Plateau Will Arise (PWA)! Phase II:
Consolidating an Architecture for Peace, Tolerance and Reconciliation in Plateau and Kaduna State

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Mid-Term Internal Evaluation Report

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPP</td>
<td>Community Action for Popular Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSAD</td>
<td>Community Security Architecture Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU IfS</td>
<td>European Union Instrument for Stability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EWS</td>
<td>Early Warning System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGDs</td>
<td>Focus Group Discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>Full-Time Employee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIZ</td>
<td>German Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td>Human Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDPs</td>
<td>Internally Displaced People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRT</td>
<td>Jos Repertory Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KII</td>
<td>Key Informant Interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LG</td>
<td>Local Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>Local Government Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTE</td>
<td>Mid-Term Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSRP</td>
<td>Nigerian Stability and Reconciliation Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHRC</td>
<td>National Human Rights Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAD</td>
<td>Peace Architecture Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPPN</td>
<td>Plateau Peace Practitioners Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWA II</td>
<td>Plateau Will Arise phase II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWD</td>
<td>People with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFCG</td>
<td>Search for Common Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STF</td>
<td>Special Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>Theory of Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOR</td>
<td>Terms of Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOT</td>
<td>Training of Trainer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOP</td>
<td>Voices of Peace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Executive summary

Project Description

‘Plateau Will Arise (PWA)! Phase II: Consolidating an Architecture for Peace, Tolerance and Reconciliation in Plateau and Kaduna State’ is funded by the European Union (EU), and has an overall objective of ‘developing and ensuring the sustainability of an active, locally owned, and inclusive Peace Architecture in Plateau and Kaduna State beyond 2015’. It is an 18-month project implemented in ten Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Plateau and Kaduna States. PWA II is implemented by Search for Common Ground (SFCG) and the local partners, Community Action for Popular Participation (CAPP) and Jos Repertory Theatre (JRT).

Methodology

The mid-term evaluation (MTE) was carried out mid-way into PWA II and it is principally a formative evaluation which contributes to learnings, and provides actionable recommendations for improvements. The MTE assessed the project in its context and in light of the theory of change (TOC). It assessed implementation and analysed core processes with the purpose of engendering improvements. The MTE also identified mid-term results and had a specific emphasis on media components and their results.

Data collection consisted of a media survey, Key Informant Interviews (KII), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and an interactive group session focussing on the development of the TOC. The media survey was carried out in three of the ten LGAs, Jos North, Barkin-Ladi and Langtang North. The selection of the LGAs was done via structural sampling based on different types and trends of conflict. With a 95% confidence level and a margin of error of four, a total sample size of 600 was defined. For the FGDs, the same type of sampling method was used, but it was based on homogeneous groups in the social systems, i.e. women, men and youth. For the KII, purposive sampling was applied and the project team recommended who to target and it was based on professional or social profiles of the interviewees. The target areas were the same three LGAs as for the media survey.

Conclusions

There is a complex multi-layer of conflicts and each LGA and community has its own specific situation. There was a high consensus among respondents that there are four main conflict causes/drivers: religion, politics, economic situation and resource constraints. PWA II was considered relevant, timely and that it engaged well with stakeholders and communities. It addressed many of the causes and drivers of conflict and was seen to contribute to improved peace and stability. An important strength of the project is its design, which ensures that core causes and drivers of conflict are addressed in adequate ways.

Project activities had been implemented to various extent, but overall there were delays in several activities. Fund absorption until 30 June 2016 showed a budget spent of 38% instead of projected 67% in the plan. The underspent is on one hand due to activities that have been delayed, and the most important part is staff costs because recruitment for several project position were finalized later than planned.

PWA II has an important gender focus, but despite this, there was unequal participation in activities. In Peace Architecture Dialogues (PADs) and Community Security Architecture Dialogues (CSADs) the participation of women was approximately 1/3. On the positive side there is evidence of improvements. Several women feel that they have similar possibilities as men to participate and that they are increasingly listened to. PAD and CSAD have contributed to improve the role of women in peace and community processes. For instance, some women had begun taking
leadership roles for some CSADs. Thus, there is increased involvement of women but there are still many possibilities to improve gender equality.

PWA II is half-way and in terms of implementation, and based on mid-term results, there is evidence which showing that the action is going in the right direction. The general view is consistently positive among community members, stakeholders, partners and SFCG staff. The project is considered to be increasing awareness, trust, and respect, and building capacity among community members and key stakeholders. This contributes to improved relationships and increased interaction and action, which helps to build and restore peace.

The overall objective of the project is to ensure sustainability of an active and locally owned and inclusive peace architecture. This includes important improvements in intergroup relations, principally between Christians and Muslims, but also between different ethnic groups as well as between communities, as well as security and government actors. This is reflected in the disappearance of ‘no-go-areas’ and reemergence of shared markets as other numerous concrete examples from all LGAs. With regards to structures and processes it was evident that the flagship of PWA II is PAD and CSAD. These are considered unique and great contributors to improvements of peace. However, there are serious concerns regarding the sustainability, and the current solution of the government taking over does not seem feasible in current circumstances. The LGA elections for the LG chairperson have not yet been held, and are not currently scheduled, leaving interim appointment chairmen in place resulting in legitimacy challenges. It is therefore critical to prepare for a sound phase-out in order to ensure the continuation of these successful structures. Another structure is the EWS and there is contradictory information about to what extent this works and its usefulness in addressing risks followed by effective responses. In general terms the EWS was seen to be more successful in identifying risks than responding to them same.

The project aims to strengthen capacity of a wide number of actors. There is evidence that security actors and communities now have better relationships and improved security situations. This is also thanks to better coordination and closer relationships among the police and other security actors such as the Army, Civil Defense, and State Security which has contributed to improved security. Among community members the view is that they have increased knowledge and skills which have resulted in less conflicts and overall more peaceful environments. However, capacity strengthening of partners is less successful and while one partner considered that it has helped them to grow, the other partner did not think that was useful.

Regarding media, there is one radio program, Voices of Peace (‘VOP’), and one TV program, ‘The Team’. The two are each other’s opposite when it comes to reach. An average of 56% of the respondents listen to ‘VOP’ and 99% of the listeners do so daily or almost daily! However, 20% of the respondents have watched ‘The Team’ and 40% saw the program only once. There was a very high level of resonance for ‘VOP’ and 95% of the listeners agreed that at least once did it relate to a real issue happening in their environment. The equivalent indicator for the ‘The Team’ does not show as high resonance. Donor visibility is high, and 17% of radio listeners and 21% of TV viewers, were aware that the EU finances the programs. All participants in FGDs were very familiar with the fact that EU is the donor which they have been informed about it via SFCG, logos on banners, invitation cards, activity folders etc.

The core processes for the project are satisfactory, such as project management and coordination, as well as clarity on roles and responsibilities. However, other processes are weaker and need improvements in order to be more effective. The biggest concern is financial processes, which have resulted in late release of funds at sub-grant level and following delays in implementation. Monitoring is another process that needs improvements, as is decision making and internal communication. In April 2016 a new Country Director came on board and strategic changes are currently taking place, including enhancements of processes.
Recommendations

Key recommendations from the MTE are:

**On project design and TOC:**
- For upcoming proposals, it is recommended to always develop a sound, clear, and evidence-based TOC at an early stage of the project. The TOC can always be adjusted and fine-tuned during implementation. A conflict assessment, as well as a stakeholder mapping are also critical for similar projects going forward.

**On project activities:**
- Project management should consider adjustments on project issues, primarily regarding how to support implementation of CSAD action plans. It may require donor discussions on a possible no cost extension in order to be able to manage this critical component to better ensure sustainability of the project.
- Project Manager should drive a participative analysis of the EWS to understand strengths and weaknesses in depth to be able to take action for modifications/improvements during the second half of PWA II.

**On media:**
- Media Manager and Project Manager should consider incorporating components on social media, targeting primarily youth in urban areas, but could also consider other stakeholders and geographic areas. E.g. to create WhatsApp groups for CSAD members for closer connection and ongoing dialogue.
- Business Development and NGR management should ensure to not re-use media programs produced for contexts different to project intervention areas, such as 'The Team' which is produced for the Delta Region.

**On implementation:**
- SFCG staff and others responsible for mobilization should strive to ensure that all target groups participate, including IDPs, PWDs and that there is a fair gender balance considering the social and cultural context. It is also important to motivate influential politicians and traditional leaders to be involved themselves rather than sending their representatives.

**On processes:**
- Nigeria management and Finance Manager should ensure that (re)explained financial procedures are well understood by SFCG staff and implementing partners. There should be regular communication with partners to follow up on issues and implementation in order to improve control and quality of activities.
- DM&E Manager should in collaboration with SFCG and partners enhance the learning-based monitoring system which should aim at: being systematically used, update monitoring tools, ensure disaggregated data, and provide user-friendly reports which are easily accessible and safely stored.

**On final evaluation:**
- The external evaluator should incorporate the TOC and test if the identified causal chain of the project can be confirmed. It would also be important to try to verify the attribution of the project, and get an in-sight of the counterfactual, even if a complete understanding is challenging for peacebuilding projects.
2. Introduction

2.1 Plateau Will Arise (PWA)! Phase II

The project 'Plateau Will Arise (PWA)! Phase II: Consolidating an Architecture for Peace, Tolerance and Reconciliation in Plateau and Kaduna State', is an 18-month project funded by the European Union, has the overall objective of 'developing and ensuring the sustainability of an active, locally owned, and inclusive Peace Architecture in Plateau and Kaduna State beyond 2015'. It is the continuation of Phase I which was implemented in eight LGAs in Plateau State.

In phase II the geographic scope increased and two LGAs were added, Langtang North in Plateau and Kaura in Kaduna State. The implementation started in July 2015 and it is set to finalize in January 2017. The project is implemented by SFCG and two local partners, CAPP and JRT.

The specific objectives for the project are:
1: To Improve the climate of peace in 10 Local Government Areas (LCAs) in Plateau and Kaduna State;
2: To Strengthen the Capacity of State and local actors to secure their communities;
3: Increase collaboration and outreach by religious, women and youth leaders to reduce post-election tension;
4: Cross Cutting Objectives (CC): To strengthen the capacity and knowledge of local civil society to implement this kind of programming

The design rests on community ownership of the action, its activities, and its results. The aim is to build active, locally owned, and inclusive peace architectures to prevent and resolve conflict through a network of structures capable to analyse, prevent and respond to conflict. The project builds not only on PWA I, but also on other initiatives and recent progress to support an overarching community-owned peace architecture. It takes advantage of the recent decrease in violence in deeply divided communities to begin a process of convening and training influential leaders and other stakeholders to launch a community dialogue-to-action process to promote and build peace.

