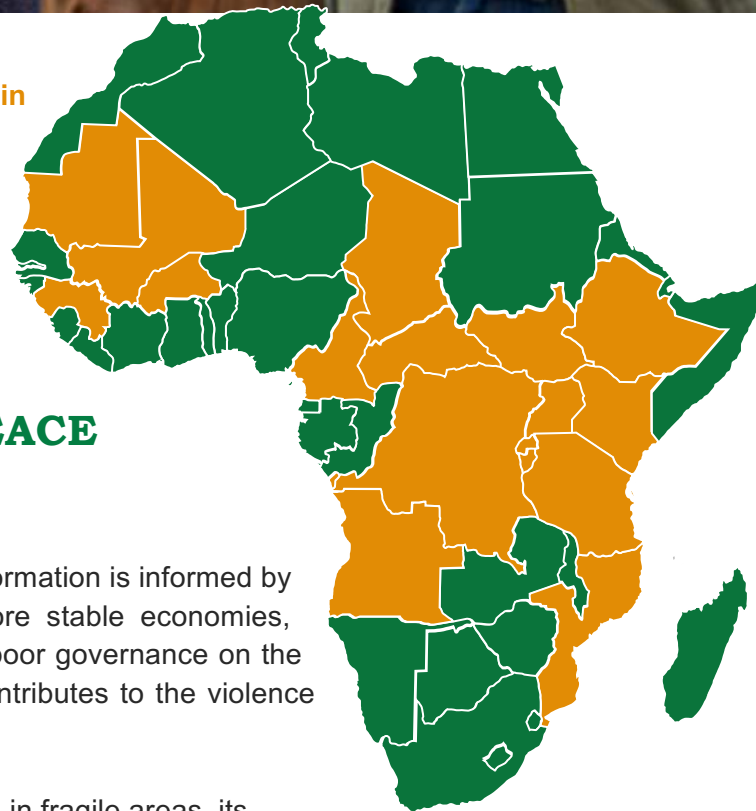




ACORD

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION: CAPACITY STATEMENT

ACORD (Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development) is a Pan-African non-governmental organisation that has been working for social justice and development in Africa since 1976. ACORD's work is guided by a number of fundamental values and working principles, chief amongst these is the belief that individuals are the primary actors in their own development.



WHY ACORD WORKS TO BUILD PEACE AND TRANSFORM CONFLICT

ACORD's engagement in peacebuilding and conflict transformation is informed by growing instability, mass migration of youth towards more stable economies, extremism and radicalisation, and the negative effects of poor governance on the lives and livelihoods of Africans. Each of these factors contributes to the violence and protracted conflicts across the continent.

While conflict may directly affect the 1.5 billion people living in fragile areas, its effects are felt by all countries. Even within nominally stable states, sporadic violence due to underlying fragility has often reversed progress, while conflict frequently spills over borders leading to neighbouring states experiencing violence and hosting large numbers of displaced populations or forced migrants.

Conflict is not just an issue of human security, it is also a significant driver of food insecurity, as it disrupts production and distribution networks, and strategic food withholding is often a tool used in counterinsurgency. Conflicts are likely to seriously threaten the ability to achieve the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the international community agreed upon in 2015, including the goal of eradicating hunger and malnutrition by 2025.

Instability is, therefore, a problem of local, national, and global dimensions that requires global prioritisation and locally tailored responses.

HOW ACORD WORKS TO BUILD PEACE AND TRANSFORM CONFLICT

ACORD uses the one programme approach (OPA) as a deliberate strategy towards sustainable development. By embracing OPA, ACORD's peace work integrates and is integrated into the priority themes of livelihoods and rights and responsibilities promotion. This calls for, among other things, more participatory development of programme design, implementation and cross-learning to enhance synergies. Similarly, ACORD embraces and promotes SDG16 which emphasizes the link between governance, peace and development.

ACORD's peacebuilding and conflict transformation strategy targets grassroots-level work and links this to national, regional and global processes. The emphasis of this approach is on promoting and enhancing the efficacy of home-grown solutions such as reviving and re-assessing traditional conflict resolution systems and linking them with national level processes and mechanisms.

