



TEMPLATE 4.4

PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)
ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

COUNTRY: Nepal
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2013

Programme Title & Project Number
Programme Title: Building peace in Nepal: Ensuring a participatory and secure transition Programme Number (if applicable) PBF/NPL/D-3 MPTF Office Project Reference Number: ¹ 00085963

Recipient UN Organizations
List the organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme: UNDP Nepal UN Women Nepal

Implementing Partners
List the national counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations: National Counterparts: Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) Implementing Partners: Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD), Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs (MoLJCAPA), Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers (OPMCM), National Women Commission (NWC), Nepal Police (NP), Armed Police Force (APF) and National Investigation Department (NID), National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), National Administrative Staff College (NASC) Civil Society: DidiBahini, Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) and Search for Common Ground (SfCG), Centre for Investigative Journalism (CIJ), International Alert (IA).

Programme/Project Budget (US\$)
PBF contribution (by RUNO) UNDP: USD 1,933,368.50 UNWomen: USD 566,631.50

Programme Duration
Overall Duration (months) 24 months Start Date ² (dd.mm.yyyy) 16 March 2013

¹ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to "Project ID" on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

² The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

Government Contribution <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Other Contributions (donors) <i>(if applicable)</i>	
TOTAL:	US\$ 2,499,999

Original End Date ³ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>)	15 March 2015
Current End date ⁴ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>)	15 March 2015

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.
Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date:
Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date:

Report Submitted By
Name: Mr. Dennis Curry
Title: Head, Peacebuilding and Recovery Unit (PBRU)
Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP
Email address: dennis.curry@undp.org

³ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

⁴ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed.

PART 1 – RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1 Assessment of the current project implementation status and results

For PRF projects, please identify Priority Plan outcome and indicators to which this project is contributing:

<p>Priority Plan Outcome to which the project is contributing. An inclusive and gender-representative culture of dialogue and conflict transformation is expanded and strengthened, contributing to conflict prevention and social cohesion during Nepal’s transitional peacebuilding process</p>
<p>Priority Plan Outcome indicator(s) to which project is contributing. a) Communities perceive increased trust, confidence and peaceful coexistence in six project districts. b) % of people who feel that the security situation is improving in six project districts (UNDAF 9.2) c) % of women who would report an incident of armed violence (including GBV) to a police officer or relevant/appropriate authority in six project districts (UNDAF 4.3)</p>

For both IRF and PRF projects, please rate this project’s overall achievement of results to date: on track

For both IRF and PRF projects, outline progress against each project outcome, using the format below. The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes.

Outcome Statement 1: Political, resource and identity-based (PRI) conflicts addressed and shared agendas developed through applying collaborative leadership and dialogue in six project districts

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

<p>Indicator 1: Number of PRI conflict addressed by using collaborative leadership and dialogue tools in six programme districts.</p>	<p>Baseline: TBD by baseline assessment (survey data available by March 2014) Target: At least 2 PRI conflicts newly addressed by using collaborative leadership and dialogues tools Progress: During this reporting period, the political and civil society leaders applied Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD) tools and concepts to address political and resource based conflict in programming districts. In Nepalgunj Municipality, Banke district the 'road expansion, sanitation and garbage management' project supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) led to widespread opposition from the people residing along highway. Due to their vocal opposition the 25 meter road-expansion project was ceased for several months. Political and civil society leaders who were</p>
---	---

<p>Indicator 2: Number of shared agendas on PRI issues developed through collaborative leadership and dialogue processes in six project districts.</p>	<p>trained by the project and equipped with CLD tools and concepts convened and facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss the project. As a result of these multi-stakeholder dialogues, the road-extension project received wide acceptance by all stakeholder groups, including residents along the highway, leading to resumption of activities. (Source: Interaction with political and civil society leaders during monitoring visit).</p> <p>Baseline: TBD by baseline assessment (survey data available by March 2014) Target: At least two shared agendas on PRI issues newly developed through collaborative leadership and dialogue process Progress: During this reporting period, two shared agendas have been developed. In August 2013, a dialogue workshop was convened by bringing together leaders from all parts of the political and social spectrum and facilitated by the trained political and civil society leaders to discuss the growing identity-based political movements in the Far-western region. This effort not only helped in creating greater trust and mutual confidence amongst the leaders, but also reaching to an agreement to apply peaceful solutions to problems related to identity-based political movements. Similarly, in a run up to the Free Student Union election in June 2013, the CLD trained youth and student political leaders from Kailali district who collectively developed a Code of Conduct for a peaceful election. In the code of conduct, student leaders also agreed on various points, including the formation of a coordination committee in each campus, strictly adhering with the election code of conduct circulated by Tribhuvan University administration, and not organizing any electoral campaign on the same day and/or at the same venue.</p>
<p>Indicator 3: Number of effective mechanisms in place and operating to promote consensus and dialogue, resolve disputes and overcome deadlocks on critical district priorities in six project districts (UNDAF indicator</p>	<p>Baseline: TBD by baseline assessment (survey data available by March 2014) Target: At least 3 effective mechanisms</p>