2.2 Context

Plateau State and the southern part of Kaduna State, situated in the Middle Belt, is one of the crossroads of Nigeria and is home to a diverse population of over 3 million people. It was historically referred to as 'the Home of Peace and Tourism', however, with the creation of Jos North Local Government (LGA) in 1991 by the military government, the area started witnessing conflict and suspicion between the so-called "Indigenes verses the settlers". This was because the indigenes, who are the dominant tribe in the area, viewed the creation of the LG as a scheme to empower the Hausa-Fulani politically, and also an attempt to grant them traditional authority. The conflict exploded into a full-blown crisis in 1994.

Episodes of mass killing and destruction occurred in Jos in 2001, 2002, 2008 and 2010. The violence affected other parts of high Plateau, in rural areas outside of Jos with hundreds of people killed in villages, in their fields or while
tending cattle. The area has had cyclical violence as ethno-religious identity groups strive for control of political, economic, and communal resources. Conflicts emerged between predominantly Christian ‘indigenes’ and predominantly Muslim ‘settlers’, casting a religious tone. The political and economic marginalization of migrants or ‘settler’ communities has led to resentment and fear among both groups. The issue of ‘indigene-ship’ is played out within the State and LGAs where groups compete for land, economic, and political resources.

Alongside intercommunity tensions, farmer-herder issues, desertification, and Boko Haram-linked violence, have created a large population of internally displace persons (IDPs). Because farmers and herders involved in clashes often are ‘indigenous’ farmers and ‘settler’ Fulani herders, the violence is perceived as closely linked to the broader ethno-religious conflict. Intergroup tensions have claimed over 5,000 lives in Jos, the state capital alone.

In December 2013, there was again an escalation of violence in Plateau State. Violent attacks in Riyom, Jos South, Barkin-Ladi, Bassa, Bokkos, Mangu, Langtang North/ South and Wase LGAs, were evidence of elevated tensions. In PWA I it became evident that Wase LGA is invariably linked to Langtang North and Langtang South as the ethnic groups in conflict span across these borders. PWA II includes Langtang North due to its proximity to Wase’s major towns and because of its nature of cross-border issues. The same groups – primarily the Tarok – occupy both Langtang North and South, and it is expected that progress achieved in Langtang North shall spill over to Langtang South.

At the beginning of phase II, progress had been made in security, with security forces arresting criminal groups allegedly responsible for cattle rustling, destroying crops and killings in various LGAs, as well as peaceful local government elections in February 2015. Further, in Mar-Apr 2015 the general elections were also mainly peaceful. Since the end of 2015 there are further changes, in particular in Jos, where religious and political leaders been able to restrain their respective communities from the attacks and reprisals which has resulted in a current state of relative peace. The relationship between the Christians and Muslims has improved, now sharing the same market and can move freely in areas formerly tagged as “no go areas”. Despite positive changes, the project targets 10 LGAs which are considered vulnerable, and PWA II is carried out in order to further build peace and mitigate risks in the Plateau and Kaduna States.

2.3 Stakeholders

The project approach focus on engaging and strengthening capacities of key stakeholders, building relationships, long-term collaboration and constructive engagement based on trust. In PWA I there were established relationships with key stakeholders, and PWA II builds on these relationships and expands further into two additional LGAs and new target groups. In the preparatory process an important number of stakeholders were consulted, e.g. the partners CAPP and JRT, national, state, and local government officials, the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), and Apurimac and the German Cooperation (GIZ). During implementation the following are targeted:

- Community and religious leaders and other influential actors, who can either positively or negatively impact the potential for mediation and future conflict prevention;
- Civil Society, state and local governments, and security actors
- The beneficiaries (participants) are also active stakeholders and consist of residents in targeted communities (children, youth, men, women, PWD, IDPs, and conflict victims) the 10 LGAs in Plateau (9) Kaduna State (1)

with possible spill over effects to other communities.

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2.4 Project Activities

The type of activities is a suite of community and media activities, creation and strengthening of structures to work with state and security actors linking them to civil society groups and early warning systems (EWS), as well as strengthen the capacity of partners engaged in the project. Core activities are:

- Peace Architecture Dialogues (PADs) and Community Security Architecture Dialogues (CSADs) are platforms for state, civil society, security and other actors to meet monthly at state level (PAD) and local level (CSAD) to discuss drivers of conflict, recent conflict and come up with solutions and action plans to resolve the conflicts;
- Training of community members, community/religious leaders, local government, security and state government actors to equip them with tools and skills to analyse, understand, and deal with conflict and trauma and develop skills in mediation, facilitation and communication;
- Training of Trainers (TOT) and step-down trainings in new LGAs;
- Conflict Mainstreaming training for key government officials;
- EWS helps collect and share real time information about risks of conflicts and address them to the most suitable entity to solve the issue;
- Media programs such as Voices of Peace (VOP), 'The Team', and 'Our Children Are Talking' promote messages of peace to a wide audience aimed at making people reflect and become more peaceful;
- Organisational and institutional capacity building of local CSOs and implementation partners for sustainability beyond the project;
- Other: Post-Election collaboration and outreach for religious leaders, women, youth; Children’s comic books; Mobile cinema and facilitated discussions on leadership.

3. Methodology

3.1 Evaluation Criteria and Questions

The MTE is carried out mid-way into PWA II and it is principally a formative evaluation which contributes to learnings via actionable recommendations for improvements targeting SFCG management and the project team. Other primary audiences are key project stakeholders. The EU is considered a secondary audience as their interest primarily is to be informed of the status and progress for the first half of the project.

The MTE assesses the project’s relevance, i.e. the extent to which objectives and activities respond to the needs and to the peacebuilding process, and if it addresses the key driving factors of conflict. It also measures the effectiveness, i.e. if the project is implemented as intended and if it has achieved the expected results, with a special focus on the media components. The MTE also seeks to inform the mid-term indicators. Further, it assesses PWA II in its context and works on the theory of change (TOC) as well as analyses core processes. The mid-term evaluation questions are:

A. Context and Relevance
1. What are the key internal and external contextual factors influencing the design, evolution and implementation of the project?
2. Which are the key causes and drivers of conflict? Does the project address these? Does it address them in the most suitable/effective way?
3. Have there been any relevant changes in the context, including conflict dynamics, which have affected the course of the project?
4. What is the relevance of the project as perceived by the population and key stakeholders? Is the relevance perceived the same way by women and men or are there any differences?

B. Theory of Change & Project Design
5. How appropriate is the Theory of Change and Project Design in the areas where the project intervenes?
6. What could be improved going forward?

C. Implementation & Processes
7. To what extent has the project been managed effectively?
8. What are the main implementation constraints, and areas needing attention?
9. Do processes work effectively? Which are the areas of improvement?
10. What has been learnt so far? What could be improved?

D. Media Effectiveness
11. What is the reach of SFCG’s media programs and profiles of the audience?
12. Can the listeners/viewers relate to and absorb the messages?
13. To what extent has the project supported EU visibility?

3.2 Evaluation Team
The Terms of Reference (TOR), matrix and data collection tools were designed by Jessica Sjolander, DM&E Specialist, in collaboration with the SFCG team in Jos. For data collection the team was made up of a total of five SFCG staff:

- Jessica Sjolander, DM&E Specialist (Conducted interviews and led FGDs in Jos North; analysis and report writing);
- Sarah Bentu, DM&E Coordinator (Trained enumerators and managed the relationship with the coordinator of the enumerators);
- Yohanna Pam, DM&E Assistant Jos (Note taker in Jos North; conducted of FGD in Hausa);
- Chorbe Joshua, Project Assistant (Conducted interviews/ FGDs and note taker in Barkin Ladi/ Langtang North);
- Emmanuella Atsen, Project Assistant (Conducted interviews/ FGDs and note taker Barkin Ladi/ Langtang North);

3.3 Data Collection
The MTE had a mixed method approach with a focus on qualitative data collection tools, consisting of: Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and a Group Session for development on TOC. There was also a quantitative media survey.

- **KII:** Semi structured interview guides with interviews of 45 min – 1 hour with SFCG staff, Partner Organizations, Security Officers, PAD Chairman, National Human Rights Commission Director, Community and Religious leaders, Women and Youth Leaders. A total of 26 people were interviewed.
- **FGDs:** Semi structured guides with an average of 7 participants in sessions of 1.5 – 2 hours. Participants were community members from three LGAs, divided into three strata of women, men and youth. The youth groups where mixed which may have influence the output. A total of 63 persons participated in the FGDs.
- **TOC Group Session:** One interactive 3-hour group session with 6 participants from SFCG and implementing partners.
- **Media Survey:** Face-to-face interviews of 25-30 minutes using a questionnaire with primarily closed questions. Prior the data collection there was a training of enumerators. A total of 599 persons were interviewed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Collection Tool</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focus Group Discussions</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KII: Key Stakeholders</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 Sampling

The media survey was carried out in three of the ten LGAs: Jos North, Barkin-Ladi and Langtang North. The selection of the LGAs was done via structural sampling based on recommendations from SFCG staff on different types and trends of conflict, i.e. worst historical intercommunity violence and divided farmer-herder issues, and new LGAs in phase II. With a 95% confidence level and a margin of error of four, a total sample size of 600 was defined for the media survey. In each of the LGAs there were 200 interviews which enabled to focus on different typologies and to make comparisons between the LGAs.

Table 2: Overview of sampling for media survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geo Zone</th>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Population Size</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Sample size</th>
<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Conflict basics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Zone</td>
<td>Jos North</td>
<td>429,300</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Historic intercommunity violence: Low level of conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Zone</td>
<td>Barkin-Ladi</td>
<td>375,267</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Divided farmer-herder issues: High level of conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Zone</td>
<td>Langtang North</td>
<td>140,643</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>New LGA Phase II: Medium level of conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>745,210</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At community level the media survey was based on random sampling methodology consisting of randomized household walks. It implied that every three house was chosen. Interview teams were composed of two, one man and one woman. The procedure was to ask to interview a woman and a man every other time. If the respondent was a woman, the interview was done by the woman in the interview team and vice versa. In every second household the interviewers talked to the oldest person in the household (either a man or a women) and in every second household the second eldest. The process was done until the percentage of men and women according to the age range was fulfilled.

