



**UNDP Funded Joint Rule of Law Programme
Strengthening the Rule of Law in Liberia: Justice and Security for the Liberian People II**

**Strengthening the Network of Rural Women Structures to Increase Awareness
and Monitor the Efficiency of Criminal Court E in Nimba County.**

First Progress Report March

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List of Acronyms, Abbreviations, Figures, and Tables

| | |
|----------|--|
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| ERDI | Efficient Research and Development Institute |
| INCHR | Independent National Commission on Human Rights |
| MOGCSP | Ministry of Gender Children Social Protection |
| CSOs | Civil Society Organizations |
| SGBV/GBV | Sexual and Gender-Based Violence / Gender-Based Violence |
| MIA | Ministry of Internal Affairs |
| LNP | Liberia National Police |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| MOYS | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| LMA | Liberia Marketing Association |
| NICORA | Nimba Community Radio Association |
| CBOs | Community Based Organizations |
| SGBV-Q | Sexual and Gender-Based Violence - Question |
| CM-Q | Court Monitoring - Question |
| MOH | Ministry of Health |
| NPHIL | National Public Health Institute of Liberia |
| TBD | To Be Determined |

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Introduction

The Efficient Research and Development Institute (ERDI) signed a Low Value Grant Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to implement the UN Joint Rule of Law Programme title Strengthening the Rule of Law in Liberia: Justice and Security for the Liberian People II. The project will run for the period of nine (9)-months and is currently supporting Network of Women CSOs and the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) to monitor and increase awareness on the existence of the Specialized Criminal Court E activities in Nimba and the prevention of SGBV/GBV in Nimba County.

The project is been implemented in six (6) major cities in five districts in Nimba County particularly in Sanniquellie-Mah District (Sanniquellie and Ganta Cities), Saclepea-Mah District (Saclepea City) and Gbehlay-Geh District (Karnplay City), Zoe-Geh District (Bahn City) and Tappita District (Tappita City). The project seeks to support the INCHR, mobilize and empower 10 Women CSOs that should be formed into 5 Networks of Women CSOs throughout the geographic locations of the project in Nimba County to increase awareness on the establishment of Court E in Nimba County and the Prevention of SGBV/GBV.

This project update provides progress report of ERDI's activities in the last four months in Nimba County beginning from March - June 2023. This report includes background information of activities and the project, key accomplishment/achievements, analysis of progress towards achievement, challenges, and way forward, lessons learnt, and forwarded recommendations.

Background

This UNDP funded project is a UN Joint Rule of Law Programme implemented by ERDI in Nimba County. This project is currently providing support for Network of Women CSOs and the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) to monitor and increase awareness on the existence of a specialized Criminal Court E and the prevention of SGBV/GBV in the County. The project's overall result is 'Increased access to justice for the citizens and other residents, particularly women, children and other vulnerable groups through strengthened accountability for SGBV cases.' The project is focused on 2 key objectives that include 'Empowering of the network of 10 women CSOs and INCHR in increasing the sensitization on the existence of Criminal Court E and its services in Nimba County and 'To improve monitoring the efficiency of Criminal Court E by network of women CSOs and INCHR to ensure accountability for survivors of SGBV and all forms of violence against women and girls over the period of 9 months.

The project is been implemented through activities that include technical support to INCHR, provision of mentoring to women CSOs and establishment of Networks of women CSOs; monitoring the efficiency of Court E and raising awareness on said Court by INCHR and the network of women CSOs; awareness raising campaign also covers prevention of SGBV/GBV in communities which are done through radio programs, door-to-door engagements as well as fliers, stickers, billboard productions, etc.; and monthly coordination meeting is also supported under this intervention to share lessons learned from the project's beneficiaries, provide project updates, success stories, and new activities plans. The project also provides technical and capacity building support to the women CSOs monthly.

The project is being rollout to increase access to justice for all which is a fundamental human right especially for women and girls that are mostly survivors and victims of SGBV and other forms of violence against women and girls. As cases of SGBV and other forms of violence against women and girls have become prevalent in Liberia especially its rural parts, it is important to address these challenges and ill treatment faced by women and girls through ensuring social justice and accountability for survivors. Fortunately, ERDI with support from UNDP is increasing awareness in hard-to-reach communities on the establishment and services been provided by Criminal Court E which is at the center of such response. If we are to ensure social justice and accountability for survivors in order to curtail SGBV/GBV and other forms of violence against women and girls, it is important that the public be sensitized about Court E and its services, and such intervention should be led by women CSOs since they are mostly survivors and victims.