ACORD believes that only genuinely inclusive peacebuilding processes are likely to result in sustainable peace and development. ACORD's inclusive approach focuses especially on women and youth to build local resilience and reduce vulnerability to disasters and conflict. ACORD works to ensure that all groups, individuals, and institutions have the right capacities to effectively engage and play their part in building the future. To this end, ACORD carries out civic education around governance, electoral processes, and the rights and responsibilities conferred on individuals through citizenship.

ACORD supports communities that share a common border to expand their capacities for peaceful coexistence, to cooperate and add value to their common resources to overcome the natural divisiveness that

ACORD'S APPROACH

1. Strengthen grassroots/local interventions and link these to national, regional, Pan-African and global processes.
2. Enhance the capacities of local communities.
3. Prioritize cross-border peacebuilding interventions and support regional integration mechanisms.
4. Strengthen inter-linkages with other interventions.
5. Produce research for evidence-based interventions.
6. Strengthen the role of advocacy and build strategic partnerships.



artificial, but now national, borders often create. Regional integration can be a powerful conflict prevention approach, therefore, ACORD supports the work of regional economic blocks which form the pillars of the African Union (AU) and the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

ACORD facilitates participatory power analysis and seeks to build partnerships with all relevant actors for peace, both “supporters” and “spoilers”. At times it is necessary to convince and influence opinions through advocacy and awareness-raising before being able to bring together the actors in a joint process. ACORD is also able to bring local solutions to the attention of higher level decision makers. ACORD works with governance institutions, including but not limited to local Peace and Security committees, Members of Parliament and local governments, media, democratization and electoral processes to strengthen the linkage between civil society and duty bearers.

ACORD’S LEARNING AND EVIDENCE

While peace agreements are often negotiated at national level, the aim of the award winning Community Social Peace and Recovery (CSPR) Model, developed by ACORD in 2001 and published in 2009, is to extend peace resolutions to the local (community) level. While the success of these peace agreements is dependent upon the support of the population, national/political peace agreements - although creating an improved political environment - do not necessarily respond to the realities on the ground. This is despite the fact that communities are most affected by the particular challenges of emerging from conflict such as forced recruitment, abduction, loss of life, loss of their livelihoods or land, displacement, sexual violence, diseases, etc. To make matters worse, governments at times forget about the conflict and tensions remaining at grassroots level, once a national level political peace deal has been attained. Similarly, judicial systems are often unable to ensure accountability after conflict, either because they are deemed partial or simply because of the scale of atrocities and human rights violations that require jurisprudence. There is a challenge for justice, accountability and reparation to apply in such a context of massive violation of human rights, marked with political and ethnically negative solidarities and manipulation, unless social peace is recovered locally. Hence, the purpose of ACORD’s CSPR Model is to ensure that peace agreements reflect local needs and realities and generate a grassroots momentum for national peace. The model supports the divided and affected communities to take leadership to dialogue and negotiate social peace and agree on social contracts for sustainable peace and recovery.

The following four interdependent steps are the pillars of ACORD’s CSPR methodology:

1. Community dialogue and negotiation
2. Social contracts for peace
3. Jointly designed and executed peace/recovery projects
4. Community peace watchdogs

Capacity building cuts across all four steps of the CSPR methodology.

This process has proven to form a strong foundation for sustainable peace and recovery and create an environment conducive to locally-owned justice and accountability which contributes to the stability of a nation as a whole.

ACORD also implements a number of other widely used tools and methodologies to support its peacebuilding work, such as the *Stepping Stones* methodology, the social exclusion analysis tool; the Human Rights Based approach to help identify rights abuses and their contributing factors; the Problem Tree analysis; power relations analysis; gender relations analysis; the conflict timeline tool; the scale of reflection or derivative scale particularly useful for analysis with community and identifying differing perceptions; 4-Quadrant tool for identifying the

progression of the conflict and possible solutions; and the Do No Harm framework, useful as a tool of context analysis as well as response planning.