For the FGDs, a structural sampling method was used, but based on homogeneous groups in the social systems, i.e. women, men and youth. For the KIs, purposive sampling was applied and the project team recommended who to target and it was based on professional or social profiles of the interviewees. The target areas were the same three LGAs as for the media survey.

3.5 Gender aspects

In the sampling method for the media survey, women and men were to be represented according the corresponding percentage in the most recent census (51% women and 49% men) but in the survey there were the opposite numbers (49% women and 51% men) because it was not possible to control the exact numbers. It is considered to be sufficiently close to the target.
In the sampling for FGDs the intention was to have an equivalent number of men and women though there finally were slightly more men. In the KIlls, the sex of the respondents was not a determining factor but instead the professional and/or social profile, and as a result given the Nigerian context there were more men than women.

In the data collection for the media survey, enumerators collected data with respondents of the same sex. This was also the case for KIlls and FGDs to the extent possible for practical reasons. The reason for this is based on the understanding that women may not express themselves as freely in the presence of men and vice versa.

Women and men can experience, engage in, and be affected by conflict in different ways, and the project may affect women and men differently. Therefore, there are gender specific evaluation questions which focus on gender equalities in participation and effects of project results.

### 3.6 Limitations

The MTE gives indications of mid-term results, though the counterfactual cannot be proven. In other words, there may be external factors that have influenced the change which limit the possibility to identify net effects of the project. The 'before-and-after' comparison has the weakness of not being able to control the influence of external factors that may affect the outcome.

The mid-term indicators are mainly quantitative but they lack targets which are needed in order to identify if an indicator is achieved or not. Neither in the logframe, nor in the M&E Plan, are targets set and there are no indicator definitions. Further, while the data collection for media indicators enabled to identify indicators results very well, the methods for other indicators were less apt and are able to provide general trends but lacks actual percentage and/or number. This needs to be used as a learning and improved for the final evaluation.

Other limitations are the use of English for the great majority data collected, though many respondents have other first languages. There is therefore a risk of misunderstandings. Further, the time lapse between data collection and recommendations, as well as the fact that the lead evaluator is not very familiar with the Nigerian context, are other factors that can limit the accuracy of the MTE.

### 4. Analysis

This section highlights the most relevant information from KIlls, FGDs, media survey and the TOC group session. It identifies views, perceptions and experiences, and examines processes as well as results until the first half of the project. The analysis is based on triangulation, i.e. the use of multiple data sources for the same topic, in order to try to assure the validity of the results as well as to capture different dimensions of the same phenomenon.

#### 4.1 General views PWA II

The overall view of the project is consistently positive among all respondents. At community level the general opinion is that the project brings people together and addresses issues on peace and security, and that it opens up dialogues between different groups within and between communities. PWA II increases awareness, knowledge and capacity in areas such as mediation, dialogue, conflict resolution, trauma healing and advocacy. Through improved understanding, respect and trust, and as results improved relations and increased interaction, community members consider that PWA II helps to build and restore peace, resolve conflicts, and contribute to a more peaceful and secure situation in the communities.
Similar perceptions are found among SFCG staff and implementing partners. The general opinion is that the project increases awareness and builds capacity of stakeholders and community members so that they can resolve conflicts on their own, and that it contributes to bringing back peace. Further, it is considered that that PWA II is relevant, timely, and that it engages well with stakeholders and communities.

Below table describes perceived strengths and weaknesses of the project. The first part reflects opinions and perceptions of the majority of respondents and the second part the views of a minority but that still are mentioned several times. Overall the project’s strengths and weaknesses are similar among the different groups of respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Increased knowledge and capacity of community members to mediate, promote peace, to advocate etc.</td>
<td>• Sustainability concerns of PAD and CSAD after the project ends, i.e. feasibility and capability of state/local government to take over and ensure funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improved understanding, increased tolerance of others and improved relationships between different community members</td>
<td>• Unclear financial procedures between SFCG HQ and the CO, and between CO and partners, which result in late release of funds at sub-grant level and subsequently delays in implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The project activities PAD and CSAD.</td>
<td>• No financial support for CSAD members to implement monthly action plans, which limits the effectiveness of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Knowledge, engagement and passion of SFCG staff.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The ability of the project to change peoples’ attitudes and perceptions about each other.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Summary of the discourse of the minority of respondents                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Strengths                                                                 | Weaknesses                                                                 |
| • The project targets the correct stakeholders.                          | • A fear that what has been gained shall be lost when the project ends, and that communities could go back to violent conflicts again. |
| • Reaches grass-roots where the problems originate from.                | • Inefficient logistics around PAD, e.g. late start and finishing time, cumbersome invitation process etc. |
| • Improved communication between security, government and community members. |                                                                           |

4.2 Context and Relevance

The analysis of causes, drivers and dynamics of conflict set the framework for the project which is essential in all phases of the project. Context and relevance are closely interlinked and the relevance criterion was used to assess the extent to which objectives and activities respond to the needs of project participants. As the relevance of an intervention normally changes over time as circumstances change, the MTE tried to identify if there had there been any important changes affecting the course of the project, and if PWA II addressed these changes. Neither PWA I nor PWA II had a SFCG conflict assessment done. However, the external evaluator for the final evaluation of PWA I did an assessment which later was used for PWA II.

4.2.1 Causes and drivers of conflict

There is a general understanding of the respondents that there is a complex multi-layer of conflicts in Plateau and Kaduna States, and each LGA, district and community has its own specific situation. However, there is a high consensus among the respondents that there are four main causes/drivers: religion, politics, the economic situation...
and resource constraints (mainly of land and land-ownership). Other causes are ethnicity, and climate change which has led to desertification and following influx of herders from other parts of Nigeria as well as from Niger, Chad, and Cameroon.

Religion is seen as an underlying driver and clashes can quickly take a religious tone and can be misconstrued to be on religious lines if the victims/ perpetrators belong to different religions. There is a high coherence among community members in FGDs that religious issues between Christians and Muslims is one of the main causes of conflict. In Langtang North there is a third religious group, traditional worshippers, which adds to the conflict.

Political issues are closely interconnected to religion, and people strive for political power to control territories, religious affairs and money flows. It is linked to the issue of corruption, mainly by politicians and other state officials, which can trigger protests and violent conflict. Both religion and ethnicity is used by politicians to try to control resources etc.

Resource constraints, especially land, is considered another key cause and it drives farmer-herder clashes that often turn violent. The farmers are usually landowners (Berom and Taroh) and herders (Fulani). It is particularly relevant in Barkin Ladi and Langtang North while not as frequent in Jos North.

4.2.2 Changes in context and conflict

The level of current conflict - or relative peace - varies between the LGAs, districts and communities but overall the situation has improved since the beginning for the PWA II. Of the three LGAs in the MTE, Jos North is the most stable followed by Langtang North, while Barkin Ladi is highly volatile, even though there are visible changes.

A challenge with regards to change is that respondents have considered different time aspects and the change described is not consequently from the launch of the project. However, it is possible to identify trends of change even if the timeline is not clear cut at project start. Below table describes changes in context and conflict as perceived by community members, key stakeholders, SFCG staff and implementing partners in order of most frequency mentioned.

| Box 2: Overview changes in context and conflict |
| Summary of perceived changes |
| Positive changes | Negative changes |
| • Overall the situation is more stable with less violence and more peaceful and constructive interaction between people. In Jos North and Langtang North, the situation is much improved, while in Barkin Ladi there are certain improvements but to a less extent. | • Escalation of farmer-herder clashes due to increased competition for land etc. |
| • The inter-religious situation has improved with less religious tensions and conflicts mainly between Christians and Muslims, but also between Christians and traditional worshippers in Langtang North. Reconciliation | • Turn-down of the economy resulting in increased cost of living, higher unemployment rates and an increased overall frustration among people. |
| • Less ethnic tensions/ conflicts in, e.g. between Beroms, Fulani and the Hausa. | • Influx of IDPs from North Eastern Nigeria due to Boko Haram which puts pressure on the economic situation but it does not contribute to increased conflict due to IDPs integration. |
| • New dialogues and interaction between people of different religious and ethnic groups. | • Increased drug abuse among young people and serious consequences. |
• Disappearance of ‘no go areas’ in the three LGAs. People can now more around freely which gives more freedom, possibilities and calm.

• Increase in community collaboration and security groups are established and perpetrators are most times handed over to relevant authorities.

• Proliferation of arms.

• Increased criminality.

There are opposing views regarding certain elements of change. A respondent working with human rights states that the farmer-herder issues have reduced this year while all other stakeholders consider that it has increased. New governments at both national and state levels are another changes where opinions (naturally) vary. While the elections themselves were rather peaceful, the political tensions in its aftermath between those who lost and won in considerable. Whether the change of government is positive or negative depend on which side the respondent stands. While there is a lot of criticism about the government, there is generally more positive comments about the changes linked to new governments.

4.2.3 Relevance
The project is consistently considered to be relevant, timely and that it engages well with stakeholders and communities. It addresses many of the causes and drivers of conflict identified in the MTE, and contributes to improve peace and stability in the communities.

Some SFCG staff stated that PWA II was built on a conflict assessment and that it was designed to addresses these core causes and drivers of conflict. However, it was later discovered that the only assessment done was carried out in the final evaluation of PWA I.

Most key stakeholders say that PWA II addresses relevant causes of conflicts and that this is reflected in the types of activities which correspond to their needs. For example, that trainings address knowledge and skills in peacebuilding and conflict resolution, mediation, trauma healing etc., and that the project brings conflicting parties together, builds relationships and tolerance to resolve their issues. Improved collaboration between local governments, security actors and communities is considered important to further improve the situation.

At community level the general view is that PWA II addresses certain key causes of conflict, that activities are useful and that they improve peaceful and secure environments. Examples of relevance of trainings vary between LGAs, for example in Jos North a drug prevention plan was developed within the CSAD platform. In Langtang North, trainings on trauma healing were very helpful, and in Barkin Ladi, the EWS training helped them understand signs of conflict before violence breaks out.

Women from the three LGAs consider that PWA II contributes an overall improvement in the climate of peace. They use new knowledge and skills from trainings and workshop and contribute in different ways to improve the situation in their communities. Step down trainings reach the grass root level and improves knowledge in the community on peace, security and how to resolve conflicts.