Key Accomplishment/Achievement

The project has had lots of accomplishments since its inception in March 2023 based on the approved work plan and result framework. Below are the achievements realized to date.

Activity Implemented

Activity 1.1.1: Conduct of project continuation meeting for provision of information on Court E in Nimba County and human rights promotion and GBV prevention and respond.

Result: The meeting was planned and organized for one day to be held in Sanniquellie with communication sent out to stakeholders, but the meeting was not successful due to the end of term by the then Judge (Judge Roland Dahn & Judge Scheaplor Dumbar). Given this background, the project conducted a consultative meeting with stakeholders to be aware of phase two of the project due to separate busy schedule faced by key actors. The consultative meeting took place at their individual offices and about 30 persons (12 females, 18 males) were in attendance. The organizations that attended the meeting were INCHR, Ministry of Gender and Social Protection (MOGCSP), the Judiciary, Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) – Commissioner Council, Liberia National Police (LNP) – Women and Children Protection Unit, Nimba NGOs Network, Nimba County CSOs SGBV Network, The Nimba Disabled Community, Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS), Liberia Marketing Association (LMA), Traditional Leaders, Religious Leaders, and Nimba Community Radio Association (NICORA). During the meeting, ERDI team presented the key details of the project along with the roles and responsibilities of key sector actors.

During the meeting with MOGCSP, the focal person stressed the need for collective actions by stakeholders to join in the fight to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice and for those already jailed be given speedy trials to avoid delay. The focal person further informed that recent proliferation of rape and SGBVs cases occurring in various communities in districts is alarming. Furthermore, the focal person informed that currently, the safe home has a total of 6 SGBV survivors with slow acting on the part of the court to adjudicate cases due to one Judge playing dual roles in both courts.

Activity 1.1.2: Project Orientation meetings with the 10 Women CSOs representatives

Result: ERDI team visited all 10 Women CSOs offices in Nimba County to provide them orientation about the project; assess activities implementation; review challenges; and provide mitigations to challenges identified. Key results from discussions with the 5 networks of women CSOs are as followed:

- Increased knowledge of community members on SGBV and Rape cases and the establishment of Court in Sanniquellie, Nimba County.
- Community members having good understanding about SGBV and its consequences thereby leading to their actions of identifying and reporting potential SGBV/GBV cases.
- Network of women CSOs leading community awareness on SGBV and Rape referral Pathways even at the end of the project's duration.
- The women CSOs are having some knowledge and skills in understanding court proceedings.
- Some level of cordial coordination exist in the referral Pathways among actors (Women CSO, Police, ERDI and the Court staff) thereby leading to understanding of roles and responsibilities in the pathways.



Figures 1 & 2: ERDI conducts project orientation meetings with the Networks of Women CSOs in Bahn and Sanniquellie respectively in March 2023.

Table – 1: Statistics of Women CSOs who attended Project Orientation Meeting in March 2023.

| No | Organization | Community | # of participant | | | Date |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | M | F | Total | |
| 1 | Nimba Disabled Female Association | Sanniquellie | 10 | 1 | 10 | 21/04/23 |
| 2 | Rural Women and Girls Promoter for Sustainable Development | Sanniquellie | 10 | 1 | 10 | 21/04/23 |
| 3 | Child Welfare Committee | Bahn | 10 | 0 | 10 | 20/04/23 |
| 4 | Women Against Crime | Saclepea | 10 | 0 | 10 | 20/04/23 |
| 5 | Gbehlay-Gah Rural women multi-Propose Corporative | Karnplay | 5 | 0 | 5 | 21/04/23 |
| 6 | Jesus Kwazeeh Child Care Center | Karnplay | 6 | 0 | 6 | 21/04/23 |
| 7 | Zoe-Geh Rural Women for Agriculture and Development | Bahn | 10 | 0 | 10 | 20/04/23 |
| 8 | No Child Left Behind Inc. | Tappita | 10 | 0 | 10 | 28/04/23 |
| 9 | Women Action Group | Tappita | 10 | 0 | 10 | 28/04/23 |
| 10 | Women in peace building Network (WIPNET) | Ganta | 10 | 2 | 10 | 29/04/23 |
| Total in attendance | | | 91 | 4 | 87 | 91 |

Activity 1.1.3: Conduct of Awareness / Sensitization by Networks of Women CSOs and INCHR/MOGCSP to Enhance the Knowledge and Understanding of Communities on Criminal Court E Nimba County, Human Rights, and GBV and their respond to GBV and Related Cases.