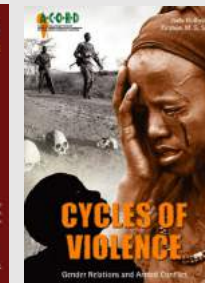
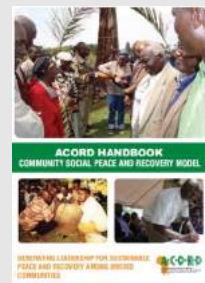
ACORD has worked in the conflict areas of Angola, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Central African Republic (CAR), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. A small snap-shot of ACORD's work towards sustainable peace in Africa includes:

- Following the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, houses and access to land and property have been secured for orphaned/separated minors and child-headed households.
- In Guinea (Conakry), ACORD has been assisting in the integration of refugees from Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia when they were unable to return to their country.
- In Central African Republic, ACORD enhances peacebuilding and socio-economic reintegration of young men and women who have been part of armed rebel groups or involved in armed conflict. The action plan revolves around two main approaches: livelihoods and leadership, as well as capacity development in areas of negotiations among different social sectors.
- In Mali, ACORD has sought to redress the impacts of the Touareg rebellion among local communities and engage local populations in the implementation of the Peace Agreement, especially youth and women.
- In Angola, ACORD has contributed to the sustainable reintegration of ex-combatants in the civil war between the MPLA and UNITA.
- ACORD negotiated for peaceful relations between communities affected by conflict over natural resources such as in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Mali, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, and Chad.
- ACORD has been contributing to peaceful relations in eastern Sudan, while playing a role in supporting the implementation of peace agreements such as the Abuja and Comprehensive Peace Agreements through recovery, peacebuilding and advocacy efforts.
- In Uganda, ACORD has helped generate dialogue between the Government and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) with a view to securing peace in Uganda, but also to curb the conflict's influence on security in Sudan, the DRC, the Central African Republic and beyond.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT:

ACORD has conducted research into the causes, effects, and mitigation strategies related to conflict which feeds into its practical and advocacy work. ACORD's recent publications are available online and include:

- Africa in 2030: Responsive States, Empowered Citizens, 2014
- Societies Caught in the Conflict Trap: Chad, Central African Republic, and South Sudan, 2013
- The Community Social Peace and Recovery Handbook, 2009
- Unfinished Business: Transitional Justice and Women's Rights in Africa, 2008
- A Lost Generation: Young People and Conflict in Africa, 2007
- Cycles of Violence, Gender Relations and Armed Conflict, 2005



PROJECT PROFILES

BURUNDI

Title: Support for the Management and Socio-Economic Integration of Returnees and Demobilized Ex-combatants through Producer Organizations

Dates: 2012 – 2014; 2013 – 2015

Locations: Burundi (Burambi, Buyengero, and Rumonge Communes)

Funding Partner: United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Summary: In Burundi, over the course of two, two-year funding cycles, ACORD supported the socio-economic reintegration of the returnees and demobilized ex-combatants (RDExCs) located largely in the town of Rumonge and in the hills of Buruhukiro, Mutambara, Mugara and Mbuga by promoting micro-projects that would serve as income generating activities.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: 67 (RDExCs) Producer Organizations (POs) have been set up and structured; These organizations have 1,546 members including young men and women.

Outcome 2: 67 micro-projects were formulated, approved, financed and implemented.

Outcome 3: Creation of 224 jobs (56 for women and 168 for men).

Outcome 4: The technical and organizational capacities of these 67 POs was strengthened in organizational management; project planning, implementation and monitoring; marketing; education for peace; and responsible citizenship.

Outcome 5: A framework for the exchange of experience between POs and peacebuilding was established.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Title: Contribution to Social Peace and Sustainable Food Security through the Restoration of Dialogue and the Revitalization of the Livestock Sector in the Central African Republic

Dates: November 2015 – November 2017

Location: Central African Republic (Nana Gribizi and Ouham)

Funding Partner: European Union's Bekou Trust Fund for the Central African Republic

Implementing Partners: ANDE, FNEC, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Summary: In the Central African Republic, ACORD is working toward increasing food security and strengthening national level peace processes at the local level through a project whose combined approach ties together the re-establishment of inter-community dialogue on migration and access to resources including water, pastures, and livestock markets. ACORD is accomplishing this by using the CSPR model and social contract theory. The goal of the project is the development of common spaces (pasture, livestock trail, market, etc.) through which the revitalization of the governance networks of pastoralists can work in collaboration with the decentralized services of the State.

Expected Outcomes:

The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to peace and sustainable food security in Ouham and Nana-Gribizi provinces through the restoration of dialogue and the revival of the livestock sector.