Youth are to a great extent in agreement that activities are helpful to improve peace in the communities, e.g. that skills on mediation help to solve issues amicably and that skills on trauma healing support community members at a personal level. There are distinctions in the LGAs in that different activities are considered more or less relevant in different contexts.
With regards to relevance of stakeholders and participants, SFCG personnel and partners consider that the project largely targets relevant groups, which include state and local governments, security actors, religious leaders, community leaders, farmers, herders and community members made up of men, women, youth and children etc. However, a stakeholder mapping was not done within the scope of the project so the MTE reflects the perceived relevance. A change as compared to PWA I is that children are included via Comic Book activities. However, several community members consider that children should be more involved as it would be helpful to have them on-board at early ages. Community and religious leaders state that PWA II targets the right stakeholders as these are the ones who can influence change. However, that some groups not are targeted but considered important such as high risk youth. Further, IDPs and PWD are explicit target groups in the project design, but at least IDPs are not perceived to be much involved in project activities. A reason for this which is stated by a handful respondents is that many IDPs are staying with relatives and therefore not always perceived as IDPs.

Certain youth leaders and security actors state that important stakeholders are missing, i.e. the most influential traditional leaders and political persons. They say that SFCG tries to invite and get them involved, but instead their representatives attend which does not have the same effect. One of the women leaders considers that even though adequate stakeholders are targeted, she questions the effectiveness of the project as there are limited capacity and commitment to project stakeholders to engage with community members outside the project, which results in limited reach. This points out the importance to ensure project ownership at community level, rather than community members relying on SFCG and partners to drive the project and subsequent change.

4.2.4 Collaboration with Other Actors

PWA II is designed to achieve results via collaboration with different actors in the area of peace and stability. Among project stakeholders there is important information sharing and collaboration via PAD and CSAD, e.g. security actors, local/ state government officials, community and religious leaders, civil society group and others such as the Special Task Force (STF) and Office of National HR Commission. There is also cooperation with civil society groups to increase collaboration between civil society and government security actors as well as through the Plateau Peace Practitioners Network (PPPN). PWA II works closely with different government sections in order to influence peacebuilding and security, and there is collaboration with the Office of the Special Advisor on Peacebuilding within the State Government. However, there are diverse opinions regarding to what extent the project actually contributes to efforts of other actors and their programmes and policies. Approximately 50% of the respondents consider that the project does so via:

- PAD and CSADs which add important components to government efforts. They used to apply ineffective approaches due to lack of understanding of context and contacts at community level;
- Coordination efforts with other NGOs amplify impact of joint actions via e.g. the partnership with the Nigerian Stability Reconciliation Program (NSRP), GIZ (German Cooperation) and Apurimac (Italian NGO);
- Training of government and security actors equip them with tools and skills to analyse, understand, and deal with conflict which contributes both to the project and their other objectives;
- Resources such as expertise in conflicts transformation and training manuals shared with other CSOs and local and international NGOs.

The other 50% consider that it is not enough, and that collaboration with e.g. state and local government actors lack the important part of turning discussion and policy into action. It is considered that the collaboration with NSRP, GIZ and Apurimac needs to be improved and intensified. There are also NGOs and CSOs in the sector that PWA II does not collaborate with, and it is important to identify them and initiate collaboration in order to ensure a more global approach to the work on improved climate of peace and stability in Plateau and Kaduna States. The project is
therefore considered by these respondents to contribute to other actors’ efforts, but not sufficiently to reach the overall goal.

4.3 Theory of Change and Project Design

4.3.1 TOC PWA II

The theory of change (TOC) is the understanding of how activities result in achieving desired changes in a particular context. It describes how and why change occurs. There is no explicit TOC for the project and a group session with SFCG staff and partners was held to open up a discussion of the different implicit theories and try to agree on one or several TOCs.

During the process there were initially some differences in opinion and issues were discussed openly. At the end of the session consensus was reached and three theories of change were developed which are complementary and have the same level of importance. The first one is about knowledge and capacity, the second is related to collaboration and cooperation and the third is about trust:

**Box 3: Theory of Change elaborated in the mid-term evaluation**

- **TOC 1:** If the capacity of local stakeholders to identify and resolve local conflicts is increased, and opportunities for collaboration and coordination to peacefully respond to threats are created, then there will be reduced incidents of violence.

- **TOC 2:** If key stakeholders (security actors, CSOs, government officials, and community leaders) engage in dialogue, collaborate and coordinate to respond to emerging threats, then the drivers of conflict will be more effectively addressed.

- **TOC 3:** If the capacity of local community members on peaceful resolutions of conflict is increased, and they engage in dialogues and collaborate on responses to conflict, then the trust between community members will be increased and contribute to a larger climate of peace.
Even though there was no TOC in the design phase, the identified TOCs are essentially aligned with the project design. In other words, this means that project approaches for PWA II to a large extent works and that the assumptions generally hold true. The assumptions are e.g. that beneficiaries are willing to participate in trainings and that they apply their new skills, that community members submit Early Warning Reports when there are problems and that relevant actors take action to address the issues, and that media programs reach their target audiences. However, there are discrepancies between stakeholders and LGAs, in particular regarding the assumptions for EWS.

As stated earlier, there is a particular focus on gender balance in the design in order to ensure local buy-in to conflict resolution efforts throughout communities. However, there is evidence that women consider that they have less opportunities to participate and less influence. There is also evidence that women increasingly are participating in PWA II and there are certain women who act as important role models.

4.3.2 Project Design
There is similar discourse by community members, key stakeholders and SFCG personnel regarding the project design and to what extent it adequately addresses core issues affecting peace as well as the needs of participants in their conflict contexts. (Reference: 4.2.3 Relevance). With regards to project activities the respondents highlight strengths and weaknesses as per below table.

Box 4: Overview of strengths and weaknesses of activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary project activities</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strengths</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PAD and CSADs are considered by the great majority as the biggest successes of the project. There are a number of positive results in PWA II.</td>
<td>While PAD and CSAD are considered successes, they are subject of important concerns. The sustainability of these structures are seriously questioned by many respondents who fear a functional continuation when PWA II ends.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Trainings and workshops are considered beneficial as they bring about positive change in short and long term.</td>
<td>Delays of activity implementation because of sub-grant issues which affects relationships with communities and quality of activities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Radio programme ‘Voices of Peace’ has positive feedback from listeners and contributions in call-in and text messages have helped keep the programmes going and communities engaged on ways to deal with conflict and promote peace.</td>
<td>TV programme ‘The Team’ is produced for a project in the Niger Delta which has a different conflict context so viewers cannot relate to some subjects in the drama.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weaknesses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is contradictory information about EWS. Security actors consider that it has helped greatly in addressing community challenges through information sent to the system and swift actions and responses taken. Religious leaders and community members in Jos North and Barkin Ladi are also positive towards EWS. However, it is not clear to what extent the system actually works or whether the positive views are more related to the fact that the systems simply are in place. Several SFCG staff and other key stakeholders consider that EWS is not operating effectively, e.g. messages are not sent to SFCG as planned and there are limited action taken to resolve security warnings.

EWS, PAD and CSAD are theoretically interlinked in that the EWS shall enable stakeholders to identify issues that threaten the peace and find ways to address the conflicts. It should be by supporting security and local governments and where these issues are beyond LGA level it is pushed to the PAD. In the PAD and CSAD this works to a limited extent but there is definitely room for improvement. Further, the EWS should feed into the radio program ‘VOP’ but there seems to be a gap in communication that the project should aim at closing.
Areas that are not covered in the project design are implementation of CSAD action plans and this is raised as an important concern by a great number of community stakeholders. It is considered critical to incorporate this aspect in PWAII in order to ensure a feasible continuation of PAD and CSAD.

4.3.3. Influence

One of the improvements in phase II as compared to phase I is increased influence and participation of the different parties. Overall SFCG personnel feel that they have been able influence phase II to a greater extent as compared to phase I. The type and level of influence depends on the positions where senior staff state that they have important influence, while more junior staff consider that they cannot influence much directly but instead via their managers. However, cross-cutting staff in communication and M&E would like to be more involved in the planning and execution of the project in order to better include cross-cutting aspects. One of the partner’s stated that they used to be concerned about their limited influence in phase I and that they felt like spectators of the project. This was raised with SFCG and it has improved. This partner now feels that they have more influence. The other partner does not consider that they can influence the project is any way, and they would like to be more involved.

From a community perspective there are different types of influence with regards to the project. On one hand they consider participation and influence in project activities, and on the other hand to what extent they themselves can influence others. One of the community leaders feels that he has been able influence phase II while it was not the case in phase I. He gives the example of illegal construction which he brought up with SFCG who gave support via getting lawyers, police, and land-sellers together and the issue was solved. Other examples are issues at schools, e.g. rape and other violence related problems, which he raised with SFCG and a plan was developed. However, it has not been implemented due to limited financing.

Regarding power of influence others, women leaders from two LGAs share that they influence others via the project, e.g. engage youth and other women thanks to the knowledge gained in activities. One concrete example is the establishment of a peace club. Another women leader gives the example that she has influenced other women via meetings in conflicting LGAs where she encouraged peaceful coexistence.

Youth from the three LGAs state that that they can get their voices heard in many different ways and influence others positively, e.g. via an improved dialogue with government representatives who in the past only discussed among themselves but now come down to the ground to dialogue with the people affected.

Women in Jos North state that they can influence, and Barkin Ladi women feel that their voices are increasingly heard in different activities, such as CSADs and trainings, and they following share what they have learnt with others in the community. In Langtang North women state they cannot influence a lot as their views are not much taken into account. Men from all LGAs feel that their voices are heard and that they are able to influence others, e.g. at community meetings and via the early warning system.
4.3.4 Gender Aspects

There is a particular focus on women in the design of PWA II and at a practical level this is reflected in a quality checklist including e.g. gender mainstreaming and gender sensitive principles for project activities.

With regards to participation in the project there are generally different discourses by women and men. Even though the project aims to specifically involve women on an equal basis as men, there are challenges to achieve this in practice. Most SFCG respondents state that more men than women participate in activities such as trainings, even though there are signs that it is slowing changing. However, it is important to take into account that due to the nature of certain activities, e.g. trainings of security officers, community/religious leaders etc. there are very few women in such roles because of the cultural context in Nigeria.

The CSADs provide a platform for women to be proactive, and though there is unequal representation across the CSADs (approx. 1/3 are women), they are increasingly more active in participating and finding solutions to challenges in their communities. The lower representation of women in these structures is not necessarily a weakness of the project, but rather a reflection of the reality in the Nigeria where men to a higher extent hold decision making positions.