Result: An MOU was signed between ERDI and the 10 women CSOs to ensure that the network of women CSOs commit themselves to the conduct of the awareness on Criminal Court existence in Nimba County and its services as well as the prevention of SGBV/GBV in Nimba County.

The women CSOs have conducted 77 days of awareness-raising campaigns between the period April – June 2023. This awareness is being conducted through house-to-house, community squares, marketplaces, town halls, schools, etc. ERDI also collaborated with the INCHR in the county to monitor and provide mentorship to the network of women CSOs working on this project. To date, the women CSOs awareness sessions conducted reached the total of 5,449 people (3,319 females and 2,130 males) through intensive community engagement activities using their megaphone within their communities. The network of women CSOs are trained to the use of specialized data collected form to collect the statistics of those reached. Please see the chat below for the details of those reached.

Table – 2: Statistics of people reached during the Network of Women CSOs Awareness during the 1st half.

| No. | Name of Women CSO Network | Name of Women CSOs involved | Number of People Reached | Female | Male | PWD | Total |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Tappita District | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Tappita Women CSOs Network | No Child Left Behind and Women Action Group | 498 | 288 | 210 | 12 | 498 |
| Saclepea-Mah District | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Ganta/Saclepea Women CSOs Network | Women Against Crime and Women in Peace Building Network | 989 | 610 | 379 | 16 | 989 |
| Zoe-Geh District | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Bahn Women CSOs Network | Zoe-Geh Rural Women for Agriculture and Development and Child Welfare Committee | 630 | 302 | 328 | 14 | 630 |
| SanniquellieMah | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Sanniquellie Women CSOs Network | Nimba Disable Female Association (NDFA) and Rural Women and Girl Promoters | 1,392 | 964 | 428 | 132 | 1,392 |
| Gbehlay-Geh | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Karnplay Women CSOs Network | Jesus Koazeah Child care Center and Gbehlay-Geh Rural Women Cooperative | 1,940 | 1,155 | 785 | 14 | 1,940 |
| Total Reached | | | 5,449 | 3,319 | 2,130 | 188 | 5,449 |



Figures – 3 & 4: Photographs of Network of Women CSOs conducting awareness in the community in Karnplay City and Ganta City, respectively in April 2023.

Activity 1.1.4: Production of Promotional Materials (radio jingles, t-shirts, radio drama, flyers, and posters) to enhance the provision of messages on the existence of Criminal Court E and its services to ensure justice for GBV/SGBV Survivors and GBV/SGBV Prevention in Nimba County.

Result: ERDI with funding from UNDP launched the 200 days of awareness on Criminal Court E and SGBV/GBV prevention via community radio stations using radio jingles produced in local languages and simple Liberia English. This form of awareness began the 3rd of April 2023 within the 6 major cities of Nimba County.



Figure – 5: A photography of ERDI staff (Maron K. Flomo) in studio conducting a radio talk show on Court E existence in Nimba County and the prevention of SGBV/GBV at Radio Kergheamahn, in Ganta City, Nimba County in April 2023.

To date, **77 days of awareness** have been conducted via the radio with radio jingles, and talk shows, conducted by ERDI staff and the network of women CSOs. Furthermore, the radio jingles and dramas produced with voices of members of the women CSOs in 4 local languages that are currently been aired on 3 radio stations in Nimba County which include Radio Kergheamahn (GantaCity), Radio Nimba (Sanniquellie City) and Radio Karn Voice of Peace (Karnplay City). Over the last 77 days of information sharing via radio programs airing, it is estimated that approximately **31,726 community members** (difficult to disaggregate) have been reached with enhanced knowledge on Court E, human rights and SGVB preventive messages via community radio stations. The network of women CSOs were provided

60 pieces T-shirts for **60 women**, 10 megaphones with batteries, and support funds to carry out the awareness within their respective communities. The network of women CSOs and INCHR are physically conducting the awareness in schools, marketplaces, major streets, parking lots, at homes, health facilities, and other public places.