Title: Economic Recovery and Strengthening of Social Cohesion in Ouham Prefecture

Dates: January 2016 – December 2016

Location: Central African Republic (Ouham)

Funding Partner: Caritas France

Summary: In working to reduce the socio-economic impacts of the 2013 crisis ACORD has been working to increase economic and social stability in the Central African Republic through the provision of agricultural inputs to farmers, supporting community-based "cash-for-work" initiatives, and training community members and community based organizations on a model of community-based peace-making and mediation.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Ensured the revitalization of agro-pastoral production in communities affected by violence and conflict.

Outcome 2: Contributed to the rehabilitation of community infrastructure with the participation of citizens and volunteers recruited from the displaced communities.

Outcome 3: Supported victims of psychosocial trauma and promoted peace and reconciliation initiatives between communities.

Title: Strengthening Civil Society Actors for the Sustainable Construction of Peace

Location: Central African Republic

Funding Partner: European Union

Summary: Since 2014, ACORD has been implementing a project aimed at strengthening civil society actors and local authorities in order to contribute to the sustainable construction of peace in the Central African Republic. This project has a short-term and long-term impact, enabling local actors to respond to the immediate needs of the most vulnerable populations while also to building an environment conducive to sustainable development on the values of peace and good governance. Civil society organizations at the national level and in the prefectures of Ouham and Nana Gribizi participate effectively in political dialogue and actively promote a culture of peace. The livelihoods of vulnerable populations, especially women and young people, are sustainably secured as peace dividends.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: ACORD improved the capacity for a culture of peace and participation in political dialogue of 200 people, including 40 local authorities and 240 CSO members.

Outcome 2: Two intercommunal conflicts, one between farmers and breeders in Kaga Bandoro and another conflict between breeders and Anti Balaka in Bossangoa, were settled.

Outcome 3: One hundred members of peace committees, including 50 in Bossangoa and 50 in Kaga Bandoro, are engaged in dialogue and working to promote a culture of peace.

Outcome 4: Three ACORD staff members in Bossangoa and five members of the peace committees took part in the electoral process as independent observers.

Outcome 5: Access to basic services for populations in post-conflict areas in Bossangoa and Kaga Bandoro was improved.

GUINEA

Title: Promoting Democratic Governance Through Support to Local Peace Structures

Dates: May 2017 – April 2018

Locations: Guinea (Forest Guinea and Upper Guinea)

Funding Partner: National Endowment for Democracy

Implementing Partners: CROSC, Publish What You Pay, ADAPE

Summary: Promote good natural resource management and governance, as well as conflict prevention and resolution in Haute Guinée and Guinée Forestière.

Title: Programme for the Consolidation of Peace in Forest Guinea and Upper Guinea

Dates: 2010-2012; 2013-2017

Locations: Guinea (Forest Guinea and Upper Guinea)

Funding Partners: CCFD – Terre Solidaire

Implementing Partners: ADAPE, CROSC, ASODER

Summary: To promote conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding through locally-owned processes, ACORD supports the creation and training of pools of mediators to work towards conflict prevention and resolution, carry out information and sensitization campaigns on peace, coordinates peace actors through the creation of consultation frameworks, conducts research on the root causes of conflicts, and conduct livelihoods and literacy interventions as conflict prevention actions.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Peaceful resolution or de-escalation of conflicts thanks to intervention of members of pools of mediators

Outcome 2: Strengthened social links and solidification of trust amongst communities

Outcome 3: Strengthened good governance and participation of local community leaders in decision-making thanks to capacity- and leadership-building

Outcome 4: Improved livelihoods and revenue generation activities of vulnerable groups

Outcome 5: Consolidation frameworks operational in 5 districts and at regional level

Outcome 6: Root causes of different types of conflicts (land, ethnic, religious, domestic, farmers/pastoralists, mining) mapped in 6 rural communes

Outcome 7: Pools of mediators have clear action plans and are interacting with local authorities to have them included within local development plans

Title: Promoting Citizen Participation in Natural Resources Management

Dates: May 2015 – April 2016; May 2016 – April 2017

Locations: Guinea (Forest Guinea Region); Upper Guinea

Funding Partner: National Endowment for Democracy

Implementing Partners: CROSC, Publish What You Pay Coalition

Summary: ACORD has been working to promote public participation in local-level natural resource management in the Forest Region of Guinea, through community dialogue and capacity-building and awareness raising on legal texts and laws related to natural resource management and on global initiatives for transparency in the extractive industries. ACORD's goals are to strengthen existing consultation mechanisms for local actors to address natural resource management issues; promote the social contract model for peaceful management of resources; and establish or further develop networks of representatives from communities, local organizations, local authorities, and mining companies to help them develop strategies for improving transparency, monitoring signed agreements between communities and mining companies, and mitigating mining-related conflicts.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Strengthened responsibility and transparency in the governance of natural, and in particular mineral, resources in Forest Guinea through enhanced citizen participation and dialogue between mining industry actors and local communities.