9.1.1)	<p>newly in place and operating to promote consensus and dialogue, resolve disputes and overcome deadlocks on critical district priorities</p> <p>Progress: In this reporting period, the political and civil society leaders from Kailali who participated in CLD workshops and trainings, formed a six-member “Political Party District Coordination Committee” (PPDCC), so as to take forward the concept and practice of dialogue and collaboration in the district. The PPDCC has already brought together student leaders in May 2013, media leaders in June 2013, and social leaders representing the United Far West and Tharuhat movements in August 2013. It has also carried out dialogue to resolve the local problems in the district. In particular, engagement with the political parties, local government and youth and student groups in the district to promote ‘violence-free elections’.</p>
--------	---

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit). Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

During this reporting period, a total of 237 civil society and political leaders, which included 20% women, were trained on Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD) tools and concepts. Similarly, the project also trained a total of 67 media persons and equipped them with basic CLD skills. In the run-up to the country’s Constituent Assembly election in November 2013, the project organized a series of dialogue workshops and consultations with political party leaders, district government officials, and district election officers in programming districts (Banke, Kailali, Parsa and Kanchanpur) on elections related issues, particularly on potential electoral violence triggers and prevention mechanisms. In support of these electoral violence prevention efforts, the project team also organized dedicated workshops and media events on electoral violence prevention for youth politicians.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

Through the project’s intervention, political and civil society leaders in programming districts have developed a clearer understanding of and appreciation for dialogue, as well as the kind of leadership that supports bridge-building and innovative solutions through dialogue. After attending CLD training and workshops, the political and civil society leaders have taken concrete steps to use dialogue and conflict prevention

capacities towards building consensus and addressing local contentious conflict issues (such as identity, land etc.) in two programming districts (Banke and Kailali). For instance, leaders trained on CLD concepts convened a dialogue workshop in the Far-Western region by bringing together political party and social leaders from all parts of the political spectrum. This initiated an environment of greater trust and mutual confidence to help prevent escalations of identity-based political conflicts. As a result, a six-member “Political Party District Coordination Committee” (PPDCC) was formed, which has taken forward the concept and practice of dialogue and collaboration in the district. As the PPDCC has become more established, and the leaders more comfortable engaging one another on issues, a space has begun to emerge to discuss more difficult and polarizing local and regional issues, including resources, constitution drafting and federalism and student elections. The coordination committee members meet periodically and discuss on different peacebuilding agendas.

Similarly, through skills-building on collaboration, dialogue and facilitation techniques and the application of these tools, there has been a reduction in the use of adversarial language or potentially violent behaviour among civil society members and the media. The prominent media (editors and journalists) actors, who are trained on CLD concepts and tools have published a number of opinion pieces in support of CLD as a key to overcoming the local political and social challenges. The trained journalists were also fielded to sensitive districts, both during run up and in the post election period, to promote free elections and peaceful post-election through media scrutiny. Also, to mitigate tension and hostility in the run-up to the Constituent Assembly election the project facilitated meetings between the local government authorities (CDOs, Nepal Police, returning officers) and opposing parties, mainly in hot-spot districts. Altogether, these activities are believed to have contributed to a large extent in preventing anticipated violence or instability in those districts, and thereby to the most peaceful elections in Nepal’s democratic era. No political party youth wings were engaged in systematic violence (unlike the 2008 elections, when youth wings were widely used for violence and intimidation).

