts with existing partners such as Danish Refugee Council and Care were redone to copy RICE-WN’s model. These partners initially had Radio Talk show programs but changed to Rural Debates. New partnership registered with War Child who admired the Radio Programming model.

- **Reduced rate of crime**: The Community Peace Monitors have testified that they register fewer crime rates as compared with in the past. This is attributed to community dialogues were such issues are openly exposed and discussed on radio.

- **Joint social gatherings**: It has been generally acknowledged that host community and refugees are able to participate in joint social events. Even different ethnic groupings are now able to have joint events such as sports tournaments, cultural gala and other social celebrations. This is attributed to peace messages passed to the communities.

- **Improved service delivery**: Communities have been able to proactively advocate for improvement in services. For example, sources of water were improved in Wanyange cluster and Siripi cluster.

- **Refugees included in Health Facility Management**: Initially, refugees were not represented in health unit management committees. During one of the dialogues, communities pointed that out as a weakness and source of conflict and the lead partner in health activities was charged responsible who took it up for immediate action. After a short while, refugee representatives were elected in the Health Facility Management Committee.
4.2.2 Strengthened Community Structures

The trainings which were conducted have led to improved capacity of the local leaders to handle conflicts within the communities. Below are some of the testimonies from the participants who were trained.

“I have had hardships resolving conflicts in my cluster, but now with the skills of mediation I have learnt these two days, I hope to make my village peaceful especially domestic violence”, says Kom Nop Kuanen, CPM/Chairperson Tika 2/3 cluster.

“My culture [of Nuer] encourages fighting especially among children. This training has just made me realize that such a culture makes them to be violent in future. But making them understand fighting is bad at this stage makes them ambassadors of peace in their communities in future”, says Hillary Wilson, CPM/Vice Chairperson, Ariwa cluster.

“I am very grateful for USAID SAFE and RICE-WN for organizing the training. My work of uniting the refugees is already made easy. With the knowledge the CPMs have learnt today including that of yesterday, am satisfied of the quality of peace monitoring the community shall receive. I only wish the training was for more days like a week”, says Mr. James Lam, the Chairperson RWC III Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement.

“For me, the two days' training on skills of peaceful conflict resolution, qualities of a good leader have eye-opened me to better handle somewhat difficult society especially Simbili where the youths have problems. Thanks RICE-WN and USAID SAFE for the rightful intervention”, says William Oleya, RWC III Secretary for Men Counsel, Simbili cluster.

Moro Felix, the RWC I of Ngurua cluster commented that the training has addressed key gaps on communication between the leaders. “Often during the execution of duties and responsibilities, some leaders are very challenging because they are simply rulers not leaders. So we have a challenge now all of us to be good leaders and free to communicate and delegate. I only wish such training could include more leaders for more days,” he said.

Cecilia Atong, the female church leader said, “for me because I have only being concentrating on church issues and I used to only attend church meetings in Tika IV and Tika II but I had not attended any training to know the law of Uganda. This training has helped me to know how to live in the community and solve conflicts within the church.” “How to resolve conflicts,” she continued, “is a motivation for me as a church leader.” She also noted that she was impressed by the technique of solving domestic violence where the facilitator said if a man has two wives, he has to share equally the items between them. She acknowledged that she has witnessed domestic violence due to such mistakes by men and that she will truly be true advocate and agent of peace.

“I request that you organize such training for all the RWC members because this training has been very helpful to lead our communities. I even wish all the members of the council were around to benefit from this training” – James Ocitti, RWC I Chairperson Tika IV Cluster.
### 5. ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST THE PLANNED TARGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Planned output/targets</th>
<th>Actual output/targets achieved</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Reason(s) for Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Output 1.1</td>
<td>12 community radio dialogue programs recorded and aired</td>
<td>12 community radio dialogues recorded and aired on Radio Dialogue 128 key community members (91 males and 37 females were recorded/discussed issues during these dialogues. 1715 (1047 female and 668 male) community members participated in these dialogues. The field recorded dialogues were aired on Radio Pacis 90.9 FM in the USAID SAFE radio program called We Are One People. These dialogues took place in various were aired on the following date: Ocea on 29/05/2015 with 12 key participants (10 male and 2 female) and aired on 02/06/2015; Tika I/Olujobo on 11/06/2015 with 12 key participants (10 male and 2 female) and aired on 16/06/2015; Odobu II on 18/06/2015 with 12 key participants (11 male and 1 female) and aired on 23/06/2015; Siripi on 27/06/2015 with 12 key participants (9 male and 3 female) and aired on 07/07/2015; Meanwhile other recorded dialogues were aired on the following dates: 16/09/2015 (Topic: Safe Water Source situation in Wanyange);</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>