The least represented group is Fulani women who are considered the most challenging profile to bring in. Despite this, some Fulani women have recently participated in trainings and workshops, and there are also examples of some taking on facilitation roles during trainings and dialogues.

In terms of results, some interviewees consider that PWA II contributes to build women leadership skills and that women have become more recognized as leaders. In contrast to this, some SFCG staff state that women are more passive participants due to inherited culture and tradition, and that it is difficult to change the gender balance. A male CSAD participant states that women are not considered as much as men when it comes to decision making because of these cultural and traditional differences.

At community level, male participants in all FGDs collectively consider that women and men participate in the project in the same way with the exception of one participant who says that men participate more in community issues and mediation, because women are always swamped with domestic work. Female participants in 100% of the FGDs consider that there is unequal participation because of tradition and culture. In Langtang North they state that women are not given opportunities to share in their views which could bring about improvement in the community. In Langtang North women do not participate fully, e.g. they are not invited to security meetings. In Jos North, the number of male participants are almost always higher than that of women. In parallel, there are a few female participants from Barkin Ladi and Langtang North who consider that women are often better suited to manage conflict situations as they can handle conflict cases more softly and with more vision and wisdom. Despite this, some women in Langtang North consider that women can go far in peacebuilding because they can penetrate more easily into the area and that they are more trusted by community members.

What respondents say about Gender

• “The number of men is always above that of women in almost all the Search programs I attended.”
  Female participant FGD, Jos North

• “We (women) participate in different ways because women are not free as men due to the tradition and culture, thereby making women not to participate fully.”
  Female participant in FGD, Barkin Ladi

• “I know how far I can go to inspire the lives of many people in the community, most especially women groups, because they believe in me and I am committed to carry on the good work of preaching peace and harmony.”
  Female participant in FGD, Langtang North

• “Everyone plays their roles as it should be.”
  Male participant in FGD, Barkin Ladi

• “Before women were not involved and they had no leadership skills. This has changed thanks to the project.”
  Implementing partner, KII

• “I recommend that more women should be involved in SFCG’s activities.”
  Security personnel, Barkin Ladi

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Youth participants in FGDs have different opinions about equality of project participation depending on the LGA. The groups were mixed which may have influenced the replies. In Jos North, the participants state that there are more men than women in e.g. CSADs. In Langtang North they consider that there is equal participation, though one woman states that she wants more involvement of women, but that due to tradition women are not allowed to participate in certain activities such as security forums. In Barkin Ladi, the youth participants consider that participation is equal.

Despite different views and experiences there are some concrete examples which show that the gender balance has improved during PWA II:

- In Wase LGA and in Ex-land in Barkin Ladi LGA there are women chairing the CSADs;
- In Kwalia, Quanpaan LGA, a woman is a CSAD group member responsible of mobilizing participants for the meetings.
- A Fulani woman did the step-down training and following she was named ‘Community Miyetti Allah Community Leader’. She continued to grow and is now a State woman leader of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Plateau state. This is considered a major break-through and it is an example given by several interviewees.
- Overall there is increased involvement of women, including Muslim Fulani women, and some are taking on facilitation roles during trainings and dialogues.

With regards to the results of the project, a great majority of interviewees consider that women and men benefit from the results in the same way. A religious leader shares what in general is stated by many respondents, i.e. that the results affect men and women equally because in crisis affect everyone equally. However, some respondents consider that conflicts affect women more because they are culturally not as mobile as men, and that they are left to care for children and the sick while men can escape conflicts. Therefore, project results affect women relatively more as they suffer more.

4.4 Implementation & Intermediate Results

The MTE identifies the status of project implementation as well as results for the first half of the project.

4.4.1 Implementation

Project activities had been implemented to various extent, but overall there were delays in several activities. Fund absorption until 30 June 2016 showed a budget spent of 38% instead of projected 67% in the plan. While budget lines for activity implementation were more aligned with the plan, budget lines for staff costs were much underspent. A reason was a slow start of PWA II and delays in recruitment of project personnel.

An overview of activity implementation by 30 June 2016 is shown in below table. PADs, ToT, Step-down/ Refresher trainings, ‘VOP’ and ‘The Team’ were implemented as planned. There were certain delays with some CSADs, while some activities had important delays, i.e. comic books, the radio program ‘Our Children Are Talking’, workshops for Government Officials, trainings for women and youth as well as mobile cinema projections.
Table 3: PWA II activity implementation until 30 June 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Start Up and Coordination</th>
<th>Objective 1: To improve the climate of peace in 10 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Plateau State</th>
<th>Objective 2: To strengthen the role of state and local actors to provide security for population</th>
<th>Objective 3:</th>
<th>Cross Cutting Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Plan</td>
<td>Year 1 Target</td>
<td>% Accomplished</td>
<td>Refresher Trainings for ToT Participants and Key Stakeholders</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase II Launch Workshop</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement of MoUs and Capacity Building Plans</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Voices of Peace” Production and Broadcast</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>150%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production of Comic Books</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20000</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to Locally Led Conflict Response Processes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Plan</td>
<td>Year 1 Target</td>
<td>% Accomplished</td>
<td>Community Security Architecture Dialogues</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict Mainstreaming Workshop for Key Government Officials</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Architecture Dialogues</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dialogue and Non-adversarial Advocacy Training for Religious, Women and Youth Leaders</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio Roundtables on Post-Election Tensions</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Cinema and Facilitated Discussions on the “Team”</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airing of “The Team”-Constructive Leadership-based Television Drama Series</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Cutting Objectives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity Needs Identification</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4.2 Intermediate Results

PWA II is half way in time and there are a number of visible results. Some changes are mentioned in previous parts of the report, and here some intermediate results are presented via MTE indicators. However, the indicators lack definitions as well as targets and it is challenging to confirm to what extent results are accomplished. Further, additional data collections tools are needed in order to quantify the indicators results which is a weakness of the MTE. However, examples related to the indicators show that there are concrete changes which the project has contributed and/or attributed to.
Overall Objective: % of project participants and non-participants who cite improvements in inter-group relations

There are many examples of improvements of inter-group relations, and while it is not possible to give a concrete percentage, the great majority of respondents in all KIs and FGDs cite many examples of relations that according to them have been enhanced because of the project:

- **In the three LGAs** there are improved relationships between people of **different religions**. Previous clashes have to a great extent been replaced by relationships, from cordial relationships between Christians and traditional worshippers in Langtang North, to many friendly relationships between Christians and Muslims in Jos North and Barkin Ladi.
- There are now shared market places in the three LGAs and **no longer any 'no-go areas'**. There is thus free movement of people in areas that before were dominated by people from one or the other religion.
- **Jos North**: **Muslims and Christians** are returning to old tradition and **celebrate each other’s religious and family festivals**, e.g. Sallah, Christmas and marriages. **Christian and Muslim Vigilantes groups collaborate** and have cordial contacts; improved relations between community members and IDPs (who left and returned), and young people now even date each other as they wish which was unheard of before. There are also many personal examples, such as a case when a friend of a Muslim participant lost her baby, and a Christian participant gave a blessing. In another occasion a Hausa brought a group into a Christian song.
- **Barkin Ladi**: Joint football tournaments and ceremony celebrations; the youth have formed a Christian-Muslim vigilante group; improved relationships between farmers and herders;
- **Inter-ethnic groups**: Improvements of relationships between ethnic groups, e.g. **Hausa and the Beroms** in Barkin Ladi, Bisichi community.
- **Farmer-herder groups**: leaders cooperate with each other and are involved in joint community dialogues. If there are problems, the parties consult with the paramount leader who helps to solve the issue. In Ex-land, a town in Barkin Ladi, there was a problem between herders and farmers, and through this project, the herders and farmers conflict was resolved.
- **Community, government and security actors**: In the past they never cooperated, but now they know each other, make calls to report cases, to share information and clarify what is happening in the community.

S.O. 1: # of real world examples cited by civil society and government of resolved conflicts by civil society and government leaders which contribute to the success of other peace processes attributed to the project

There are many examples of conflicts that have been resolved by civil society, government leaders or other key stakeholders, and according to the respondents these conflicts are solved due to the project. However, the issue of attribution needs to be considered though it is at the same time possible to see these examples as emerging trends.

- **Inter-community conflicts**: Communities in boundary between Langtang North LGA and Wase LGA have improved and they now live in peace with each other.
- **Jos North**: Examples: 1) It was clash between youth and police in April 2016, which led to death and injury of youth and burning down of a police post. This was resolved by the Jos North CSAD, leading to police and youth working together to reduce crime. Youth offered to construct a new security post to replace the one that burnt down; 2) There was an orphanage in a village in a highly volatile area. Someone was shooting at the
orphanage and the director called for help. The religious leader and other participants managed to mediate the conflict on their own.

- **Langtang North**: There is change in the way the community manage law breakers. To a less extent they take the laws into their own hands and instead report it to the police (e.g. armed robbers);

- **Barkin Ladi**: Examples 1) In Bisichi community, Muslim students were able to go back to school (as a result of the conflict the Muslim children were previously unable to go to school because the only school in situated in a Christian dominated area). Now the Christians encourage the Muslims to send their children back to school; 2) Chu community was completely cut-off and a no-go-area as it was considered a very dangerous due to a Fulani - Birom conflict. A youth leader took part in a CSAD and on his initiative a number of Fulanis and Biroms were invited to meetings and dialogue sessions. After some time, in Feb 2016, the Fulani and Biroms put an agreement in place themselves which e.g. enable them to go to markets. It is still functioning today.

- **Wase LGA**: Example 1) It was recently a rumor over the killing of a community leader by youths from the neighboring LGA Langtang North which sparked serious tension. This could have resulted to violence, but a timely intervention of CSAD participants and the Traditional leader of Wase LGA, investigated and mediated, to discover it was all a rumor. However, in the investigation it was discovered that indeed someone died but not as reported and the security personnel took over and have been investigating the matter.

- **All LGAs**: There have been many cases where CSAD members have been able to work with family members and reconcile long standing issues of land disputes.

S.O. 2: # of Security actors and Government who site real world examples of improved skills and coordination in providing security in the State attributed to the project

This indicator is more of a qualitative character in the MTE and following examples of improvements reflect real world cases of enhanced skills and coordination in providing security. However, it need to be studied further in the final evaluation in order to identify if changes have taken place as a results of the project as a whole.