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

The initial project design envisaged to build CLD capacities of social and political actors, mainly women, youth and vulnerable groups to permit greater inclusion in peacebuilding processes. Nevertheless, the challenges encountered during the project implementation, mainly in securing proportional participation of women and vulnerable groups, primarily from political parties in CLD workshops/trainings, led to the alteration of programming approach. The project is currently designing specialized interventions to enhance women, youth and vulnerable group's participation and role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding processes. Specific examples include development of gender-sensitive CLD manual and tools, coaching, mentoring and institutional support for these groups, and facilitation of linkages between vertical and horizontal networks. These programmatic changes reflect the project's flexibility and capacity to respond to the needs of beneficiaries in a specific political and social environment, yielding positive impact.

During this reporting period, some of the project activities, particularly the baseline survey field work, convening of political party leaders for CLD workshops,

experienced delays due to various challenges, including the election of second Constituent Assembly, and protests, strikes and bandhs organized by different agitating political parties, both at district and national level in advance of the elections.

Outcome Statement 2: Community security enhanced in districts most at risk of violence.

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

<p>Indicator 1:</p> <p>% reduction in incidents of armed violence, including incidents of gender based violence, in six project districts as a result of better trained personnel, conscious of the gendered security needs.</p>	<p>Baseline: TBD by baseline assessment (survey data available by March 2014). Target: 10% reduction in the annual incidence of violent activity in six project districts Progress: During the reporting period, sensitization meetings were conducted with relevant stakeholders (CDOs, etc) in the six project districts. These meetings provided opportunities to introduce the idea of/dispel misunderstandings in relation to community security and its complementarity to the state security systems. Also, during these consultative meetings 'hot spot' VDCs were identified for the project's engagement. A community security (CS) training manual to be used to train 30 male and female facilitators (some of whom are training in CLD techniques) on undertaking CS planning processes in 6 District and VDC clusters was drafted, based on desk research as well as field consultations with relevant stakeholders. The project undertook masculinities and GBV research to better understand the linkages between gender identities, dominant masculinities and the use of GBV, including underlying reasons for men's engagement in violence, resilience and opportunities to be engaged as change agents. The resulting research will be used as an evidence-base for future programming. A peer education manual for engaging men and boys in GBV prevention has been developed. The manual will serve as the basis of the GBV prevention work in the 6 districts by training groups of peer educators to</p>
--	---

<p>Indicator 2: % of citizens who believe that police are effective in responding to/addressing incidents of armed violence in six project districts (UNDAF 4.2)</p> <p>Indicator 3:</p>	<p>identify and challenge harmful GBV issues, starting with self-reflection and then the creation of change through developing personal and group Action Plans to undertake GBV prevention activities in their communities.</p> <p>Baseline: TBD by baseline assessment (survey data available by March 2014) Target: 10% increase in citizens who believe that the police are effective in responding to/addressing incidents of armed violence Progress: The key objectives of community security planning (CSP) processes are to enhance both the presence and reputation of the police, and to improve public perceptions and participation in joint action with the security bodies in building safer communities. As such, the CS planning manual, as described above, contributes to this indicator as well, followed by training of around 30 facilitators -preferably with knowledge on CLD and gender sensitivity. They will work closely with the police and other relevant local government stakeholders on preparation and implementation of CSPs. Also, through extensive consultations with the government and civil society stakeholders, a gender-sensitive awareness raising strategy was developed.</p> <p>Baseline: Target: Progress:</p>
--	---

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit). Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Through extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders in program districts, the project delivered the following strategic products from which to build programmatically and roll-out in the project's second year: A strategy and action plan to establish the Nepal Center for Crime Observation (NCCO) along with related curriculum and Standard Operating Procedures; Gender-responsive awareness raising strategy, specifying three key target groups; Gender- and conflict-sensitive draft community security planning manual; A field tested peer education manual for working with men and boys on GBV prevention; Masculinities research and first draft report. In addition, a the project developed and field tested visual identity and messaging, and provided technical training and grant support to the

AVR Surveillance system of Informal Service Centre (INSEC), to strengthen the quality of data collection, reporting and analysis on crime and violence.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