During the period under review, ERDI also produced and distributed IEC materials such as 150 pieces of stickers and 250 pieces of posters bearing key messages regarding the existence of Criminal Court E in Sanniquellie and preventive messages on SGBV/GBV. The posters are bearing the referral pathway originally produced by the MOGCSP and partners and ERDI is reproducing them due to shortages in the community. These stickers and posters are distributed by ERDI awareness team along with the network of women CSOs during the conduct of the awareness. Both the stickers and posters were distributed to **325 persons** (145 females and 180 males) during this reporting period.

As a new strategy for awareness under this project, ERDI is using soccer stadiums in Nimba County to spread the messages of the project. In Nimba and elsewhere in Liberia, soccer stadiums are normally used to host largely populated events such as soccer tournaments, conferences, entertainment events, political rallies, etc. With this backdrop, ERDI printed some of the messages on the walls of the Ganta Sports Stadium. Please see the picture below.



Figures – 6 & 7: Photographs of the printing of messages on the fence of the Ganta Sports Stadium in Ganta City, Nimba County. There 5 printing as such with different both inside and outside of the fence.

Activity 1.1.5: Conduct of training/meeting for local community leader, elders, justice chain actors.

Result: This activity will commence during phase two of the project when the rainy season has subsided ensuring free movement by the elderly people should be attending such meetings/trainings. Progress information regarding this activity will surface in subsequent report.

Activity 1.1.6: Airing of radio programs, talk shows etc.

Result: To date, **77 days of awareness** has been conducted via the radio with radio jingles, and talk shows, conducted by ERDI staff and the network of women CSOs. Furthermore, the radio jingles and dramas produced with voices of members of the women CSOs in 4 local languages that are currently

been aired on 3 radio stations in Nimba County which include Radio Kergheamahn (GantaCity), Radio Nimba (Sanniquellie City) and Radio Karn Voice of Peace (Karnplay City). Over the last 77 days of information sharing via radio programs airing, it is estimated that approximately **31,726 community members** (difficult to disaggregate) have been reached with enhanced knowledge on Court E, human rights and SGVB preventive messages via community radio stations. The network of women CSOs were provided 60 pieces T-shirts for **60 women**, 10 megaphones with batteries, and support funds to carry out the awareness within their respective communities. The network of women CSOs and INCHR are physically conducting the awareness in schools, marketplaces, major streets, parking lots, at homes, health facilities, and other public places.

Activity 1.1.7: Cost for Community Mobilizers to Provide Support in the County of Awareness-raising/Sensitization in Communities.

Result: ERDI hired the services of three persons as Community Mobilizers who are currently providing support to the network of women CSOs in terms of community mobilization, court visitation, police station visitation, identifying and reporting potential GBV/SGBV cases. The community mobilizers also provide technical support to the network of women CSOs to do their monthly report for submission to ERDI project manager. For effectiveness, each mobilizer is assigned to two cities of Nimba county. Jamesetta N. Sonkarlay (Bahn and Tappita Cities); Stephen Maomy (Ganta and Saclepea cities); and Titus Koko (Sanniquellie and Karnplay cities). Please see the above chart in order to identify which women CSOs these community mobilizers are working with based on their assigned cities mentioned here.

Activity 1.2.1: Provision of Financial and Technical Support to the Network of Women CSOs, INCHR, MOGCSP for Monitoring the Efficiency of Criminal Court E, Identifying and Reporting of SGBV/GBV Cases and Enhancing Communities Access to Justice.

Result: ERDI continue to provide technical support to the network of women CSOs to strengthen their organizational capacity and sustainability. During the period under review, ERDI provided operational funds to all of 10 women CSOs to enable them carryout basic expenses and operations while they conduct their awareness and report SGBV/GBV cases. In the same vein, ERDI is working with the first 4 women CSOs (Women Against Crime, Nimba Disable Female Association, Jesus Kwazeah, and Leave No Child Behind) to build up their organizational profile which include brief history, mission, vision, core value, goal, objective, legal registration of the women CSOs. This is a pre-requisite for ERDI to begin considering joint application with some of these women CSOs who have good potential for larger scale interventions. During the period under review, ERDI has been providing monthly support to INCHR and MOGCSP to enable them provide support to the network of women CSOs in terms of monitoring Court E, identification, and the reportage of SGBV/GBV cases as well as ensuring communities' access to justice. Even though there has been reduced presence of INCHR and MOGCSP full participation during these court visitations in the county.

