

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Kingdom of Lesotho is set to commence long anticipated national reforms intended to spearhead the transformation of the Kingdom into a stable, prosperous and united nation. The UN is implementing an initiative, The Lesotho National Dialogue and Stabilisation Project, in collaboration with SADC, the Lesotho Council of NGOs and other partners with the overall objective of facilitating consensus building towards fundamental national reforms and ensuring an enabling environment for this process of reforms

The project specifically seeks to deliver three key outcomes:

- 1) By 2019, there is a national agreement on the content and processes of comprehensive political reforms and national reconciliation in Lesotho with increased public and donor support;
- 2) By 2019, tensions and divisions within and amongst security services are reduced thereby enhancing the participation of the sector in the national dialogue and reform processes and enhancing public trust;
- 3) By 2019, a more informed Lesotho constituency is actively participating in political reforms and reconciliation efforts due to greater access to timely and accurate information on the national dialogue and reform processes.

In order to ensure an inclusive reform process, the civil society is represented through LCN as the umbrella organisation to coordinate civil society in Lesotho and manage the voice of citizens, to challenge the high political polarization within governance institutions. As a way of intervention, LCN is playing a crucial role of support to the sector through political reform process and tasked amidst others in facilitating consultations around communities by engaging facilitators (foot soldiers) to be deployed for community mobilisation where they will facilitate, probe and manage the questions. The individuals will be equipped with skills and knowledge on the contents and technique's to be used. It is intended that about 30 foot-soldiers will be deployed, after a comprehensive training on reform process, for community mobilisation. These foot- soldiers, will be deployed in various Councils and Wards, and some considerations will be taken on typology of the Council.

LCN has further engaged a few member NGOs, namely, DPE, TRC, YCS, CCJP, WLSA, FIDA and LNFOD, to assist in the implementation of the project. On the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 LCN hosted a meeting for the said organisations to brief them on the developments of the project.