During the reporting period, the project laid a strong foundation for achieving project objectives. The project took a holistic approach towards trying to influence citizen and security provider perceptions, capacities, and ultimately behaviour. Through a gender-sensitive awareness raising strategy the project seeks to change perceptions to reduce and further prevent violence (armed violence included) and empower citizens to take focused actions to stand up against GBV and youth violence in their communities. The strategy has identified 3 main target groups: civilians who are willing to possess or are in possession of SALW and weapons; youth-adolescents between the ages of 10 and 18; female victims of GBV, and men and boys as agents of change and active actors in prevention and elimination of GBV. Similarly, the context analysis workshops organized in three programming districts (Bara Kailali, and Banke) on youth violence prevention by bringing representatives from local government agencies, media and civil society (youth clubs, human rights, women's rights, and Dalit rights groups, etc) also helped identify existing youth violence prevention programmes in target districts, along with gaps and challenges with a purpose to recommend a strategic and sustainable approach to working with youth on violence prevention. The project also worked with national institutions to cultivate an enabling environment - by working to strengthen existing capacities and initiate an National Center for Crime Observation (NCCO). The establishment of a national crime and violence observatory will help institutionalize best practices on data collection and analysis within the GoN, capacitate existing national human resources, and provide a robust evidence base to support decision-making and design public policies on security. Through consultations with relevant district and VDC-level stakeholders on issues of community security and armed violence reduction (specifically GBV and youth violence prevention), a process of trust building between security sector providers, civil society and citizens began. The dialogues and sensitization that took place during the reporting period will help pave the way for substantive community security planning to take place, whereby communities will work with security personnel to identify and prioritize the most pressing safety challenges and agree on ways to address them. Further, the project supported Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC), a national NGO in making marked improvements in its technical capacities to collect, analyse and disseminate data related to armed violence. This will result in a substantive analytical Annual Report based on the INSEC armed violence surveillance system (spring 2014).

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

The major challenge to the implementation of Community Security focused activities (largely corresponding to Outcome 2) was the delay in getting the AVRSCS project document signed. Though agreed in principle, in the absence of an official project document signing between

UNDP and MoHA, it was more challenging to move forward in matters such as procurement processes until the GoN officially endorsed the project. Due to which sensitive areas of community security support could not be initiated according to the timeline originally foreseen. However, having incorporated the budget within the MoHA annual budget for the fiscal year 2013/2014, some of the activities were undertaken, and hence the physical progress in the project activities under outcome 2. As the Project Document was signed on December 11, 2013, the associated challenges should be resolved in 2014.

Outcome Statement 3: Relevant government agencies explicitly address women’s rights, protection and participation in post conflict situations by implementing and monitoring the National Action Plan (NAP) on United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) on 1325 and 1820.

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

<p>Indicator 1: Percentage of expenditure by the relevant ministries (MoPR, MoWCSW, MoLJCAPA, MoHA, Ministry of Industry (MoI), Ministry of Defense (MoD), Police Headquarter and Non-formal Education Center) receiving funds from Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) for NAP 1325 and 1820 implementation</p> <p>Indicator 2: Community perception that women are involved effectively in the peacebuilding and development activities in six project districts</p> <p>Indicator 3:</p>	<p>Baseline: Approximately 8-10 % expenditure by 2012 (final survey data will available by March 2014) Target: 70%-100% increase in expenditure by MoPR, MoWCSW, MoLJCAPA, PHQ, MoD, NFEC, MoHA , MoI, MoLJCAPA and NWC by 2015 Progress: Support to MoPR to develop and institutionalize a monitoring and evaluation framework for the NAP 1325 and 1820, including a framework to monitor expenditure has been initiated.</p> <p>Baseline: % of community members surveyed regarding their perception on the effective involvement of women in peacebuilding and development acitivities in the project districts (survey data available by March 2014) Target: 10% increase in community members surveyed who believe that women are involved effectively in peacebuilding and development activities in project districts by March 2014 Progress: Baseline study report is in the process of being finalised and will be available by end of March 2014.</p> <p>Baseline: Target: Progress:</p>
---	---

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit). Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