During this 1st half of the project, the network of women CSOs continues to be engaged with activity of monitoring the effective of the SGBV Court and the Justice System. This process is done through monitoring cases on the court's docket for prosecution; monitoring the court proceeding; documentation; etc. The criminal Court E in Sanniquellie is monitored by the Sanniquellie Women CSOs Network which comprises of the Nimba Disable Female Association and Rural Women and Girls

Promoter. The women CSO are now monitoring the efficiency of Court E in Sanniquellie, Nimba County. There has been regular hearing of cases at the court where 7 survivors were supported, and treatment provided and the perpetrators are awaiting court trials. The court is now working in coordination with ERDI and Partners to monitor the efficiency of the Court. The network of women CSOs and ERDI are provided information on dates for cases that are ready for prosecution along with statistics as well as the report of each term of court.



Figure – 9: Photograph of Eva Buah from Nimba Disable Female Association a beneficiary Women CSO conduct their weekly visitation at Court E in Sanniquellie during a monitoring visit in May 2023.

Activity 1.2.2: Provision of Psychosocial services to 20 Vulnerable Groups such as SGBV survivors and disadvantage individuals.

Result: ERDI is currently providing psychosocial support to a total of 7 SGBV survivors who are currently going through traumatic recovery and treatment as well. 6 of these SGBV survivors are currently based at the Safe Home in Sanniquellie, Nimba County while one person is based at the home of her grandmother. The psychosocial support includes feeding, clothing, medical care at SGBV health facilities, and psychosocial counseling provided by ERDI with funding from UNDP. During this period, ERDI donated some assorted Food and Non-Food Items to the Safe Home in Sanniquellie City even though there's a need for proper monitoring and management of the materials supplied at the Safe Home for the survivor. To date, the materials donated to the Safe Home includes: 14 bags of rice, 5 tins of vegetable oil, 10 cartons of vita cubes, 2 bags of sugar, 5 bags of onion, 5 bags of tissue and 3 cartons of tie soap etc. These donations are intended to curb psychosocial and welfare issues currently faced by SGBV survivors and staff at the MOGCSP-run Safe Home in Sanniquellie. The County Supervisor of MOGCSP in Nimba County Mr. Bob Glietee along with the Safe Home manager Ophelia N. Baymie usually receive the donations. The donation is provided monthly to prevent staff from taking the items away for personal gain. As part of the psychosocial package, the parents or guidance of these 7 SGBV survivors were also provided financial support to remain with their child or children during their time of trauma.



Figure – 8: A photograph of ERDI's staff Maron K. Flomo along with the Safe Home Staff, Ophelia Baymie during one of the monthly donations at the Safe Home in Sanniquellie City, Nimba County in May 2023.

Activity 1.2.3: Provision of Legal Aid Support to 20 SGBV Survivors and Other Disadvantaged Individuals to ensure that they have access to Justice.

Result: During this period of reporting, ERDI provided financial support for legal aid to **7 survivors/disadvantaged people** as in the table above. This support was provided to enable the SGBV survivors participate in police investigations; medical examinations; take care of transportation fare for both the survivors and parents or guidance; feeding during court appearances; etc. During the period under review, some of the cases the project is providing support to were transported from Ganta to Sanniquellie; Beoyoolar to Sanniquellie; Saclepea to Sanniquellie; Karnplay to Sanniquellie; etc during this first phase of intervention. The table below shows the number of SGBV survivors and other individual groups who have currently received legal aid support from ERDI/UNDP.

