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| <b>PROJECT:</b>                    | <b>Capacity-building in Practical Disarmament and Peacebuilding: Strengthening Grassroots &amp; Civil Society Organisations in East Africa (CAPPA-East Africa)</b> |
| <b>DISARMAMENT FOCUS:</b>          | Conventional arms  |
| <b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS:</b>         | East Africa  |
| <b>PROPOSED PROJECT TIMEFRAME:</b> | 2010-2012 (24 months)  |
| <b>PROJECT MANAGER:</b>            | Ivor FUNG  |
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## **BACKGROUND**

In recent years, East African States have taken decisive action by adopting the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa in 2000, and the Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of SALW in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa in 2004.

Furthermore, the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA) was established to coordinate the joint efforts by National Focal Points in Member States to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. In parallel, the mission of the East African Action Network on Small Arms (EAANSA) is to facilitate national civil society organisations' (CSOs') action to make people safer from gun violence by preventing the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons.

Nevertheless, East Africa remains one of the sub-regions most affected by cross-border criminality, violent conflict and instability fuelled by the proliferation of small arms. East African CSOs, however, lack the necessary substantive and logistical tools in matters of practical disarmament and peacebuilding to complement and maximise governmental initiatives.

The United Nations has long recognised the importance of civil society and has endeavoured to include CSOs as partners in efforts to promote the millennium development goals. In particular, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, through its Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, launched a programme in West Africa in 2007 aimed at building the capacity of civil society in peacebuilding and practical disarmament issues. It developed a training curriculum, organised a training of trainers workshop and published a training manual as a resource document. This project resulted in strengthening partnerships among Governments, sub-regional organisations and CSOs, as well as advancing arms control and peacebuilding commitment in West Africa. Building on this expertise, UNREC proposes to develop similar programmes in East Africa, adapting the materials already available to the particularities and needs of this sub-region.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of this project will be to strengthen the capacities of civil society organisations working in the field of peace and security in East Africa in the fight for arms control, limitation and reduction, and prevention and mitigation of conflict and peacebuilding.

## **CONTENT AND DESIGN**

- 1) Conduct a survey on the status of East African civil society as a pre-requisite to the establishment of recommendations for the consolidation of CSOs;
- 2) Compile and elaborate guidelines for the establishment and organisation of networks and coalitions of civil society organisations;
- 3) Elaborate trainers' training curriculum, which will provide the substantive areas and methodological approaches to help achieve the capacity-building of civil society organisations in East Africa with a particular emphasis on the role of civil society in the promotion of a secure and peaceful environment; and on the concepts of SALW, arms proliferation, arms control, disarmament, conflict prevention and resolution, advocacy, resource mobilisation and project development;
- 4) Organise an experts' meeting for the validation of the training curriculum;
- 5) Organise a trainers' training workshop based on the conceptual and methodological recommendations drawn from the initially elaborated training curriculum;
- 6) Elaborate a training manual based on the lessons developed from the curriculum at the trainers' training workshop;
- 7) Elaborate a follow-up strategy to monitor the effective implementation of the skills learnt during the training workshops.

The course to be delivered during the trainers' training workshop will be organised in three major modules: (1) understanding conflicts, with a special focus on conflicts in the Eastern African sub-region; (2) sharing experiences on lessons learnt, obstacles encountered, successes achieved in integrating civil society in resolving conflicts, promoting practical disarmament and peace-building; and (3) preparing for action.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

The intended impact of this project is the consolidation and enhanced capacity of CSOs in East Africa through better cooperation and information-sharing with national Governments in their efforts to curb the proliferation of SALW, reduce criminality and armed conflicts, and build a more peaceful environment.

More specifically, the project would yield the following results:

- The existence of a complete register of existing civil society organisations in East Africa working in the field of peace and security;
- Training curriculum adapted to East African geopolitical realities;
- Strengthened and more knowledgeable civil society organisations;
- Publication of a training manual; and
- Final activity report.

## **BENEFICIARIES**

The main beneficiaries will be civil society organisations in East Africa, especially those working in the area of conflict prevention and mitigation, peacebuilding and SALW control: NGOs, religious organisations, academics, journalists, etc. Participants will also be drawn from National Focal Points, law enforcement officers, senior government officials, parliamentarians and sub-regional organisations dealing with peace and security issues.

## **PARTNERS**

The project will be implemented as a joint programme between UNREC, RECSA and EAANSA, with the support of UNDP Togo and East Africa.

UNREC will provide the necessary leadership to the project but will work in collaboration with sub-regional organisation partners and stakeholders including civil society organisations, Governments and other professional entities to facilitate the execution of the project.

| <b>Budget Items in USD</b>          | <b>AMOUNT</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Project Personnel                   | 80,000         |
| Operations And Implementation Costs | 420,000        |
| Total Budget Required               | 500,000        |
| Total Secured Funding               | 0              |
| <b>Funding Gap</b>                  | <b>500,000</b> |