The capacity for implementing NAP was strengthened in this reporting period. District Coordination Committee (DCC) members responsible for coordinating NAP implementation in the districts mapped key opportunities and gaps. Consultation meetings were held with the DCCs to discuss their roles and responsibilities in the project districts. Training content on NAP was refined and finalized. It now addresses the current level of understanding of key stakeholders and focuses on their roles for implementation. Sixty local stakeholders were sensitized on the women's safety audit methodology in Parsa district. UN women, in close coordination with the UN-donor-INGO Peace Support Working Group (PSWG) actively led efforts to advocate for the inclusion of victims/survivors of conflict-related sexual and gender base violence in the government's definition and policies on conflict affected persons

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

It is still early to report outcome level achievements at this stage. However, during this reporting period, the project invested significant time and effort to lay the groundwork to ensure ownership and commitment from national and district level stakeholders for the effective implementation of the project which contributes for the implementation of the NAP. This was facilitated through a series of consultations organized by three implementing partners. A series of consultation meetings were held with MoPR and line ministries to discuss the implementation of the national level project initiatives. As a result of the meetings, a plan of action for the implementation of national initiatives was developed. The meetings also generated a common understanding about organising Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with relevant Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) funded ministries to assess the implementation status of the NPTF projects and to analyse gaps and challenges.

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

The preparations for Constituent Assembly election held on 19 November 2013 required significant time and attention of local and national authorities. The Government of Nepal (GoN) announced the Constituent Assembly election on June 14, 2013. The programme of the Election Commission commenced two months prior to the election and covered the period from 19 September -19 November 2013. This impacted the convening of DCC meetings. The DCC is chaired by the Chief District Officer (CDO) who has the overall responsibility for security of the district. In light of the election code of conduct, CDOs had clear instructions not to attend other meetings during the election period. The planned activities, especially DCC meetings were postponed for two-month during this period in light of the general security situation and disruption of transport facilities. However, these meetings were convened post elections.

Outcome Statement 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Indicator 1:	Baseline:
--------------	-----------

Indicator 2:	Target: Progress:
Indicator 3:	Baseline: Target: Progress:

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit). Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

1.2 Assessment of project evidence base, risk, catalytic effects, gender in the reporting period

Evidence base: What is the evidence base for this report and for project progress? What consultation/validation process has taken place on this report (1000 character limit)?	The monitoring of project activities is carried out on a regular basis, and is jointly conducted by executing UN agencies and implementing partners, with active participation of target groups to strengthen ownership of all the concerned stakeholders. Participatory review meetings were organized with project team before drafting this report to review progress, document lessons, and identify constraints faced during the implementation. Solutions to resolve constraints were also identified. The proceedings of review meetings are shared with district and national stakeholders and will also be shared in Project Steering Committee meetings.
Funding gaps: Did the project fill critical funding gaps in peacebuilding in the country? Briefly describe. (1500 character limit)	The project addresses several critical conflict drivers and contributes to building peaceful cohesion. For example, it is providing institutional and technical support to CSOs, political parties and government to better manage conflict around

	<p>contested issues at the local and regional level; support to the national machineries for the effective implementation of NAP 1325 and 1820 action points; and support to the MoHA for the development of gender sensitive data collection and management system, which are some of the government's peacebuilding needs, as identified in the Comprehensive Peace Accord and the country's Peace and Development Strategy. Similarly, the project has also been able to convene government and civil society to discuss peacebuilding programmes and policies and support to create a safe and impartial space that encourages trust and lasting relationships. These supports to CSOs and government has proved to be effective in filling critical funding gaps within the gender responsive conflict prevention, security and peacebuilding areas of work.</p>
<p><u>Catalytic effects:</u> Did the project achieve any catalytic effects, either through attracting additional funding commitments or creating immediate conditions to unblock/accelerate peace relevant processes? Briefly describe. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>While Nepal's progress on peacebuilding has temporarily stalled for a number of reasons, including polarization of political parties, the rise of ethnic and identity based politics, and exclusion of women and youth and their issues from peace and security processes, the project provided a space for dialogue, which was inclusive and gender sensitive in nature. Establishing this kind of platform, both at national and local level, was considered by all district stakeholders as an important milestone in reviving the somewhat stalled political and peacebuilding process in the country. Also, the project using its neutrality and principles convened and facilitated dialogue and cooperation between government, political parties and other local stakeholders during the run-up to the second Constituent Assembly election, which was appreciated and considered as critical confidence-building measure by Government, political parties, youth and other stakeholders.</p>
<p><u>Risk taking/ innovation:</u> Did the project support any innovative or risky activities to achieve peacebuilding results? What were they and what was the result? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The project is currently undertaking Women's Safety Audit in six districts, targeting one Village Development Committee (VDC) per district. Women's Safety Audit is a systematic analysis undertaken to gain an understanding of the crime and victimisation-related problems in a city; to identify assets and resources for preventive activity; to enable priorities to be identified; and to help shape a strategy that will enable those priorities to be tackled. This tool has been used in diverse urban settings in different countries, including India and Tanzania, in response to increased crime and fear of crime among residents. In Nepal, the project planned to use this tool in a village setting, an innovative approach, to understand and address women's personal and public safety by examining community environments from the perspective of women and provide recommendations for improvements to physical environments and policies and procedures that guide development. It is designed that the recommendations generated from the Audit will be integrated in the Village Development Plan and also in the Community Security Plan that the project aims to develop to address broader security concerns.</p>