| No . | Case Type | Location | Date | Survival name | Age | Perpetrator name | AGE | Case Status |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|-----|--|
| 1. | Murder | Ganta bye-road | April 14,2023 | Lucia Gonleseh | 20 | Jefferson boeh | 30 | The perpetrator is in prison and case is pending trial ERDI/UNDP providing psychosocial and legal aid support to ensure access to Justice by the survivor. |
| 2. | Aggravated Assault | Small Ganta | April 9,2023 | Linda Saye | 31 | Anthony Flomo | 26 | The perpetrator is in prison and case is pending trial ERDI/UNDP providing psychosocial and legal aid support to ensure access to Justice by the survivor. |
| 3. | Rape & statutory rape | Sannnniquellie Airfield Central Zone | Oct.9, 2022 | Patience Yormie& Esther Tokpah | 17&22 | FedescoYarkpah | 58 | The perpetrator is no longer in prison as he was freed due to lack of sufficient evidence according to the Court. ERDI/UNDP providing psychosocial and legal aid support to ensure access to Justice by the survivors. Patience and Esther are both sisters living in the same house with Fedesco not related. |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----|------------------------------|-------|--|
| 4. | Rape | Ganta royal community | May 4,2023 | Roseline Wonyaneh | 13 | Jacob Fohn | 35 | The case is registered and the perpetrator in jail pending trial at criminal court E |
| 5. | Gang Rape | LPMC bye-pass community | June 19,2023 | Blessing Saye | 13 | Samuel Brown and Amelia Saye | 42&31 | Perpetrators were arrested and the survival undergoing treatment provided by ERDI/UNDP. The survival is the step-daughter of the perpetrator and her mother Amelia tried to climax the case. |
| 6 | Rape | Dokie Quarter, Sanniquellie | May 11, 2023 | Ruth Labalah | 14 | Rufus Labalah | 53 | Perpetrator arrested, jailed at the central prison. Survivor is undergoing treatment, also in the safe home in Sanniquellie with support provided by ERDI/UNDP. |
| 7 | Rape | Beoyoolar, | February 5, 2023 | Enochlyn Fein | 14 | Pascal Oneree | 60 | This case is concluded and the perpetrator is convict and sentenced for 25 years at the Sanniquellie Central Prison in Nimba County. |

Activity 1.2.4: Provision of logistical Support to the Women and Children Protection (WACP) Unit and the Criminal Court E to Fast Track SGBV/GBV cases.

Result: In an effort to strengthen the effectiveness of the justice and security actors in terms of proper documentation and fast tracking of SGBV/GBV cases as well as reporting in Nimba, ERDI donated assorted stationery and supplies to all 6 Women and Children Protection Units of the Liberia National Police within the 6 cities of Nimba County as well as the Criminal Court E. On May 9, 2023, at the headquarters of ERDI in Ganta City, Nimba County, the boxes of assorted stationery and supplies were presented to ACP Augustine L. Warri, General Police Commander of the Liberia National Police Nimba County Detachment. The supplies were intended to ease some of the constraints faced by the Women and Children Protection Unit of the LNP to effectively document statements, findings, and report of cases during their investigation exercise. In the same vein, ERDI also donated similar assorted stationeries to the Clerk of Criminal Court E in Sanniquellie City, Nimba County in May 2023.



Figures - 10 & 11: Photographs of the Clerk of Criminal Court E in Sanniquellie receiving assorted stationery and supplies (left) and ACP Augustine Warri, Head of the Nimba County Detachment (in black T-shirt right) receiving assorted stationery and supplies from ERDI Team on behalf of all WACP of Nimba County in May 2023.

Analysis of Progress towards the Achievement of Results

The project works to achieve one key outcome statement which will be achieved through two output statements as stated below:

Outcome 1: By 2023, vulnerable groups including SGBV survivors in the targeted communities in Nimba County have improved access to justice and security services that protect and respect their rights.

Output 1.1: *Community knowledge and understanding on Court E in Nimba County, human rights and GBV enhanced to prevent and respond to cases of GBV.*

This output was achieved through the production and distribution of stickers and posters bearing key messages to enhance community knowledge. At the same time, ERDI and the network of women CSOs are conducting awareness-raising campaigns within rural community through community radio stations, house-to-house, and public places to strengthen community knowledge and understanding on Court E, human rights, and GBV prevention. In the same vein, portion of the Ganta Soccer Stadium fence was also printed with key messages to also enhance the stadium users' knowledge and understanding on Court E in Nimba County. ERDI also provided technical support and mentorship to the network of women CSOs to strengthen them in the conduct of their awareness on Court E existence in Nimba County and SGBV/GBV prevention within their communities.

