

Project Title: Strengthening Public Confidence in the Justice System

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND
PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT TEMPLATE



PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: Guinea-Bissau
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL Semi-Annual
DATE OF REPORT: January 2018 - June 2018

Project Title: Strengthening Public Confidence in the Justice System	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00100299	
PBF project modality: <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund: UNDP
List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc): UNDP	
List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental: Ministry of Justice and Human Rights	
Project commencement date¹: May 2016 Project duration in months:² 30 months	
Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): UNDP: \$ 687 850 : \$: \$: \$ Total: 687 850 USD <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account</i>	
How many tranches have been received so far: The full amount	
Report preparation: Project report prepared by: Catia Rodrigues Project report approved by: Oumar Diallo Did PBF Secretariat clear the report: Yes Any comments from PBF Secretariat on the report: Has the project undertaken any evaluation exercises? Please specify and attach: No	

¹ Note: commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

² Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general / common language.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*

PART 1: RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1 Overall project progress to date

Briefly explain the **status of the project** in terms of its implementation cycle, including whether all preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (1500 character limit): Given past constraints, the project was granted a no-cost-extension until November 2018. So far, the project is being implemented according to the extension. All the preliminary activities were conducted and the project is on track. The contract for the construction of the House of Justice has been signed and work on the ground is to initiate shortly. A meeting has been arranged with a national CSO, operating in Gabu, in order to evaluate the possibility of establishing a partnership, in which they would conduct sensitization activities that would highlight the importance of the House of Justice. Also, the software for the criminal records database is already in the development phase, the first draft having been approved by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. It will be finalized in the upcoming months and followed by training of essential staff on system operationalization.

Given the recent/current political/peacebuilding/ transition situation/ needs in the country, has the project been/ does it continue to be **relevant** and well placed to address potential conflict factors/ sources of tensions/ risks to country's sustaining peace progress? Please illustrate. If project is still ongoing, are any adjustments required? (1500 character limit)
The project is still highly relevant since it builds on an the significant and severe state fragility in Guinea-Bissau: weak justice system and the population's lack of confidence in it. The project has been supporting the on-going justice reform and creating several means and mechanisms to improve access to justice, namely for vulnerable populations.

In a few sentences, summarize **what is unique/ innovative/ interesting** about what this project is trying/ has tried to achieve or its approach (rather than listing activity progress) (1500 character limit).

The project is supporting a new strategy on access to justice that envisions piloting the concept of a new model of House of Justice, regrouping all services related to justice: court, civil registration, identification, as well as legal aid, in a one-stop-shop. This structure will be set up all over the country to facilitate the access of citizens to all services related to justice in one single spot and also strengthen the presence of State institutions in the regions. The project supported the development of the prototype for the House of Justice, that will be constructed in districts throughout the country; which also allows to pilot the piloting of the first model district court in Gabu. As a result, the judicial services will be fully functional in this district, enhancing the justice supply by providing quality services to the population.

The software for the criminal records database is also innovative and unique, and it can very well be replicated and adapted to other data systems in the country, namely to the civil registration system.

Considering the project's implementation cycle, please **rate this project's overall progress towards results to date:**

on track

In a few sentences summarize **major project peacebuilding progress/results** (with evidence), which PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit): Through the Agreement with the Bar Association of Guinea-Bissau, ensuring free legal services to vulnerable population, some frustration regarding the formal justice system in the country has been reduced, thus enhancing people's confidence in justice.

In a few sentences, explain how the project has made **real human impact**, that is, how did it affect the lives of any people in the country – where possible, use direct quotes that PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit):

As of yet, access to justice for vulnerable populations has been compromised as there is no mechanism to support judicial aid, namely since the beginning of the crisis. The project has allowed the implementation of a partnership with the Bar Association of Guinea-Bissau and the Access to Justice Centers (CAJ). As a result, all pending cases are now being submitted to court and there is an efficient and functioning access to the justice support mechanism.

If the project progress assessment is **on-track**, please explain what the key **challenges** (if any) have been and which measures were taken to address them (1500 character limit).

One of the key challenges is regarding the construction of the House of Justice in Gabu. The preparatory work has extensive, thus delaying the start of the construction. However, the contract was signed in June 2018 and the construction works in Gabu will begin shortly. The main problem now lies on the fact that the rainy season is approaching quickly, which can pose several delays in the construction process.

Another important challenge relates to the improvement of the Bar Association of Guinea Bissau's contribution to the work conducted by the CAJ. For a long time, there was no judiciary support to vulnerable people in the country, therefore, due to the lack of a clear communication strategy, many people are still unaware of the free legal aid provided by the Bar Association. Consequently, radio and television spots are being discussed to provide adequate information to the citizens and increase their knowledge of available access to justice services.