<p><u>Gender marker</u>: Is the original gender marker for the project still the right one? Have gender considerations been mainstreamed in the project to the extent possible? Briefly justify. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The project has a very strong gender focus. It sets out a clear strategy for mainstreaming gender across all its conflict prevention and citizen security work. This includes building up greater leadership and participation of women in peacebuilding, security and development processes so that their perspectives are included and the outcomes of such processes are responsive to their needs. In this regard, the project has sensitized local and national stakeholders on National Action Plan on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and strengthened local and national government capacities to implement women, peace and security plans effectively. This strategy was accompanied by investments in gender expertise and trainings for all staff, and the development of specialized interventions for the prevention and protection of women and girls and young men and boys against sexual and gender based violence. Similarly, the project is leveraging its political relationships to encourage political leaders to understand and actively promote women’s participation and leadership in political and peacebuilding processes and architecture. The original gender marker therefore remains the right one.</p>
---	--

PART 2: LESSONS LEARNED AND SUCCESS STORY

2.1 Lessons learned

Provide at least three key lessons learned from the implementation of the project. These can include lessons on the themes supported by the project or the project processes and management.

<p>Lesson 1 (1000 character limit)</p>	<p>Frequent and open dialogue between participating Agencies and national and local level stakeholders ensures ownership of the outcomes achieved. The project since its inception has followed a participatory approach, by involving stakeholders and communities in the project planning and interventions, including in context analysis and Do No Harm and Risk Analysis exercises. This participative approach, local and national level collaboration and engagement of beneficiaries and stakeholders is crucial for the overall success of project and to bring envisioned change in the community.</p>
<p>Lesson 2 (1000 character limit)</p>	<p>The project has not only been able to tap the core competencies of the executing UN agencies, but also share expertise and in the process build each other's capacities to address the complexity of working on the area of conflict prevention, community security and NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. One of the most significant outcomes has been its ability to prioritise programmatically women's participation and leadership within conflict prevention, security and peacebuilding area. Specific example include, integration of NAP elements in community security manual and development of gender responsive awareness raising products on citizen security through technical input of UN Women; and application of dialogic method in conducting</p>

	DCC meetings and trainings of women LPC members through technical input of UNDP.
Lesson 3 (1000 character limit)	The presence of regional officers has improved the outreach and coordination with other UN agencies, civil society members and other local stakeholders. Also, it has helped in the conducting of regular assessments, monitoring of activities and identifying new opportunities and challenges in working in this sector. However, the establishment of field offices has taken more time than envisaged, and this to a certain extent had delayed the start of the field level activities.
Lesson 4 (1000 character limit)	During this reporting period, some administrative and operational challenges were encountered, particularly in the process of procuring the services and recruitment of the project team. Also, some challenges were experienced in the management of the two PUNOs' payments for joint activities. The project team learned that for any UN joint projects, one agency has to take the lead in contracting for and payment of joint activities, and funds for joint activities should not be split between agencies.
Lesson 5 (1000 character limit)	

2.2 Success story (OPTIONAL)

Provide one success story from the project implementation which can be shared on the PBSO website and Newsletter as well as the Annual Report on Fund performance. Please include key facts and figures and any citations (3000 character limit).