Output 1.2: *Enhanced access to legal aid and psychosocial services by vulnerable groups (disadvantaged individuals, including SGBV survivors) in the targeted communities.*

ERDI is currently providing psychosocial services to 7 survivors of SGBV and vulnerable persons; 6 survivors at the Safe Home in Sanniquellie and one survivor at the home of their guidance in Ganta, Nimba County. On the other hand, ERDI is also providing legal aid support to 7 survivors to have increased access to fair trials and justice and improved security services to protect and respect their rights to reduce the risk for SGBV and Rape cases within project communities.

Lessons Learnt

ERDI has realized that survivors still need reintegration or resettlement package even when their cases are finalized, and the accused sentenced. Based on our experience, their reintegration support ranges from academic support, livelihood support, continued medical support, continued psychosocial counseling, and the likes to ensure that the survivors are fully reintegrated in the society.

Challenges

Police lack the logistical and effective community support to apprehend perpetrators to be forwarded for investigation. As such, potential SGBV cases remain at the community level without being collected and forwarded for investigations.

Police who use their personal resources to reach potential SGBV perpetrators within difficult terrain will mostly trade the cases for personal gains and play blame games on the survivors' families.

Recommendation

Based on our experience over the last 12 months of the project's implementation, we recommend that the police be covered by the project especially as it relates to logistics support to apprehend perpetrators out of the community during the next phase.

Community Structures mainly the Community Watch Forums within the targeted community should also be included in the project in order to help the police in terms of apprehending perpetrators and reporting cases.

Annexes

Annex 1 (Table – 4): Completed Results Progress Monitoring Table

| Indicators | Targets | Progress to date | Variance | Comment/narrative |
|--|---------|------------------------|----------|--|
| Outcome 1:By 2023, vulnerable groups including SGBV survivors in the targeted communities in Nimba County have improved access to justice and security services that protect and respect their rights. | | | | |
| Indicator 1.1: % of SGBV cases prosecuted. | 50% | 40% | 10% | Out of 10 cases only 4 were prosecuted during the period. |
| Indicator 1.2: Conviction rate of SGBV cases tried. | 50% | 10% | 40% | Conviction rate is low. The court report does not mention conviction so our target can't be high. Out of 10 cases this year there has only been 1 Conviction. |
| Indicator 1.3: Case disposal rate at Criminal Court E. | 50% | 20% | 30% | When these cases are not tried or properly prosecuted, the rate of disposal might not be reduced. |
| Output 1.1: Community knowledge and understanding on Court E Nimba County, human rights and GBV enhanced to prevent and respond to cases of GBV. | | | | |
| Indicator 1.1.1: Number of people reached with enhanced knowledge on Court E, HR and GBV disaggregated by sex, age and type. | 75,000 | 37,681 | 37,319 | These people were reached through open air awareness activities and community meetings on a weekly basis by the trained network of women CSOs; and through airing of messages by 3 community radio stations. |
| Indicator 1.1.2: Number of local/community leaders, justice and response chain actors trained with enhanced knowledge in GBV prevention and response disaggregated by sex. | 750 | 0 | 750 | The training will be held during the Dry Season to enable participants easy travel |
| Indicator 1.1.3: Number of persons trained from community structures established/strengthened disaggregated by sex, age and structure. | 30 | 91(87 females, 4males) | + 61 | This was achieved during the project orientation meeting with the women CSOs in five cities. The target beneficiaries exceeded due to high demand of the project |
| Indicator 1.1.4: Number of SGBV cases indicted by Criminal Court E. | TBD | 2 (2 males) | N/A | These SGBV cases were reported by the network of women CSOs with support from |

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| | | | | ERDI processed by the police and forwarded for prosecution |
| Output 1.2: Enhanced access to legal aid and psychosocial services by vulnerable groups (disadvantaged individuals, including SGBV survivors) in the targeted communities. | | | | |
| Indicator 1.2.1: Number of GBV cases provided Psychosocial support and legal aid services disaggregated by sex, age and type. | 20 | 7 (7 females) | 13 | 7 SGBV provided Psychosocial support and legal aid services during this reporting period |
| Indicator 1.2.2: % of cases provided legal aid support disaggregated by sex, age and type. | 100% | 35% | 65% | |
| Indicator 1.2.3: Number of cases resolved through ADR disaggregated by sex, age and type. | TBD | 0 | 0 | |