Outcome 2: Strategic partnership agreements signed between mining companies, local communities and local authorities in targeted sub-districts to ensure concerted management and use of natural mining resources.

Outcome 3: Existing consultation frameworks supported and new frameworks established in Upper Guinea, to take into account questions of concerted use of mineral resources.

Outcome 4: Signing of contracts between mining companies and local stakeholders, establishing the terms under which local actors will monitor agreements made by the mining companies, especially as they relate to the use of local development funds.

Title: Project to support the strengthening of local initiatives for the prevention of conflicts and local infrastructures of peace in Guinée Forestière

Dates: October 2015 – January 2017

Locations: Guinea (Forest Guinea Region)

Funding Partner: UNDP Peacebuilding Fund

Implementing Partner: West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Summary: The objective of this project was to support local initiatives for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Forest Guinea. ACORD has strengthened the capacity and synergy of various peace actors in Forest Guinea on conflict prevention, management and resolution mechanisms, early warning and early response through the establishment or re-energizing of efficiently co-ordinated social peace infrastructures.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Conducted a diagnosis study of all peace structures existing in the 7 districts of Forest Guinea.

Outcome 2: Fifty peace infrastructures were put in place in seven districts of the Forest Guinea.

Outcome 3: Seven district and one regional mechanism for the synergy of peace actors were put in place covering the targeted districts for conflict prevention and/or resolution and coordination of peace activities.

Outcome 4: Fifty monitors were trained and deployed to collect and analyse data for early warning mechanism.

Outcome 5: At least 119 conflicts were mitigated by the peace structures.

KENYA

Title: Community Peace Recovery and Reconciliation Project

Dates: 2012 – 2016

Locations: Bungoma and Tanszoia Counties

Funding Partner: The Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Implementing Partners: Free Pentecostal Fellowship of Kenya (FPFK)

Summary: The purpose of the Community Peace Recovery and Reconciliation Project was to unpack the Mabanga resolutions and implement them throughout both target counties. In doing so, ACORD worked to secure support from political leaders and the local administration.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: The Mabanga Peace resolutions became a solid and binding document that all leaders seeking elective positions were to support for them to be elected for any political seat.

Outcome 2: The Council of Elders from the three communities reclaimed their authority and power to influence decisions that affect their communities, more so in the area of constructive and transformative leadership.

Title: Peace Recovery and Reconciliation Project in Bomet and Nyamira Counties

Dates: 2009 – 2010

Locations: Kenya

Funding Partner: United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Summary: Members of District Peace Committees were taken through steps of the Community Peace Recovery and Reconciliation Model, enabling them to master its use and application in various community based conflict situations and contexts.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: The use and application of the community peace recovery and reconciliation model to secure the Mabanga Peace Agreement between three major communities of Bungoma and Transzoia Counties, namely Bukusu, Sabaoth and Teso communities.

Outcome 2: The signed agreement by representatives of the three communities contributed to 2013 peaceful elections in those two counties with the leadership endorsed by community members through their council of elders.

Title: Peace Recovery and Reconciliation Project in Bomet and Nyamira Counties

Dates: 2008 – 2010

Locations: Kenya (Sotik and Borabu Constituencies in the Rift Valley and Nyanza Regions)

Funding Partner: Oxfam Hong Kong

Implementing Partners: Cereal Growers Association (CGA) and Catholic Justice and Peace Commission

Summary: The peace recovery and reconciliation among inhabitants of Sotik and Borabu constituencies of Bomet and Nyamira Counties respectively was centred on inclusive community dialogue for peace. The latter involved analysing and understanding factors that contributed to the 2007-2008 post-election crisis, searching for ways (both short and long term) to addressing identified factors and finally charting together a way forward to rebuilding a shared future of the community in all dimensions (social-cultural, political, economic, etc.). The community dialogue process culminated in signing a community social contract which clearly outlined resolutions adopted by community members to prevent emerging conflict, resolve existing conflicts and work together on their reconciliation journey.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Greater participation and responsibility of community members to dealing with conflicts at community level in a more peaceful manner.