**Objective 1:** To facilitate information dissemination to 5000 members of the refugee and host communities in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Planned output/targets</th>
<th>Actual output/targets achieved</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Reason(s) for Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Output 1.2</td>
<td>104 peace spot messages aired</td>
<td>213 peace spot messages have been aired (68 in Arabic, 56 in Lugbara and 89 in English). The following message was printed on the T-shirts: Choose Peace, Say NO to Violence. We Are One People.</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 1.3</td>
<td>4 three part radio drama series produced and aired</td>
<td>4 Radio Drama series produced and aired. 48 drama group members participated in staging dramas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output 1.4</td>
<td>102 T-shirts procured and distributed.</td>
<td>102 T-shirts printed and distributed. Beneficiaries included, Community Peace Monitors, refugee welfare council officials (RCW I, II &amp; III), local council (LC I) officials of host villages, youth and women representatives, staff from Office of the Prime Minister (Arua and Yoro), Project Team from Radio Pacis and RICE-WN.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Planned output/targets</td>
<td>Actual output/targets achieved</td>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>Reason(s) for Variance</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2: To strengthen refugee and host communities’ participation in conflict resolution among 80 local leaders in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua district by November 18 2015.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 2.1</td>
<td>13 community peace monitors recruited;</td>
<td>13 community peace monitors recruited and trained (1 female, 12 male)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 2.2</td>
<td>13 bicycles procured and distributed;</td>
<td>13 bicycles procured and distributed.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 bicycles were given out to the community peace monitors and 4 to other identified beneficiaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 2.3</td>
<td>65 radio listener groups (5 per cluster)</td>
<td>88 radio listeners groups have been formed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1322 community members (F=466, M=856) including men, women and youths formed in the listeners groups benefitted from the Radio sets.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 2.4</td>
<td>175 radio transmitters distributed</td>
<td>175 radio sets were distributed to 88 Radio Listeners Groups and community leaders in the 14 clusters in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. These included 31 local community leaders.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 2.5</td>
<td>3 conflict reconciliation and resolution trainings organized for local leaders</td>
<td>4 trainings on conflict resolution and peacebuilding were conducted for local leaders.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>110 local leaders (F=22, M=88) trained on conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The topics covered during these two-days trainings included; Understanding conflict, Intervening in conflicts, Mediation, Peace building programs in Camp settings and reintegration back home, Leadership and reintegration.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 (a). What factors facilitated attainment of the above achievements.

- Full collaboration and involvement of OPM and Refugee Welfare Council (RWC) I, II and III leaders in organizing and implementation of activities.
- Use of local structures such as RWC and Local Council (LC) I officials, Community Peace Monitors and other local leaders in mobilization has led to increased community participation in the activities.
- Support from the implementing partner. Radio Pacis was very useful throughout during the drama, the community radio dialogues among others.
- The support from the management also made the implementation smooth. Management would always give support to the implementation.
- Active participation of the RWC III Chairman in all dialogues, the Zonal Representatives and RWC I and LC I Chairpersons led to successful implementation. These carried out topic selections, guided on how the issues should be addressed for peaceful coexistence, mobilization of the communities and also identification of the facilitator during the actual dialogues.

5 (b). Describe your coordination and collaboration with the partners.

- Sharing of reports: This has been done during coordination meetings organized by sectors and OPM.
- Implementing Partners (IPs) and Operating Partners (OPs): These have involved in our dialogues to respond to community concerns regarding their areas of work. This has led to satisfactory answers given to community members, commitments made and followed up.
- Local Leaders and structures: These have been used to mobilize community members and also respond to community issues regarding their leadership.

5 (c). Explain how your CSO has benefited from implementing the project.

- Benefited from increased contact with other IP's and OP's (Specialized), gaining insight into both soft and hardware implementation within an emergency context.
- Increased visibility of RICE-WN and collaboration with OPM in meetings and discussions for further contacts.
- A more pronounced peace building and conflict transformation programming has been achieved in the organization.
- A close relationship has been established between RICE-WN and the Settlement. The programme has helped RICE-WN reach all Clusters and has made all leaders be aware of RICE-WN.
- There is improvement in monitoring and evaluation of projects. This is as a result of the support visit by the M&E Team where some of the major gaps identified have been addressed. For example, there is now a specific M&E file for all the major projects implemented by RICE-WN after the USAID SAFE M&E Team led by Mr. Ronny Kajaga identified lack of clear M&E file as a major gap. Improved organizational skills via USAID SAFE collaboration (M&E) and programme development and experience sharing training in Gulu.
- The trainings and learning meetings (in Entebbe and Gulu) organized by USAID SAFE have led to improved knowledge in management of peacebuilding programs. It has been realized that management of peacebuilding interventions need to involve extra skill since they are usually complex in nature.
RICE-WN has now been recognized as one of the implementing partners in the Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement by OPM Department of Refugees. RICE-WN has participated in the coordination meetings organized by sectors or OPM.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