Annex 2 (Table – 5): Completed Activity Progress Monitoring Table

| Activity | Targets | Progress to date | Variance | Comment/narrative |
|---|----------|------------------|----------|--|
| Output 1.1: Community knowledge and understanding on Court E Nimba County, human rights and GBV enhanced to prevent and respond to cases of GBV. | | | | |
| Activity 1.1.1: Conduct of Project Continuation Meeting for provision of information on Court E in Nimba County and human rights promotion and GBV prevention and respond | 1 | 1 | 0 | The project continuation was conducted in March which brought together 30 persons (12 females, 18 males) which comprised of various stakeholders and sector actors. |
| Activity 1.1.2: Conduct of Project Inception Meeting and provision of information on Court E in Nimba County and human rights promotion and GBV prevention and respond to cases of GBV. | 1 | 1 | 0 | The project inception was conducted for the women CSO in their district in April 20-28, 2023, which brought together 91 persons (81 females, 10 males) which comprised of various stakeholders and sector actors. |
| Activity 1.1.3: Conduct of Awareness / Sensitization by Networks of Women CSOs and INCHR/MOGCSP to enhance the knowledge and understanding of communities on Court E in Nimba County, human rights, and GBV and their respond to GBV and related cases. | 200 days | 77days | 123 days | The awareness is conducted by the 5 network of women CSOs in collaboration with INCHR through community forums, open air events, megaphone outreach, radio programs, fliers and sticker's distribution, and billboard posting. |

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| Activity 1.1.4: Provision of promotional materials (radio jingles, T-shirts, radio dramas, flyers, and posters) to enhance the promotion of messages on the existence of Court E and its services to ensure justice for GBV/SGBV survivors and GBV/SGBV prevention in Nimba County | 60 T-shirts, 250 flyers, 100 posters, and 150 stickers | 60 T-shirts, 250 flyers, 100 posters, and 150 stickers | 0 | The T-shirts were distributed to members of the Women CSOs Networks, while the flyers and posters were used during the awareness campaigns. |
| Activity 1.1.5: Conduct of meeting/training for local/community leaders, elders, justice chain actors. | 750 | 0 | 750 | The training will be held during the Dry Season to enable participants easy travel |
| Activity 1.1.6: Airing of radio programs, talk shows, etc. | 3 | 3 | 0 | ERDI signed MOU with 3 Radio Stations that produced radio jingles and dramas in 4 local languages which were aired for 77 days. As a result, approximately 31,726 radio listeners were reached with enhanced knowledge on Court E during this reporting period |
| Activity 1.1.7: Cost for community mobilizers to provide support in the county for awareness raising/sensitization in communities | 3 | 3 | 0 | ERDI hired 3 community mobilizers who are currently providing support to the Women CSOs Networks in carrying out awareness and sensitization in the project's communities |
| Output 1.2: Enhanced access to legal aid and psychosocial services by vulnerable groups (disadvantaged individuals, including SGBV survivors) in the targeted communities. | | | | |
| Activity 1.2.1: Provision of Financial and Technical Support to Network of Women CSOs, INCHR, and MOGCSP for Monitoring the Efficiency of Court E, Identifying and reporting of SGBV/GBV cases and enhancing community's access justice | 10 | 10 | 0 | The women CSOs networks received financial support after institutional capacity building from ERDI monthly in order to carry out their work. |
| Activity 1.2.2: Provision of psychosocial services to 20 vulnerable groups such as SGBV survivors and disadvantaged individuals. | 20 | 7 | 13 | The psychosocial support include feeding, clothing, medical care at SGBV health facilities, as well as psychosocial counseling. |
| Activity 1.2.3: Provision of legal aid support to 20 SGBV survivors and other disadvantaged individuals to ensure that they have access to justice | 20 | 7 | 13 | The support was provided to enable the survivors go through police investigation, medical examination, transportation for both the survivors and their parents/guidance and feeding during the court processes. |

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| Activity 1.2.4: Provision of logistical support to the Women and Children Protection (WACP) Unit and Criminal Court E to fast track SGBV cases | TBD | 1 | | During this reporting period, ERDI provided assorted stationaries and supplies to all 6 WACP Units of LNP in Nimba County. In addition, ERDI provided similar assorted stationeries to the Clerk of Criminal Court E to enhance their capacity |
|--|-----|---|--|--|