Outcome 2: The ownership of the peace process by community members was strongly established and has continued to influence behavioural change towards maintaining peace and social cohesion.

Outcome 3: A short documentary capturing key steps of the community dialogue process was developed and has been used in Kenya and beyond Kenya as a tool for community based conflict resolution.

MALI

Title: Youth and Power to Act

Dates: February 2016 – January 2018

Locations: Mali (Kayes, Gao, Timbuktu, Kidal and Kidal regions, District of Bamako)

Funding Partner: European Union

Implementing Partners: CCFD-Terre Solidaire, GRDR, AZHAR

Summary: Strengthen youth understanding and ownership of citizenship and democracy towards effective civic engagement of young Malians. ACORD is supporting youth organisations to conduct ten different studies on citizenship and identity, building their capacity and awareness on citizenship and youth empowerment, and promoting youth-led initiatives on citizenship and coexistence.

Expected Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Strengthened accountability of youth organisations in the establishment of their initiatives to promote citizenship and peaceful coexistence.

Outcome 2: Promotion of positive cultural values for peace.

Outcome 3: Youth civic mobilisation

Title: Young People's Actions in Favour of the Consolidation of Inclusive Peace and the Fight Against Violent Extremism

Dates: April 2017 – October 2018

Locations: Mali (Gao, Timbuktu, Kidal, Ménaka, Taoudeni, Mopti, Ségou and Bamako Regions)

Funding Partner: UN Peacebuilding Fund

Implementing Partners: CNJ (National Youth Council), Ensemble Nous Sommes Un Peuple, Union Jeunes Musulmans du Mali, Associations des groupements bibliques, Réseau des Jeunes Femmes Leaders, Mouvements des Résistances Civiles, Conseils Régionaux des Jeunes.

Summary: ACORD is launching a capacity-building and sensitization campaign on the peace process, the implementation of the Peace Agreement and UNSCR 2250 on youth participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. ACORD will also promote the joint actions of young people towards strengthened participation and representation in the peacebuilding process as well as a strengthened social dialogue and economic opportunities for young men and women to prevent radicalisation and extremism.

Title: Strengthening Peacebuilding and National Reconciliation

Dates: 2013 – 2017

Locations: Mali (Kayes Region (5 Localities of Kita District) and Region of Timbuktu (6 Localities of Timbuktu District))

Funding Partner: CCFD Terre Solidaire

Implementing Partner: ADENORD

Summary: In order to foster peace and local dialogue, ACORD is providing capacity-building for local authorities, local leaders and other local actors in conflict prevention and resolution. In addition, ACORD is conducting research on the root causes of conflicts in the Timbuktu region, promoting inter- and intra-community dialogue, and raising awareness among young people of Kita and Timbuktu on the Peace Agreement and the role of young people in its implementation.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: An inter-locality mechanism is in place to manage natural resources in a concerted manner and to deal with conflicts linked to natural resource management in Kita district.

Outcome 2: Consultation frameworks and peace monitoring committees established in six localities of the Timbuktu district.

Outcome 3: Capitalisation of inter- and intra-community dialogue initiatives to strengthen the coordination and accountability of actors.

Outcome 4: Members of youth and women organisations trained or sensitised on issues of citizenship and local governance.

Title: Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence to Foster Peace Building in Mali

Dates: April 2015 – April 2016

Locations: Mali (Segou, Mopti, Timbuktu, and Gao Regions)

Funding Partner: UN Women

Implementing Partners: 12 National and Local CSOs: AJM, APDF, AMAFEP, AMSS, Association Femmes et Droits Humains, CAFO, JUPREC, PLAN – Mali, ODEF – Mali, RECOTRADE, UNAFEM, WLDAF

Summary: The project aimed at fostering a better understanding, prevention, assistance and protection on GBV and the integration of a gender perspective within transitional justice mechanisms. To this end, ACORD strengthened the capacities of key actors in prevention, monitoring, and response to gender-based violence and created awareness on the national and international legal instruments regarding the rights of women as well as the promotion of peace and security.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Draft law on gender based violence (GBV) elaborated by a group of twelve national and local CSOs coordinated by ACORD.