- **New knowledge and skills among security actors has resulted in improved ways to explain to community member how they work.** It has brought about improved communication and understanding between security agencies and communities, and as a result improved relationships and increased trust. Previous tension and conflicts have been replaced by cordial and functional working relationships.

- **The training serves as a platform through which the police and other security agencies met, get to know each other, share contact details and build relationships.** Different security groups now work together to solve common security issues.

- **Coordination among the security agencies has improved.** There are synergies between the police and other security actors such as the Army, Civil Defense, State Security etc. which has improved response security situations.

> “CSAD meetings has encouraged collaboration with security personnel and the working relationship is now good.”

Youth participant in FGD, Barkin Ladi

Res 1.1: % of workshop participants who cite examples of applying workshop skills two months after training

Community members who have participated in trainings and workshops, as well as other stakeholders, have overall positive experiences and consider that they can use new knowledge and skills acquired. Following examples from FGDs from the three LGAs:
Some youth from all LGAs consider that they have obtained knowledge and skills via project activities, such as dialogue, mediation and trauma healing which enable them to contribute in their communities in e.g. conflict resolution. In Barkin Ladi they also mention increased advocacy skills.

Several women state that use their new knowledge and skills in different ways, e.g. trauma healing, peace rallies and the use of EWS for better solutions to security issues.

Some men representing all FGDs share that it helps them to solve conflicts, e.g. mediation on land issues and conflicts between families.

Participants from Jos North and Barkin Ladi emphasize that it enables them to contribute to support the healing process of conflict victims.

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4.5 Processes

The most relevant processes for the project are evaluated as these are critical for quality results: project management and coordination, roles and responsibilities, decision making, monitoring and communication. Nine SFCG project staff at different levels scored the effectiveness of these on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 represents 'not effective at all' and 5 'extremely effective'. The overall view is that these processes work well even though there are weaker areas which need to be improved. Several processes, in particular communication, had an important push in May 2016 when the newly appointed Country Director (April 2016) organized a team workshop which had positive results and feedback from all SFCG respondents.

Graph 1: Average Scores for Core Processes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Coordination</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roles &amp; Responsibilities</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Monitoring</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Communication</td>
<td>3.6</td>
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</table>

**Project coordination**

Project coordination gets the highest score (4.3). Internal coordination, including e.g. planning and coordination with the project team, works well. External coordination processes with partners and other stakeholders are also adequate.
However, an area of improvement is closer coordination and more meetings with partners, and better coordination between outreach and other activities so that these support and feed into each other.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

Roles and responsibilities are clear for SFCG staff (score 4.1 for SFCT, 3.9 for partners). There are job descriptions for all SFCG personnel in PWA II (except one), and there is a project organigram. SFCG staff considers that the partners’ roles and responsibilities are clear. The partners say that their roles and responsibilities are clearer in phase II as compared to phase I. However, given recent restructuring it is important to ensure that not only roles and responsibilities are clear but also that who-does-what is emphasized during meetings in order to work efficiently.

**Project Management**

The project is well managed (score 4.1) and the team driving the project is experienced. There is a three-month work plan which is the core planning document, weekly project team meetings to ensure alignment and to discuss and resolve issues. However, cross-cutting areas such as communication and M&E are rarely invited which makes it difficult for them to see where their support could best benefit the project.

**Decision Making**

There are different opinions and suggestions regarding decision making. From a management perspective the view is that decision making for the project is effective. Another comment is that decisions are made in a participative way involving team members and partners regarding progress, reviews and strategies, which enables feasible work plans, training, capacity needs etc. The other perspective comes from staff members who consider that decision making is cumbersome and slow because of formalities, too many meetings, and an exaggerated strive to find consensus. One person suggests to speed up the process by introducing delegation of decision making up to a certain monetary amount. One partner considers that decision making is slow, in particular for scripts, and that this affects relevance of the work. A new and interesting story therefore risks getting outdated as the process is not fast enough.

**Monitoring**

Good monitoring is essential to provide the project team and management with information on e.g. extent of progress, likely achievements of objectives and obstacles that stand in the way for improved performance. There are different opinions regarding the monitoring of the project and the general view is that the M&E team is doing a great job, but that they are stretched due to a high number of projects which they work on in parallel. This inhibits them from being in the field as much as they would like, and what is required for better monitoring. The hands-on work is done by the project implementation team using tools developed by the M&E Department.

Monitoring could be improved. The project implementation team does not consistently use key reference documents such as logframe and the M&E Plan. Monitoring data is collected, but not always properly cleaned and processed to make the analysis easy and user friendly. Teams sometimes struggle to get correct figures even for simple data, and disaggregation is not always consistent. There are monthly M&E reports but these are not complete. Further, there is not any M&E hard- or software or database to help SFCG and partners to work more efficiently and effectively on monitoring.

On the positive side there have been regular field visits by management and M&E staff, and support from support from regional and global ILT teams. Further, the DM&E team is growing with the introduction of the new
management, and more emphasis and resources are given to M&E. Many areas of improvement are in the pipeline and it is very likely that there will be important changes during the second phase of PWA II.

Internal Communication

Internal communication gets the score (3.5) and respondents consider it has improved since the staff retreat in May 2016. Regular weekly team meetings are in place, monthly sharing of BVAs with programme teams, regular field trip reports done by field teams to inform management on field challenges as well as an ‘open-door policy’ by both CD and Deputy CD. However, regarding PWA II a number of respondents consider that certain issues remain such as more consistent project meetings and improved information sharing at different levels. At times when information is shared it is too late and not always useable. From the partners’ perspectives there are some communication issues with SFCG that could be improved, in particular for the issue of delay in sub-grants where they consider they did not receive clear explanations which cause frustration.

4.5 Media Programs

PWA II includes media activities and SFCG’s ‘3Rs Framework’ is applied which consists of three dimensions, Reach, Resonance and Response. The analysis is based on a media survey and information from FGDs and KIIs with some SFCG staff and an in-depth KII with the Media Manager. There are three programs in PWA II, and two of them were also broadcasted in the first half of the project, the radio program ‘Voices of Peace’ (VOP) and the TV program ‘The Team’. ‘VOP’ is a popular five-minute program without script with a local journalist who records people’s opinions. It is spontaneous and covers topics such as: peace, violence, drug abuse, crime, the culture of silence etc. ‘The Team’ was produced for the project ‘Tomorrow is a new Day’ in the Niger Delta. The storyline is a satire of situations e.g. rival gangs, environmental issues, and issues with local politicians. An issue with ‘The Team’ is that it was produced for an audience living in a different context and conflict environment, and it is therefore not very compatible with the situation in Plateau and Kaduna States. In FGDs the participants were not able to retell hardly any episode and there was clear confusion about the content of the TV program.

Both ‘VOP’ and ‘The Team’ have been broadcasted according to plan. The third program, the radio show ‘Our Children Are Talking’ is delayed and will be aired during the second half of PWA II.

4.5.1 Reach

When looking at the reach for media programs there are two core elements, 1) the saturation in the society, i.e. how widely the program is seen or listened to, and 2) the profile of those who has seen the program and to what extent it corresponds to the target audience.

Radio

Across the three LGAs there is an average of 80% who listen to the radio at least once per week. There are variations and Jos North has the highest (93%) followed by Barkin Ladi (76%) and Langtang North (71%). There are more men (55%) as compared to women (45%) who listen to radio, while there is practically no difference with regards to religion. In terms of age there is a tendency that young people listen less to radio as compared to older people; 18-25 (21%), 26-35 (23%), 36-45 (28%) and 46 and older (29%). English is the preferred language (58%) followed by Hausa (42%). However, there are important differences between the LGAs. English is strongly preferred in Langtang North (73%) and Barkin Ladi (68%) while only 38% of the population in Jos North prefer English. On the contrary, Hausa is their preferred language (62%) while in Barkin Ladi (32%) and Langtang North (27%).
There are approximately 60 different ethnic groups (tribes) represented in the media survey. Overall there are six main groups, i.e. Taroh, Hausa, Berom, Fulani, Yoruba, Igbo, and Pyem. Ethnic groups representation varies much between LGAs. 41% of the respondents in Jos North are Hausa, followed by Yoruba and Fulani; 36% in Barkin Ladi are Berom, followed by Hausa and Fulani; and 69% in Langtang North are Taroh followed by Igbo and Hausa. This illustrates that each LGA has vastly different ethnic make-ups, a factor that has an important impact on the context.

Indicator 1.2: % of population listening to peace media programming: Overall there are 56% who listen to 'VOP'. It varies between LGAs and the highest listenership is in Jos North (85%), Barkin Ladi (67%) and the lowest is Langtang North (46%). 99% of all listeners hear VOP daily or almost daily! So the listeners are very regular in their media consumption. The listeners are spread over of all age groups and with a slight tendency to increase with age. The lowest listener group is 18-25 (19%) and the highest is the group of 46 and above (29%). There are somewhat more men than women who listen to the program.

In the FGDs with youth, women and men is it found that participants in Jos North and Barkin Ladi are well familiar with VOP, which they say is broadcasted via Unity FM. In Langtang North there is no or limited coverage for these channels so they say that they cannot listen to the programs. In Jos North and Barkin Ladi the youth listen frequently to VOP, and what they like about it is e.g. that the actors and peace messages are good and it is encouraging and touching.

According to SFCG staff, the content is well aligned with the project objectives and SFCG values and the sound is of good quality. A challenges is the contextual understanding of the script writers because the majority of them are not from Plateau State and therefore lack contextual comprehension and often get local names wrong, local languages etc.

'VOP' is broadcasted on Peace FM and Unity FM. Peace FM 90.5 is the overall most preferred radio station (44%) followed by Unity FM 93.3 (26%). It is interesting to notice that men prefer Peace FM 90.5 (84%) and women Unity FM (76%). When broken down by LGA there are important differences and Unity FM 93.3 is by far the most popular station in Jos North, while Peace FM 90.5 is the most popular station both Langtang North and Barkin Ladi. Preferences also are linked to religion where Unity FM is a more preferred channel by Muslims.

TV Overall there are 76% of the population who watch TV at least once per week. The highest rate is found in Jos North (84%) followed by Langtang North (77%) and Barkin Ladi (66%). There are slightly more men (53%) than women (47%) who watch TV. There is a tendency that the youngest age group (18-25) watch more TV as compared to the oldest group (46 and older), and there is practically no difference with regards to neither sex nor religion. The preferred language is English (70%) while only 22% prefer to see TV in Hausa. Religion is a strong dependent factor and 85% of the Christians prefer to watch TV in English, while 6% in Hausa. Among the Muslim population the preference is also English but to a less extent, 51%, as compared to 42% in Hausa.