When the interim government of Nepal announced Constituent Assembly elections would be held 19 November 2013, many were hopeful that the elections would revitalize the country's stalled peace process. There was also some apprehension, as many feared that similar political, ethnic and identity-based tensions that characterized the previous Constituent Assembly elections (2008) could undermine the potential for peaceful elections in 2013. Furthermore, a formal announcement by a 33-party alliance led by the CPN-M announcing the 'boycott' of the election contributed to mounting fear and apprehension. As Election Day drew closer, this alliance proclaimed a nation-wide strike, and engaged in various disruptive activities to foil the election, crippling life across the country.

In such an environment, sensing citizens' desire for peaceful elections, the project worked closely with national and district-level political leaders, youth and media groups with the aim of addressing emerging tensions, preventing a possible escalation to violence, and creating a conducive environment for peaceful elections. The project mobilized its 'senior facilitators' to organize dialogues and to build trust and confidence among and between political parties. Series of multi-stakeholder dialogues involving district level heads of political parties, electoral officials, heads of security agencies and civil society leaders were organized in districts to discuss causes of violence, explore local solutions and minimize the risk of violence. In the final weeks of the campaign, the 'senior facilitators' also held multiple extended discussions with leaders of dissident parties that established a minimal level of trust in dialogue as a path to inclusive and peaceful election. These exchanges, while modest in content, were important as it gave the increasingly isolated and desperate CPN-M leadership and 33-party alliance, a means to engage with the government on concrete issues, and

help craft a viable exit from its strategy of violence. These initiatives were combined with engagement with youth leaders, recognizing them as potential principal instruments of political violence. The project worked with the leaders of one of Nepal's leading youth forums, the Joint Youth and Student Platform (JYSP), to transmit anti-violence messaging during the electoral period. The 24-groups participating in the JYSP, which are closely affiliated with political parties, committed to adhere to the code of conduct throughout the electoral cycle. The 2013 CA election was considered the most peaceful election in Nepal's democratic history. In terms of levels of violence, the most notable statistic is that there were only three election-related deaths recorded during the final months of the electoral process; this represents a 96% decline from the 2008 election figure of 50 mortalities. Also, compared to 2008 elections, there was a major decline in inter-party violence among the contending parties.

PART 3 – FINANCIAL PROGRESS AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 Comments on the overall state of financial expenditure

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, slightly delayed, or off track: on track

If expenditure is delayed or off track, please provide a brief explanation (500 characters maximum):

3.2 Comments on management and implementation arrangements

Please comment on the management and implementation arrangements for the project, such as: the effectiveness of the implementation partnerships, coordination/coherence with other projects, any South-South cooperation, the modalities of support, any capacity building aspect, the use of partner country systems if any, the support by the PBF Secretariat and oversight by the Joint Steering Committee (for PRF only). Please also mention if there have been any changes to the project (what kind and when); or whether any changes are envisaged in the near future (2000 character maximum):

The project established strong working relationships with government agencies at the national level, including Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction MoPR, MoHA, MoWCSW, MoI, MoFALD that facilitated open dialogue on implementation challenges and capacities and also identified areas requiring technical assistance from the project. At the district level, inception meetings were held and relationships were established with the District Administration Office (DAO), Local Peace Committees (LPCs), District Development Committee (DDCs), and Women Development Office (WDO). Intending to make the programme intervention more contextual and effective the project has established short term partnerships with different civil society organizations such as Centre for Investigative Journalism (CIJ), Search for Common Ground (SFCG), International Alert, and Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD). Also, a relationship with the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF), a government owned coordination and funding mechanism was developed. The project contributed regularly to NPTF cluster meetings, and provided feedback on proposals developed for the NPTF in the areas of rights and reconciliation.

To support project management, the team holds a weekly Project Coordination Team meeting to discuss project activities, implementation status, and to strengthen the working relationships and improve the inter-agency partnership. The project also opted for peer learning and exchange for capacity building of project staff and stakeholders, mainly on gender, security and conflict prevention issues. Trainings on different topics, including UNSCR 1325 and 1820; conflict prevention, dialogue, and mediation were organized, which opened more space for exchange among staff and stakeholders and learning from concrete examples, successes and failures.