Outcome 2: Representatives of Parliament, the Ministry of Gender, the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission, and CSOs participated to an exchange visit to Rwanda and Kenya to learn about and observe best practices on transitional justice in post-conflict environments.

Outcome 3: 156 women leaders and members of GBV survivors' associations were trained on transitional justice mechanisms and national reconciliation so that they might participate in dialogue related to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission.

Outcome 4: 50 key actors of State services, human rights CSOs, and representatives of the Christian and Muslim communities understand and know relevant national and international instruments on women, peace and security.

Title: Project to support the empowerment of women in the Gao region for their inclusive participation in conflict prevention and mediation processes

Dates: June 2015 – July 2016

Locations: Mali (Region of Gao)

Funding Partner: UN Women

Implementing Partners: GREFFA, AMPRODE Sahel

Summary: The project aimed at supporting the inclusive participation to the peace process of women affected by the Mali conflict in the Gao region. ACORD performed an analysis of existing conflict management mechanisms and women's participation to these mechanisms in the Gao Region as well as a mapping of women's CSOs in Gao. ACORD also provided capacity building on conflict prevention and resolution through the CSPR model and facilitated experience sharing on best practices between women's organisations of Gao, Timbuktu and Sikasso.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Stronger understanding of women's role and participation in conflict prevention and mediation in Gao

Outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of women and women's organisations to participate effectively to conflict prevention and mediation in the Gao region (48 trainers trained on the CSPR model; 42 women leaders trained in Bamako on conflict management and gender; 48 community and religious leaders as well as youth organisations in Gao trained on on conflict management and gender.)

SOUTH SUDAN

Title: Generating Sustainable Livelihoods and Leadership for Peace in South Sudan

Dates: September 2016 – August 2021

Location: South Sudan

Funding Partner: Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Addressing Root Causes (ARC) Fund

Implementing Partners: Centre for Conflict Resolution, DanChurchAid (DCA)

Summary: The *long-term goal* of the proposed project, in line with that of the ARC fund, is to address the political and socio-economic root causes of armed conflict and instability in South Sudan. Implicit in the project's theory of change is the causal relationship between conflict and livelihoods. By supporting local communities to establish new or to strengthen existing mechanisms for conflict management while simultaneously building resilience to food security and economic shocks – in essence, building trust both between and among local communities – the consortium has a better chance of addressing the root causes of both conflict and economic shocks.

Expected Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Resilient livelihoods and food security.

Outcome 2: Social Cohesion.

Outcome 3: Peaceful conflict resolution.

UGANDA

Title: Scaling up the Promotion of Civic Responsibility and Empowerment Among Women, Men, and Youth in Acholi Sub Region, Northern Uganda

Dates: July 2016 – December 2017

Locations: Uganda (Acholi Sub- Region, Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo, Amuru, Nwoya Districts)

Funding Partner: Democratic Governance Facility

Summary: Contributing to its objective of strengthening education for peace and responsible citizenship, in the Acholi region of Uganda, ACORD is providing refresher trainings for volunteer civic educators, CBO representatives, and citizen groups. In addition to the trainings ACORD is raising awareness on civic responsibility and electoral participation through producing radio talk shows.

Expected Outcomes:

Outcome 1: To enhance civic awareness and effective participation in decision making for 55,959 citizens in 24 sub counties of Acholi sub region.

Outcome 2: To strengthen local accountability among 55,959 community members and leaders in 24 sub counties of Acholi sub region.

Title: Strengthening Civic Responsibility, Good Governance and Accountability in the West Nile Region, Uganda

Dates: July 2016 – December 2017

Locations: Uganda (West Nile region; Koboko, Moyo, Yumbe Districts)

Funding Partner: Democratic Governance Facility

Summary: With the aim of strengthening civic education and accountability in governance, ACORD has been working in the West Nile region of Uganda, training women, men, and youth to become trainers and peace educators in their own right. ACORD is also hosting civic education sessions to improve levels of confidence in claiming civic and human rights and training over 400 community leaders to understand and play their respective roles in the democratic process.

Expected Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Strengthened the capacity of 83,123 community members to fulfil their civic responsibility and demand for better service delivery in 21 sub counties of West Nile region.