- Involvement of various leaders such as RWC/LC leaders, religious leaders, elders, women and youths in peacebuilding interventions leads to attainment of better results.
- Peace building efforts require local actors’ will, ownership and capacity to resolve problems without recourse to violence. These need to take place at all levels and to involve the government, civil society and the beneficiary community.
- Peace building is a long-term investment by all relevant actors, and requires a shared vision and long-term strategy to address the root causes of conflict.
- Peace building interventions must prioritize areas of potential risks to peace such as youth unemployment, livelihoods, infrastructure and other resources which have high potential to cause conflicts.
- Cross-cutting issues, such as gender and the role of women need to be mainstreamed in the overall peace building efforts. This is because most conflicts within communities are gender related.
- Increased formal communication with USAID SAFE management team in terms of media consultation helps a lot in making a more successful programme management
- On ground mobilization versus telephone based communication. Mobilization utilizing the RWC’s needs to be brought closer to the ground. Not just those within the leadership system should be asked to mobilize but including opinion leaders, both men and women within the specific clusters of interest with on the ground mobilization as the new modus operandi yields more results.
- Absence of conflict resolution mechanism post community dialogues is dangerous for project objectives as achieving peaceful co-existence. This calls for conflict sensitive approach to conducting peace building dialogues otherwise, more complex conflicts can develop
- Importance of ‘piggy-backing’ on larger institutions /bodies such as the OPM or UNHCR for accurate and efficient tracking of key stakeholders. Involving OPM, UNHCR, IPs, OPs, RWC system makes the implementations highly successful.

7. BEST PRACTICES

- Use of multi-stakeholder approach to peace building. Since various stakeholders play various roles in peacebuilding, one of the best practices is to integrate and involve all of them in peacebuilding initiatives. Such stakeholders include local leaders (RWC and LC officials), religious leaders, opinion leaders, elders, women and youth representatives.
- Accurate knowledge and sound analysis of events are prerequisites for the prioritization and sequence of peace building activities. This is because certain post-conflict activities can serve as drivers of conflict and instruments of peace building at the same time.
- Use of established community structures such as Community Peace Monitors (CMPs) leads to increased visibility with the communities.
- Frequent formal, informal and consultative meetings were also beautiful practices. These meetings led to early identification of gaps, challenges and successes of the project.
- The Clear cut project structure/ framework was a great practice. It provided better understanding of overall project objectives and the means to effectively execute project activities in the time frame allocated.
The practice of getting facilitators/responsible persons to respond to community issues during the dialogues was highly successful. This practice created harmony and made people to co-exist with their leaders at different levels and brought many leaders and IPs/OPs close to the community.

8. IMPLEMENTATION CONSTRAINTS

Poor mobile network continue to disrupted effective mobilization of RWC leaders within the majority of the camps clusters. RICE-WN adopted an alternative mobilization method whereby RWC leaders were alerted in person one week prior to community dialogue. Additionally RICE-WN developed a pre-arranged cluster structure for RWC leaders to familiarize themselves.

Limited visibility due to formal advertisements not being in the agreed partnership contract. RICE-WN solely relied on DJ ‘shout-out’ s as its primary means of advertisement. RICE-WN asked Radio Pacis to increase the DJ mentions so that there would increase media advertisement. Besides, the dialogues helped to do the mobilization.

Budgetary oversights led to delayed implementation of certain activities and/or attainment targets. For example 6 out 12 community dialogues have been under budgeted.

Increased inflation has led to increased cost of items. This led to delay in implementation of certain activities since authorization had to be got from USAID SAFE before any adjustments were made. This has also led to deviation from original proposal targets.

9. SUPPORT FROM SAFE TECHNICAL TEAM

9 (a). Any specific support from the SAFE technical team that helped you accomplish your goals this Quarter?

The support supervision visit by M&E Technical Team in July has helped us realize our weaknesses in monitoring and evaluation. This has led to improved documentation of our activities. M&E data collection tools are been kept in dedicated M&E file.