Indicator 1.2: % of population watching peace media programming: 20% of the population in the three LGAs has watched 'The Team'. There are important differences between LGAs and Barkin Ladi (30%) as well as Jos North (28%) have higher percentages of viewers, while Langtang North only has 5%. Of the respondents who have seen 'The Team', 12% have seen it 6 times or more, while 78% have seen it maximum 5 times. Of out these, 40% only saw it once. The program targets the younger audience but despite this there are not higher viewer rates among young people as compared to other age groups: 18-25 (25%), 26-35 (22%), 36-45 (29%) 46 and above (24%). In FGDs there are very few who are familiar with 'The Team' and there is confusion what the program is about, even among those who state that they have seen it.
Of the respondents who watch TV, the great majority state that the news is their preferred program. Other preferences are dramas, sports, and ‘Superstory’. ‘The Team’ was only listed as preferred option by two respondents.

Graph 2: Reach Indicator: % of population listening to media programming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Listeners to &quot;VOP&quot;</th>
<th>Viewers 'The Team'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.5.2 Resonance

By resonance we look at the actual change of knowledge and/or attitude at individual level, and the aim is to understand whether or not the audience is relating to, and is absorbing, the messages. E.g. Does the audience relate to the characters and to the storyline? Do they understand the messages? Does it engage them emotionally? Do they relate it to their own lives? Have they gained knowledge and/or developed new attitudes as a result of the program?

**Indicator: % of listeners/viewers who state that SFCG programs are in line with their daily life and concerns.** Of the respondents who have listened to the radio program ‘VOP’, 95%* agree that ‘at least once did it relate to a real issue happening in their community or LGA’. It is a very high rate of listeners who relate to the messages in the program.

Of the listeners to VOP, 97% agree with the statement ‘The topics covered by VOP are in line with my daily concerns for peace’. This is a very high level of resonance. However, the results are not coherent because 78% of those who have NOT set the program agree with the same statement. Of the listeners, 96% agree that the program is a means that can contribute favourably to solve a conflicts, compared to 3% who disagree on this statement*. The resonance is thus very high.

Youth participants in FGDs in Jos North and Barkin Ladi consider that the program is a good way to improve peace. They say that radio has a wider reach than other PWA II activities, and that many people have radio on their cell phones which makes it easy to listen to. They consider that it enlightens people on the needs to stay peaceful. Also women and men in Jos North and Barkin Ladi consider that the programs are good, and an effective way to contribute to a more peaceful atmosphere.

* Statistically significant
* Differences are statistically significant
Indicator: % of listeners/viewers who state that SFCG programs are in line with their daily life and concerns

Of the viewers of 'The Team', 74% consider that it has helped them to find solutions to a problem that you were facing. 38% of the viewers agree with the statement “Do you know anyone in your community who reminds you of one of the characters of 'The Team’?”. However, it is important to take into account the low percentage of regular viewers, which means that this result is not very relevant.

Graph 3: Resonance Indicator: % of Listeners/Viewers who state that SFCG programs are in line with their daily life and concerns

4.5.3 Response

With response the aim is to understand changes that may have occurred as a result of the programs. The focus is mainly on behaviour change of the target audience or specific actions that they take in order to address conflicts or related issues. However, changes can also be measured at cultural, political, and even symbolic level.

In the survey, those who listened to ‘VOP’ and ‘The Team’ were asked how useful they consider the programs are to reduce rumours in their areas. The results are not presented as they are not statistically significant. However, several SFCG staff believe that ‘VOC’ can be useful for this purpose but not ‘The Team’. The Project Manager reiterates that only certain issues in ‘The Team’ are relevant for the viewers in the target areas, and that it is not positive to show programs that are developed in different conflict contexts.

There is a wide variation of suggestions from the media survey regarding how media programs can contribute to solve conflicts and bring peace. Closely to half of the respondents believe that the program can help to solve conflicts by encouraging peaceful coexistence. A quarter of them state that the education provided by the radio programs is important to solving conflicts.
and 1/8 believe that the program’s efforts to alter their perspectives, either on conflict or about religious or cultural topics, positively contributed towards achieving peace.

Graph 4: Response indicator: How 'VOP' programs can contribute to solve conflicts and bring peace

When asked what the respondents would like to change about 'VOP', 92% of the listeners actually recommend that it continues as it is, while 8% want it to continue but with certain changes.* Suggestions are linked to change in messaging, ranging from adding more youth voices to having more uplifting programs, increased coverage or adding some form of concrete activity to accompany the lessons in the programs. There are some suggestions regarding increase in language options, principally Hausa and Taroh.

4.5.4 Visibility

In order to ensure visibility and recognition of the action, as well as the support from the EU, there is a Communication and Visibility Strategy. It identifies and articulates e.g. messages of the programme and its objectives in order to ensure harmonised sharing of information given the sensitive nature of the subjects. It also outlines visibility strategies disaggregated by type of audiences. It also has an online component, including not only the project website, but it also covers social media with the purpose of integrating visibility strategies and engaging further with community members. However, in practice there is currently no activities on social media.

Indicator: Level of knowledge about EU’s link to SFCGs programs: 17% of listeners of 'VOP' know that EU finances the programs, and 21% of the viewers of 'The Team'. It is important to note the in total numbers there are more listeners of 'VOP' as compared to viewers of 'The Team'.

All participants in the nine FGDs in the three LGAs are much familiar with the fact that EU is the donor of the project. They have been informed about it via SFCG and the logo is on banners, invitation cards, activity folders etc. Further, they have also heard it on radio after 'VOP'.

* Differences are statistically significant
Social media is part of the daily life of some community groups and in certain geographic areas. In the communities, youth is by far the group with highest exposure to social media but access of smart phones varies a lot between urban and rural areas. In Jos North all participants in the FGD have smart phones while only two in each group in Barkin Ladi and Langtang North. There are also important differences of usage of social media. In Jos North, the majority use Facebook and WhatsApp on a regular basis, and some also Instagram and Twitter. In the other LGAs there are only some active users who sporadically Facebook and WhatsApp. Participants in Jos North and Langtang North believe that SFCG should do more on Social Media, e.g. be active on Facebook and create WhatsApp groups for PAD, CSAD and other activities. They also share the potential risk of getting into social media as the information is not controlled and that rumours and other unwanted information is shared.

Women in all three FGDs are aware of what social media is, but very few have ever used it. However, women in both Jos North and Barkin Ladi share that their children use it. In Barkin Ladi it has created issues at home because of the costs that it implies. In Jos North no women in the FGD have smart phones and only a few participants have ever used social media. However, their children have smart phones and are online frequently. In Barkin Ladi the women were able to identify Facebook and WhatsApp but none was a user. Their children also use social media but to a less extent as compared to Jos North. In FGDs with men some participants have heard about Facebook and WhatsApp but no one uses social media. It is clearly a huge generation difference when it comes to social media, as well as noticeable distinctions between rural and urban areas. It is principally youth who use social media and while it is a landscape to discover the target group of active users is (still) rather limited.
5. Conclusions

Conclusions are presented with emphasis on: context, conflict and relevance, status of activities, mid-term results, and how processes are working. The aim is to learn in order to improve the second half of the project.

Context, conflict and relevance

There is a complex multi-layer of conflicts and each LGA and community has its own specific situation. There was a high consensus among respondents that there are four main causes/drivers: religion, politics, economic situation and resource constraints. Generally, the level of conflict has improved since the beginning of the project and there is less violence and more peaceful and constructive interaction between different groups of people. There are new and/or reestablished dialogues and interaction between people of different religions, ethnic groups etc. Negative elements of change are e.g. a turn-down of the economy and consequences such as increased cost of living and higher unemployment rates which has created frustration among people. Other issues are an escalation of conflict between farmers and herders, an influx of IDPs from North Eastern Nigeria which puts more pressure on the economic situation, and high increase in drug abuse among young people with serious consequences. These issues combined with increased criminality and proliferation of arms makes the intervention areas vulnerable to conflict and though the situation has improved there are important issues of concern.

PWA II was considered relevant, timely and it engaged well with stakeholders and communities. It addresses many of the causes and drivers of conflict and was seen to contribute to improved peace and stability. An important strength of the project is its design, which ensures that core causes and drivers of conflict are addressed in adequate ways. Changes are addressed via e.g. PADs and CSADs which focus on current and upcoming issues, as well as the radio program 'VOP' which addresses recent peace related topics. The media program "VOP" is very relevant while 'The Team' is not to the same extent, as it was produced for an audience in the Delta Region and therefore it does not correspond well to the conflict situation in Plateau and Kaduna States.

There was no explicit TOC for the project and this was developed during the MTE. The TOC and the project design correspond quite well which is an assurance that the design is adequate and relevant. However, there are components missing, principally to ensure implementation of CSAD action plans. Without this component many good ideas are left without becoming reality. Further, the MTE identifies a concern about the lack of evidence of causality between activities and results. There is a complex interaction of factors that influence change and it is not easy to deduce to what extent results are attributable to the project and to what extent it is because of external factors.

Activities

The activities have been implemented to various extent but overall there is a delay. Refresher trainings, PADs, media programs 'VOP'/'The Team', TOTS and step-down trainings are following the implementation plan. However, certain CSADs are delayed, and activities with important delays are e.g. Comic Books, the radio program 'Our Children Are Talking', workshops for Government Officials and trainings for women/youth and mobile cinema projections. To a certain extent this is because of delay on dispatching sub-grants.

Community ownership and proactive involvement is important in PWA II but questioned by some participants who consider that there is a risk of not involving participant enough, and that it needs be done for a wider reach and broader engagement in the communities. Another issue is participant mobilization, and not all groups defined in the project design are found to be much involved. While there is contradictory information regarding the involvement of PWDs, the interviewees agree that involvement of IDPs is challenging to confirm as most are hosted by families and do not come forward when called. Another concern is that some critical actors, such as politicians and traditional
leaders, are invited to activities but they do not attend themselves and instead send their representatives which do not have the same effect.

