

Monitoring Report

Contract number:	2600-00/2016
Project/programme title:	Strengthening the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework through National Architectures for Early Warning and Early Response (WANEP II)
Country / countries / region:	West Africa
Implementing Organisation:	WANEP II
Project duration:	01.01.2016 – 31.12.2020
Interlocutors:	SIDA: Program Manager – Human Security, Regional Development Cooperation for Africa and technical expert WANEP: Executive Director; Program Director; Regional HR Manager; Finance Manager; DANIDA: Macroeconomist and Head of Cooperation EU-Delegation to Ghana: Head of Governance Section and Governance Cooperation Officer Norwegian Embassy: Counsellor

Project progress

- Progress in achieving project outcome(s) and outputs per logical framework:

Progress is very good according to annual and semi-annual reports as well as anecdotic reports from other partners cooperating with WANEP and with national WANEPs in the region.

The presentation “WANEP Some Key Achievements” shows significant impacts of WANEP in the last 5 years in the region, especially in the early warning and response (five centers in Mali, Guinea Bissau, Côte d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, and Liberia), liaison offices at ECOWAS, but also at the AU-Commission, the support to “Infrastructure for Peace” (in Ghana), the implementation of specially developed gender tools.

- Assessment of project expenditures:

As planned. Resources have been used. Audit 2018 has been accepted by ADA, audit TOR 2019 have been commended and approved.

- How do you assess measures taken to manage gender, social and environmental impact (follow-up of any recommendations from the EGSI assessment, if applicable)?

Gender: Very well taken up. In fact, gender is a major target in all interventions including for instance the implementation of UNSCR 1325. This is also shown in all reports. The recommendations made at the beginning of our intervention in 2016 have been fully taken on board.

Environment: This has also been taken up, but the logframe has not be revised. Therefore, there is no indicator on climate change or environment. Nevertheless, WANEP is now also reporting on environmental issues within the early warning system. Climate change will be a focus in the new strategic framework 2020-2025 and there will be also indicators within the logframe.

- Are risk assessment and risk management plans up to date? How do you assess the functioning of risk monitoring and risk management of the project?

Implementation of the project is good. Only WANEP Cape Verde is not existing any more. On mainland West Africa WANEP national organizations are working on different levels. Quality standards are ensured by the WANEP constitution.

- Has the project encountered unexpected challenges? If yes, please explain.

As Denmark has left the joint financing agreement in 2017, there has been a shortfall in funds, which was been met with other funds from other donors. Also, the AU and ECOWAS did not participate funding as envisaged in 2016. DANIDA was even not aware of the joint financing agreement.

- How do you assess perspectives for impact and sustainability of the intervention? (only if monitoring visit takes place towards the end of the project)

The impact is big and WANEP has become more professional in its own work, but also in delivering support to national WANEPs, to the AU and to ECOWAS. It has become a trusted partner in the region. ECOWAS is now increasing its engagement with WANEP in a new MoU with other tasks than purely early warning, like for instance gender, election preparations, etc.

With regards to sustainability, without our funding, it would be hard for WANEP to sustain its work. This is mainly due to the fact, that there is no income generated from the activities done. Financial sustainability is therefore questionable, at least at the current level. With other aspects of sustainability, WANEP for instance established a succession plan for staff, making it easier for the organization to overcome change in staff and to avoid situations, where knowledge is lost, when people leave the organization.

- How have past recommendations (incl. evaluations) been considered (if applicable)? New recommendations (to whom)?

See point 3 above.

ADA internal controlling / contract management issues

- Have the progress report/s (narrative and financial) been submitted on time?

Yes

- Have the audit report/s been submitted on time?

Yes; additionally, the WANEP Board approved an internal auditor function at WANEP, which will soon start its operations.

- Are visibility rules respected?

Yes, but only partly. The ADA logo is on all publications related directly to ADA interactions and for instance during the 20-year anniversary of WANEP in 2019, ADA was also on most of the publications and banners during the celebrations. As a core funder, it is hard to be on all publications. We made it clear to WANEP, that we want to see higher visibility of ADA on more publications and on the web page, which is currently under reconstruction.

- Has the co-financing contribution been secured (if applicable)?

As part of the joint financing agreement yes. Only Denmark left in 2017 – ADA was informed at that time according to the regulations within the joint financing agreement.

- Is an (no-cost) extension / budget reallocation required?

No, not at the moment. But a new programme (jointly with SIDA and other potential partners) could be envisaged starting from 2021, when the new 5-year strategy implementation period starts.

- Are procurement procedures understood and being followed?

Not checked.

- Are systems for project documentation in place? (filing of supporting documents, receipts, etc.)

Not monitored.

- Is an inventory / assets list in place?

Yes, according to the audit reports.

- Has the handover of equipment, assets etc. taken place as agreed? Is documentation of the handover (e.g. protocols) available? (if applicable)

Not applicable.

- Support/follow-up required from/by ADA?

More coordination in a possible new joint financing agreement is needed. Other partners already contributing to WANEP should be invited to join (other financing partners are currently DANIDA – phasing out, USAID - earmarked funding, EU - election support, GIZ – via ECOWAS/AU). Cooperation with SIDA is in general very good, but could be enhanced, if more resources were available.

The next General Assembly including a partners' forum is planned for end of January 2021, where the new strategic plan (including a business plan) will be adopted.

TORs on evaluation have been shared with TFPs.

Author of the report: Programme Manager West Africa

Date: 25 May 2020

Distribution list:

- Advisor Peacebuilding & Conflict Prevention
- Supervisors
- Head of Coordination Office Ouagadougou