Data validation mechanisms have now been put into place. For example, the project M&E officer checks the data collection tools such as attendance sheets before submission to the Executive Director for approval.

9 (b). Specific support required from SAFE technical team

Capacity building intervention on Gender for staff, local leaders and community volunteers would go a long way in demystifying some of conflicts related to gender roles.

Capacity building on documentation of results. This could include outcome mapping.

Sharing of opportunities such as call for proposals and request for applications.

10. GENDER RELATED ISSUES

Gender related conflicts in communities contribute a greater percentage to the conflicts among the community members and RICE-WN recognizes that women in particular play a major role in peace building and also face the consequences of conflicts more than any other category of the population.
Being a gender sensitive organization that promotes the rights of all categories of people in the community, RICE-WN always devises means to reach to women despite their few numbers in leadership positions in the communities. During the trainings on conflict resolution and peace building organized for the local leaders, specific slot was to women representative per cluster.

Whereas in other activities that are community based such as recording of community dialogues, mobilization is done through women group leaders, churches, markets, LCs, among others to draw the women as well to voice their views. Also the moderators award equal slots for both men and women to voice their concerns.

Furthermore, women specific groups were formed as Radio Listeners’ Group.

11. YOUTH RELATED

RICE-WN acknowledges the unique potential of the youths in peacebuilding and the dynamics they are in. In order to bridge that gap, RICE-WN embraces involvement of youths in all the activities. This is done awarding some specific slots for youths, mainly targeting the local youth groups.

More so, over 80% of the RICE-WN community peace monitors (CPMs) are youths to help in mobilization for activities. This has resulted in many youths partaking in the activities.

12. ETHNIC

RICE-WN ethnic differences of the beneficiaries and always strives to strike a balance and work with areas of common interests.

However, efforts were also made to unite the different ethnicities to have a common understanding in relation to peaceful co-existence. This was done having joint events (meetings) such dialogues and trainings without segregation on ethnical backgrounds.

13. ANTI CORRUPTION

RICE-WN embraces corruption-free environment. Requisitions for money for activities are made by the field officer, checked by the Project Manager and authorized by the Executive Director (ED) before being processed by the finance department. This allows for validation and value for money checks at those different levels.

In addition, each requisition is accompanied by an activity tracking and monitoring tool. This is an M&E/Financial monitoring tool that specifies the details of the activity such as the location, the description, the objectives, the expected outputs and other required inputs necessary for the activity.

Thereafter, accountability is made after implementation of the activity which is verified by the finance personnel before approval by the ED.

All the activities implemented were in line with the budget as approved by USAID-SAFE.
14. RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD

14 (a). What recommendations do you have for USAID-SAFE to better support you if you were to implement a similar project?

- Facilitation of refugee stakeholders should be prioritised as a means of increasing participation for peace-building activities;
- Dissemination of IEC materials such as t-shirts, stickers, caps etc. for promotion of project;
- The engagement of the communities in activities such as sports events, round tables and other peace building activities should be at 50% and media engagement should be 50% of the project;
- Availing of funding for documenting the processes in the project will be key so that flyers, brochures and posters can be developed and distributed more frequently;
- Introduction of activities such as mobile cinemas on peace building, series of radio dramas, actual community based dramas need to be used;
- Comprehensive training on conflict resolution and peace building needs to be organized for all the local leaders and other community leaders such as religious leaders and elders. This need was expressed by Mr. James Lam, RWC III Chairperson Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement during training of some selected leaders in Zone C at Siripi Centre.

14 (b). What way forward do you have regarding successful project implementation?

- Incorporating more entertainment in peace building. Involving groups like community choirs, and other groups can lead to increase in listenership and spread of messages;
- There is need to incorporate exchange program for the RWCs. This is because, they have been raising this throughout the implementation.
- There is need for inclusion of more visibility on the ground. This can be designing banners and signboards with messages.
- Constant meetings with stakeholders will help in successful implementation. There is therefore need for continuous stakeholder engagement meetings and fora.
- Fifty-fifty targeting of beneficiaries for project activities. This way forward was recommended by Mr. Armitage Basikame, the Settlement Commandant, Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. He recommended this when opening the local leaders training on conflict resolution and peace building in Zone B held at St. Peter’s Church in Tika IV Cluster.
- Include more peacebuilding and peace promotion activities in the design. These include Cultural Gala, Sports tournaments, increase frequency of dialogues/sensitization and build capacity of more local leaders, traditional leaders, religious leaders, opinion leaders.