



# CDG PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT

Project Title: Transitional Justice in Liberia

## **ATJLF Reporting Guideline:**

**General:** This template is to provide reporting guidelines for all grantees of the Africa Transitional Justice Legacy Fund (ATJLF). It is meant to provide a framework for documenting and reporting on major outcomes and impacts of the project. The ATJLF expects honest and accurate representation of outcomes linked to funded activities implemented as part of the project. The reporting template is attached as Annex A (for project narrative).

**Timelines:** We expect grantees to report to the fund twice in a year, a mid-term report and a final report. The mid-term report is expected six months after commencement of implementation (if project is one year). The final report should be submitted not later than two (2) months after the end of the project. These constitute the contractual obligations of the grant agreement. All mid-term and final reports should be submitted to the Secretariat as indicated in the grant agreement (except otherwise stated). However, we expect grantees to also send to the ATJLF Secretariat, regular updates/reports on major outputs and changes in the project. These should come in the form of monthly reports/updates; be no more than 1 page long and should focus only on outputs and verifiable or tangible outcomes as well as general updates on TJ trends in the country.

**Person (s) Responsible:** All grantees should provide the name and contact details of one person who will be responsible for submitting all reports to the ATJLF. This person is expected to be directly involved in both programmatic and operational issues of the project and must be in a position to provide clarifications, response to queries and additional information as and when required. In the absence of this person, all grantees are expected to inform the ATJLF Secretariat immediately, and prior to reporting deadlines.

**Specific Expectations:** The ATJLF expects all reports to have an overall summary of **key achievements** and differences made in the reporting period, in addition to the following specifics:

- i. **Activity or outputs:** all budgeted activities undertaken as part of the project.
- ii. **Outcomes** (direct or indirect): this refers to any impact or result that emanated from an implemented activity. This includes any unexpected outcomes

- iii. **Changes** (if any): any variations or deviations from what was proposed or planned. If change is significant and will have budgetary implications, the ATJLF Secretariat must be informed prior. If the changes are minor and with no significant budgetary implications, all grantees are expected to report on them, with a corresponding explanation.
- iv. **Challenges**: this refers to challenges encountered during the implementation of project activities within the reporting period.
- v. **Learning**: all learning (positive, programmatic or otherwise) should be documented and shared with the ATJLF Secretariat. This includes unexpected learnings
- vi. **Suggestions** for ATJLF
- vii. **Any additional funding received which supports or complements the work**
- viii. **A summary of what difference ATJLF funding has made to transitional justice in your country**

## ANNEX A: PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION	Center for Democratic Governance				
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Liberia				
REPORTING PERIOD	FROM	July 2020	TO	October 2020	
DATE OF SUBMISSION	November 6, 2020				
RESPONSIBLE PERSON	Oscar Bloh		CONTACT DETAILS	+231-886-554109	
SIGNATURE			DATE SIGNED	November 6, 2020	

### Q.1. PLEASE SUMMARISE THE KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD (300 words max.)

During the reporting period mentioned above, the project achieved the following:

- Citizens' knowledge on the need to foster reconciliation through memorialization at community level was increased.
- Discourse on transitional justice, reconciliation and memorialization was expanded. These discussions included the participation of elders, women leaders and youth leaders.
- Community members in Zorzor District, Lofa County are increasingly making the connection between healing and reconciliation and how they impact on development processes.
- Community members who attended the reconciliation workshop expressed the need for social cohesion as a means to build trust among diverse members.
- At the reconciliation workshop there was a general consensus among the participants that reconciliation without justice is not durable and that properly remembering those who were massacred during the civil war is a form of justice.
- The pace is now set for community members to plan and execute memorialization of those who were killed during the war

and were never given respectable and dignified burials.

**2. PLEASE OUTLINE AND DESCRIBE BELOW, AT LEAST FIVE (5) KEY ACTIVITIES YOU UNDERTOOK AS PART OF THIS PROJECT IN THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. (Please feel free to add as appropriate)**

1	Introduction of the project to the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, which also supports transitional justice issues in Liberia
2	Production and airing of radio dramas in Liberian English on transitional justice and played on 2 local radio stations in Lofa County and 2 radio stations in Bong County.
3	Representatives from Saymah Community in Bong County where a memorial event was held a few years ago to share their experience with the community in Zorzor on the impact memorialization can have on community healing and reconciliation. Three men and two women formed the team and the visit lasted for a day.
4	The conduct of a one-day healing and reconciliation workshop in Zorzor. The workshop brought together forty (40) participants. 18 women and 22 men. At the close of the workshop, there was a general consensus that members who were killed during the war and did not get a befitting burial be memorialized at an event to take place in late November 2020.

**3. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE MAJOR OUTCOMES AND DIFFERENCES MADE FROM YOUR ACTIVITIES AS PART OF THIS PROJECT IN THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

1	Recognition and acknowledgment among community members that a memorial event in honour of the dead is a form of justice as it tends to heal and reconcile community.
2	Restorative rather than retributive justice is more acceptable to members engaged during the implementation period.

**4. WHAT CHANGES (IF ANY) DID YOU MAKE TO THE ISSUE YOUR PROJECT IS TRYING TO SOLVE DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW? (300**

words max)

Transitional justice and reconciliation issues are not given a priority by the government even though it is mentioned in the development policy. This project has filled a significant gap and reawakens the discussion at local level of the value of transitional justice in restructuring social relationships after violent conflict.

Recognition among community members that without proper reconciliation development cannot be sustained. This serves as an impetus to engage with the project.

**5. DESCRIBE THE CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED DURING THE COURSE OF THIS PROJECT IN THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW AND HOW YOU DEALT WITH THEM (300 words max)**

Availability of individuals from Samay Community to travel to Zorzor to share their experience. The project had to be flexible to work around the time they were available to travel and to ensure their timely return as many of them are farmers.

Allocation of time by community radio stations to air drama at a time when community members are listening. Negotiations had to be made with the managers of the radio stations to adjust their broadcast time so that the drama could be aired during the early evening hours.

**6. WHAT WERE THE KEY LESSONS LEARNED (IF ANY) FROM THE PROJECT IN THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

1	Putting community members in the driving seat to lead reconciliation and transitional justice efforts can engender local ownership.
2	Linking transitional justice to development can increase citizens' participation as reconciliation is no longer seen in a vacuum.
3	Engaging community leadership structures of different ethnic and religious groups increases collective ownership of the process which supports respect for diversity.

**7. WHAT SUGGESTIONS (IF ANY) DO YOU HAVE FOR THE ATJLF SECRETARIAT IN TERMS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT GOING FORWARD? (200 words max)**

The Center for Democratic Governance makes the following suggestion to ATJLF:  
Increase the duration of the project from six to twelve months so that activities are not rushed as transitional justice processes take time to take root in communities.