

NO RESEARCH ABOUT US WITHOUT US

THE COSTING OF PILOTING PARTICIPATORY POLICY
RESEARCH WORKSHOPS IN BOSSANGOA AND PAOUA (CAR)



UNITED NATIONS
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SUMMARY OF COSTING

In the fall of 2019, the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR) partnered with War Child to pilot a participatory research approach with war-affected children and youth in Central African Republic (CAR). UNU-CPR and War Child are sharing the workshop design and script as well as this costing to provide practical resources and tools to donors, UN actors, and implementing partners who might be interested in enhancing the participatory approach of the programmes they support or run.

The two workshops in CAR took place within the framework of War Child's VoiceMore Programme – a three-year advocacy training and mentorship programme – that War Child implemented in Bossangoa and Paoua in the summer of 2019. More broadly, the two workshops took place amidst the larger programming suite and culture that War Child has developed in CAR. By working through War Child's programming structure in CAR, the UNU-CPR/War Child workshop pilots were able to build on trusting relationships amongst participants, facilitators, and mentors and on the culture of engagement and expression that War Child had already cultivated. Moreover, the workshops were run within an infrastructure already built on child protection best practices for informed consent, privacy, and reducing security and stigmatization risks.

Without such a pre-existing engagement infrastructure it would have been difficult to create a workshop that was as mutually useful and one that mitigated possible harm to participants. Likewise, without a pre-existing forum for engaging young people the workshops would have cost more. For others seeking to do participatory research or engage young people as partners in programming, it is certainly possible to build the UNU-CPR/War Child workshop template into other engagement structures at the local level or those run by national and international organizations, but doing so will likely have staffing and budgetary implications.

The following costing includes the direct and indirect costs associated with running the workshops in two locations in CAR. Not all the detailed costs will be relevant to other contexts or other implementers (e.g., the videographer's time and travel if multi-media outputs are not needed). There were many staff hours in the development of the workshop design, translation, and related administrative work that are not included in Table I. There is also follow-up work to ensure that the workshop materials are photographed, translated, and analysed, all of which impacts staff bandwidth. Yet, it is UNU-CPR's and War Child's hope that by providing the workshop design and scripts – in two languages – organizations which seek to utilize them will not have to expend the same amount of resources to utilize or adapt the tools to their needs.

¹ War Child is an NGO focused on addressing children's pressing needs during conflict (and thereafter) – particularly with regard to their education, protection, and livelihoods.

Table 1

The Direct Costs of Running UNU-CPR/War Child's Participatory Research Workshop Pilots in Bossangoa and Paoua

	UNITS	FREQUENCY	TOTAL/ MONTHLY/ DAY COST	TOTAL (USD)
STAFF				
CAR VoiceMore Manager	1	0.3 months	631	189.30
CAR VoiceMore Assistant Bossangoa and Paoua	2	0.3 months	547	328.20
YOUTH FACILITATION SUPPORT				
Two VoiceMore youth facilitation support: stipend	2	8 days		560.00
RESEARCH AND COMMS WORKSHOPS				
Materials for workshop	2	2		200.00
Participant travel and loss of earnings	40	8 days	4	1280.00
Venue Hire	2	8 days	30	480.00
Food and refreshments	40	8 days	3	960.00
CONTENT CAPTURE				
Videographer fee: shoot and edit	1	1	3000	3000.00
Videographer Per Diem	1	10 days	35	350.00
Accommodation	1	9 nights	50	450.00
International Flights (Kenya - CAR)	1	1	800	800.00
NATIONAL TRAVEL				
Use of War Child vehicle - venue to accommodation	1	8 days	25	200.00
CAR Internal Flights Bangui - Bossangoa and Paoua	6	1	200	1200.00
TOTAL (USD)				9997.50

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