PWA II has an important gender focus, but despite this there was unequal participation in activities. In PAD and CSAD the participation of women was approximately 1/3. However, this can also be considered a reflection of the Nigerian context where men to a much higher degree hold decision making positions and thus to a greater extent are represented in these structures. It is interesting but not surprising to notice widely different perceptions regarding gender equality. Overall men consider that women participate in the same way as they do, while women in general see important differences. On the positive side there is evidence of improvements. Several women share that they feel that they have similar possibilities as men to participate and that they are increasingly listened to. PAD and CSAD have contributed to improve the role of women in peace and community processes. For instance, some women had begun taking leadership roles for some CSADs. Thus, there is increased involvement of women but there are still many possibilities to improve gender equality.

Results

PWA II is half-way and in terms of implementation, and based on mid-term results, there is evidence which showing that the action is going in the right direction. The general view is consistently positive among community members, stakeholders, partners and SFCG staff. The project is considered to be increasing awareness, trust, and respect, and building capacity among community members and key stakeholders. This contributes to improved relationships and increased interaction and action, which helps to build and restore peace.

The overall objective of the project is to ensure sustainability of an active and locally owned and inclusive peace architecture. This includes important improvements in intergroup relations, principally between Christians and Muslims, but also between different ethnic groups as well as between communities, as well as security and government actors. This is reflected in the disappearance of ‘no-go-areas’ and reemergence of shared markets well as other numerous concrete examples from all LGAs.

With regards to structures and processes it was evident that the flagship of PWA II is PAD and CSAD. These are considered unique and great contributors to improvements of peace. However, there are serious concerns regarding the sustainability, and the current solution of the government taking over does not seem feasible in current circumstances. The LGA elections for the LG chairperson have not yet been held, and are not currently scheduled, leaving interim appointment chairmen in place resulting in legitimacy challenges. It is therefore critical to prepare for a sound phase-out in order to ensure the continuation of these successful structures.

Another structure is the EWS and there is contradictory information about to what extent this works and its usefulness in addressing risks followed by effective responses. In general terms the EWS was seen to be more successful in identifying risks than responding to them same. The system was designed to send EW messages via text/frontline system, and then have responses. The system receives EW messages and some of these alerts are sent to security and CSAs who then respond. It is an area that needs to be further investigated in order to take corrective measures and ensure that it becomes a solid and sustainable structure which is able to pre-exempt violence breakouts. Response mechanisms and coordination with security also need to be enhanced.

EWS, PAD and CSAD are theoretically interlinked in that the EWS shall enable stakeholders to identify issues that threaten the peace and find ways to address the conflicts. It should be by supporting security and local governments and where issues are beyond LGA level it is escalated to the PAD. In the PAD and CSADs this works to a certain extent but
there is definitely room for improvement. Further, the EWS should feed into the radio program 'VOP' but there are gaps which the project should aim at closing during the second phase.

S.O. 1 consists of improving the climate of peace and it is measured with indicators reflecting conflict solutions as well as applying new training and workshop skills. There were many examples of conflicts that successfully have been resolved by civil society, government leaders or other key stakeholders in the project. It varied from violence related conflicts between e.g. youth-police; inter-religious and inter-ethnic conflicts as well as family conflicts. There were also many examples regarding how new knowledge and skills have been applied. Youth used it for e.g. dialogues, mediation and trauma healing. Women contributed in different ways, e.g. trauma healing, peace rallies and use EWS for better solutions to security issues. Men stated that their new knowledge helped them to solve conflicts, e.g. mediation on land issues and conflicts between families. In Jos North and Barkin Ladi community members emphasized that it enabled them to give counseling to support the healing process of conflict victims.

S.O. 2 shall strengthen the capacity of a wide number of actors such as state and local actors to secure their communities. There is evidence that security actors and communities now have better relationships and improved security situations. This is also thanks to better coordination and closer relationships among the police and other security actors such as the Army, Civil Defense, and State Security which has contributed to improved security. Among community members the view is that they have increased knowledge and skills which have resulted in less conflicts and overall more peaceful environments. However, capacity strengthening of partners is less successful and while one partner considered that it has helped them to grow, the other partner did not think that was useful.

S.O. 3 aims to increase collaboration and outreach by different groups. One of the outputs is about the enhanced ability to influence. At community level men and youth state that they have opportunities to influence both the project itself, as well as other community members. Women share that they are less able to influence, in particular in Langtang North, while there are several positive examples from Jos North and Barkin Ladi.

Regarding media, there is one radio program, Voices of Peace ('VOP'), and one TV program, 'The Team'. The two are each other's opposite when it comes to reach. An average of 56% of the respondents listen to 'VOP' and 99% of the listeners do so daily or almost daily! 20% of the respondents have watched 'The Team' and 40% saw the program only once.

There was a very high level of resonance for 'VOP'. 95% of the listeners agreed that at least once did it relate to a real issue happening in their environment. Further, 97% agreed that topics covered are in line with their daily concerns for peace. The equivalent indicator for the 'The Team' does not show as high resonance. Further, the conflict content does not fit well into the context of PWA II, and there was confusion among the respondents regarding the content.

Donor visibility is high, and 17% of radio listeners and 21% of TV viewers, were aware that the EU finances the programs. All participants in FGDs were very familiar with the fact that EU is the donor which they have been informed about it via SFCG, logos on banners, invitation cards, activity folders etc. Overall, the media programs focus on traditional media and it would be interesting to incorporate social media components for which there is both interest and potential to develop useful components for the project.

Processes

The core processes for the project are satisfactory, such as project management and coordination, and clarity of roles and responsibilities. However, other processes are weaker and need improvements in order to be more effective. In April 2016 a new Country Director came on board and strategic changes are currently taking place, including enhancements of processes.
The biggest concern among respondents were financial processes, which have resulted in late release of funds at subgrant level and following delays in implementation. However, since June the financial processes have been (re)explained and the situation has improved significantly. Monitoring is another process that was considered to need improvements. While the M&E team was appreciated for their hard work, the monitoring system is not ideal. There was not any M&E software, hardware or database to make monitoring more effective. There have been recent investments in the team and for the continuation of PWA II there is a great emphasis on improved quality and usability in monitoring.

There are different opinions about decision making. While the management considers that it is effective and participatory, other staff members say that it is cumbersome and slow because of many meetings, lack of delegation and sometimes too much emphasis on finding consensus.

Communication has improved considerably since the staff retreat in May 2016 but there are still issues. For PWA II there is lack of - and delays in - information sharing. Partners would like to have more frequent and transparent communication with SFCG, both regarding processes such as finance, as well as to be able to influence the project.

### 6. Recommendations

The MTE recommends the following:

**On project design and TOC:**
- Project management should consider adjustments on some project issues, primarily regarding how to support implementation of CSAD action plans which is an issue raised by a majority of respondents. It may require donor discussions on a possible no cost extension in order to be able to manage this critical component to better ensure sustainability of the project.
- For upcoming proposals in Nigeria it is recommended to always develop a sound, clear, and evidence-based TOC at an early stage of the project. The TOC can be adjusted and fine-tuned during implementation. A conflict assessment, as well as a stakeholder mapping are also critical for similar projects going forward.
- There are neither indicator definitions nor indicator targets. Project management and DM&E Manager should develop these and get approval from the donor. For future projects it is essential to have both definitions and targets.

**On implementation:**
- SFCG staff and others responsible for mobilization should strive to ensure that all target groups participate, including IDPs, PWDs and that there is a fair gender balance considering the social and cultural context. It is also important to motivate influential politicians and traditional leaders to be involved themselves rather than sending their representatives.
- Everyone consulted in the MTE would like the project to continue. Business Development and NGR management should identify if there are any funding opportunities to enable a continuation in current intervention areas as well as in additional LGAs. In parallel they should start developing a phase-out strategy in collaboration with the state/ local governments and other key stakeholders.

**On project activities:**
- The EWS has been evaluated three times, and each time with similar conclusions and recommendations. The Project Manager, supported by the Deputy Country Director, should revisit these evaluations and do an in-
depth evidence-based participative analysis of the EWS and take action for modifications and improvements during the second half of PWA II.

- Project Manager and other staff should reflect on ways to improve gender equality in activities, both with regards to equal participation and to encourage increased interaction of women. SFCG should also make increased use of the women ‘role models’ in order to motivate other women to get increasingly involved and take on responsibilities.

**On processes:**

- NGR management should reiterate the roles and responsibilities for the project in order to ensure that there is full clarity for staff and implementing partners, in particular as there are changes due to reorganization.

- NGR management and the Finance Manager should ensure that (re)explained financial procedures are well understood by SFCG staff and implementing partners. There should be regular communication with partners to follow up on issues and implementation in order to improve control and quality of activities.

- Project Manager should ensure that cross-cutting managers are invited to participate in weekly meetings and other coordination and planning meetings to improve alignment and effectiveness of media and M&E.

- DM&E Manager should in collaboration with SFCG and partners enhance the learning-based monitoring system which should aim at: being systematically used, use standardized monitoring tools and ensure disaggregated data. Investments in M&E hardware and software such as Ipad for data collection, and a database for centralized and safe storage, and agreed processes and formats for sharing of monitoring data. It would apply to PWA II as well as to other projects in Nigeria.

- NGR management should consider delegating decision making via e.g. a scheme of delegation where decisions up certain amounts can be taken by e.g. the Project Manager and Deputy Country Director. (Given the time lapse between data collection and final report this has already been initiated by the management.)

**On media:**

- NGR management and Media Manager should revisit the process of script approval and identify what enhancements could be made to make the process faster and more effective.

- Media Manager and Project Manager should consider incorporating components on social media, targeting primarily youth in urban areas, but could also consider other stakeholders and geographic areas. E.g. to create WhatsApp groups for CSAD members for closer connection and an ongoing dialogue.

- Business Development and NGR management should ensure to re-use media programs produced for contexts different as compared to the project intervention areas, only when the contexts are similar enough for the audience to be able to relate the messages.

**On usage of MTE results:**

- Project Manager should ensure that relevant and adequate conclusions and recommendations with focus on learning aspects are shared:
In the weekly staff meeting;
PAD and engage in discussions with the aim to identify sustainable ways forward;
A short adapted version should be disseminated for CSADs, partner meetings etc.

On final evaluation:
- The external evaluator should incorporate the TOC and test if the causal chain of the project can be confirmed. It is one of the prime contributions the evaluation can make to research and learning, in particular for projects related to conflict as the TOC is implicit and untested. It is also important to try to verify the attribution of the project, and get an in-sight of the counterfactual, even if a complete understanding is challenging for peacebuilding projects.