Outcome 2: Enhanced local accountability among 83,123 community members and local leaders in 21 sub counties in West Nile region.

Title: Promoting Sustainable Peace and Recovery in the Context of Transitional Justice in Uganda

Dates: September 2015 – August 2017

Locations: Uganda (West Nile region and Acholi region)

Funding Partner: American Jewish World Service

Summary: In the aim of promoting sustainable peace through transitional justice methodologies in Uganda, ACORD is providing training sessions on the underlying principles of transitional justice and how it can be relevant in the specific context of Uganda. These trainings have led to increased engagement in the political process during the election. ACORD is also ensuring 32 community dialogues (4 per district per year) on the needs and aspirations of those affected on key transitional justice issues. These community dialogues help to create awareness and serve as platforms for reconciliation for various parties involved in the elections. In addition, radio talk shows provided an opportunity to raise awareness and engage with area wider audience on these themes.

Expected Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Communities report improved peace and reconciliation in relation to issues being addressed under the Social Contract model mechanism.

Outcome 2: Community/grass root perspectives inform the content of the ongoing process towards developing a national transitional justice policy which should aim at complementary concepts of peace, reconciliation, justice, and reparations.

Outcome 3: Enhanced understanding amongst communities in Northern Uganda of the links between co-existence and transitional justice

Outcome 4: Research reports and policy briefs produced and used to inform local and national level advocacy around TJ processes

REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Title: Pan Africa Programme for Community Peace Recovery and Reconciliation

Dates: January 2012 – June 2016

Locations: Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Guinea

Funding Partner: Dutch Government Reconstruction Fund

Summary: Facilitate an enabling environment where marginalised communities become effective agents of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, to support inclusive stability and development on the continent, ultimately contributing to the achievement of MDG1 and the restoration of peace and security in Africa

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Sixteen social contracts have been signed, contributing to community-level peace and reconciliation in 7 African countries.

Outcome 2: ACORD collaborated with UNDP to design a handbook for community dialogue for conflict prevention and sustainable peace in Tanzania ahead of the October 2015 elections, drawing on the positive experience in neighbouring Kenya and Burundi.

Outcome 3: In Mali, trainings were conducted with MINUSMA in 2015 for key actors with a view to start applying the model in the Mali context.

Outcome 4: In Kenya, trainings have been delivered to military and governance personnel on Peace and Security and Diplomacy in partnership with the national steering committee, the International Peace and Security Training Centre, the AU, Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), International Conference on the Great Lakes (ICGLR) and other key actors.

Outcome 5: Civic education campaigns were successfully implemented in three countries surrounding election periods: Guinea ahead of, during, and after presidential elections in October 2015; In Uganda ahead of elections in February 2016 and in Kenya ahead of the March 2013 general elections.

Title: Peace Beyond Borders

Dates: June 2014 – June 2016

Locations: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda

Funding Partner: Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (via Oxfam)

Summary: ACORD provided training of peacemakers on the CSPR model and mobilized communities and secondary schools through peace activities with the support of community leaders. ACORD lead the establishment of links between the different levels of intervention, namely the local (district), national, and regional levels through the creation of a space for dialogue between local actors but also with institutions.

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Introduced through participatory research into the drivers of conflict in the Great Lakes region, whose results and conflict analysis have adequately addressed the needs of communities affected by the conflict in this region.

Outcome 2: "Capacity to make peace" is reinforced among the communities of Burundi, Rwanda and the DRC on the training of trainers in the model of the Consolidation of Social Peace and Reconciliation (CSPR). 72 peacekeepers were equipped with theoretical and practical knowledge in conflict transformation and mobilization for peace in the region.

Outcome 3: The mobilization of communities and secondary schools through peace activities involving community leaders, the administration has allowed the restoration of mutual trust between neighbours, different political groups, youth and women, peacebuilding and resistance to manipulation of identities and enlistment in rebel groups.

Outcome 4: Establishment of links between the different levels of intervention, namely the local (district), the national and the regional level, through the creation of a space for dialogue between local actors but also with the institutions for a "Road Map Peace." Joint activities at all levels, involvement and capacity-building for youth and women, and the agenda for peace that takes into account the needs of interest groups have been achieved.

Outcome 5: Peace projects on livelihoods aimed at the creation of peace dividends have been developed in favour of targeted youth and women in the project area - 518 young people were supported.



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