If the assessment is **off-track**, please list main reasons/ **challenges** and explain what impact this has had/will have on project duration or strategy and what **measures** have been taken/ will be taken to address the challenges/ rectify project progress (1500 character limit):

Please attach as a separate document(s) any materials highlighting or providing more evidence for project progress (for example: publications, photos, videos, monitoring reports, evaluation reports etc.). List below what has been attached to the report, including purpose and audience.

1.2 Result progress by project outcome

The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes. If your project has more approved outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.

Outcome 1: Independent and impartial justice system increases citizens' confidence in the State commitment to the Rule of Law

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: Describe main progress under this Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration), including major output progress (not all individual activities). If the project is starting to make/ has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context. Where possible, provide specific examples of change the project has supported/ contributed to as well as, where available and relevant, quotes from partners or beneficiaries about the project and their experience. (3000 character limit)?

Through the workshop validation of the information systems' study, several recommendations have arisen from the debates with national partners. The most important was related to the creation of a national criminal records database. After proper validation and approval, to this end, a national consultant has been contracted and the database is currently in the development phase.

Similarly, the proposal to construct the House of Justice has been approved by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Nevertheless, and despite the tender to hire the construction company being launched, the process is encountering some delays.

On another note, a local Law Firm, through the Bar Association, has been contracted to provide free legal aid services to underprivileged populations through the local CAJ centres. At the moment, all cases submitted at CAJ centres are being processed.

Outcome 2:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

Outcome 3:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

Outcome 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

1.3 Cross-cutting issues

National ownership: How has the national government demonstrated ownership/ commitment to the project results and activities? Give specific examples. (1500 character limit)	The Ministry of Justice and Human Rights has been involved in the tender for the construction of the prototype of the House of Justice, having approved the submitted plans, and has been playing a fundamental role in the definition of criteria for the development of the national criminal records database.
Monitoring: Is the project M&E plan on	The M&E plan is on track. The thematic working group,

<p>track? What monitoring methods and sources of evidence are being/ have been used? Please attach any monitoring-related reports for the reporting period. (1500 character limit)?</p>	<p>which is the mechanism employed by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to monitor the implementation of the Justice reform, also serves as a monitoring mechanism for the project, since it meets regularly and discusses issues openly.</p>
<p>Evaluation: Provide an update on the preparations for the external evaluation for the project, especially if within last 6 months of implementation or final report. Confirm available budget for evaluation. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>As the project will be concluded in November, the ToR for the evaluation is presently being elaborated. Part of the remaining funds will be destined to a final external evaluation.</p>
<p>Catalytic effects (financial): Did the project lead to any specific non-PBF funding commitments? If yes, from whom and how much? If not, have any specific attempts been made to attract additional financial contributions to the project and beyond? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Catalytic effects (non-financial): Did the project create favourable conditions for additional peacebuilding activities by Government/ other donors? If yes, please specify. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>Both the concept of House of Justice and the access to justice mechanism, supported by the project, are innovative and can be implemented in other regions allowing people to have improved access to justice services.</p>
<p>Exit strategy/ sustainability: What steps have been taken to prepare for end of project and help ensure sustainability of the project results beyond PBF support for this project? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The extension allowed to link this project with the Joint United Nations Program on Police, Justice and Corrections, which is the main framework for the intervention of UN Agencies and the UN Mission in Guinea-Bissau with the government in the area of Rule of Law. This allowed to ensure the sustainability of the result.</p>
<p>Risk taking: Describe how the project has responded to risks that threatened the achievement of results. Identify any new risks that have emerged since the last report. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The main risk the project encountered so far is related to the institutional instability as consequence of the recent political crisis. There was a general implementation delay throughout this period, as some activities needed superior high level approval, and because there was no consensus on the implementation of some activities related to the magistrates.</p>
<p>Gender equality: In the reporting period, which activities have taken place with a specific focus on addressing issues of gender equality or women's empowerment? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>So far 50% of the beneficiaries of the pro bono access to justice centres are women. Also the working plan foresees sensibilization, access to justice and free legal aid for vulnerable women.</p>
<p>Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>An extension has been approved, with no cost implications, conceding the project an additional 10 months of implementation.</p>

1.3 INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 1 Independent and impartial justice system increases citizens' confidence in the State commitment to the Rule of Law	Indicator 1.1 Increased access to justice in Guinea-Bissau	2016: 34.9% (Mo Ibrahim Index)	36%	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Indicator 1.2					
	Indicator 1.3					
Output 1.1 Inputs and outputs of the database and monitoring system defined	Indicator 1.1.1 Study for the definition and design of an information system	0	1	1	n/a	n/a
	Indicator 1.1.2 Functioning Criminal Records	0	1	Currently under preparation	n/a	n/a

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Database					
Output 1.2 The Judicial services are fully functioning in Gabu	Indicator 1.2.1 Developed prototype	0	1	1	n/a	n/a
	Indicator 1.2.2 House of Justice created and functioning	0	1	The contract is now signed and the construction works are about to start.	n/a	n/a
Output 1.3 Knowledge of the population on access to justice is reinforced	Indicator 1.3.1 Number of people with access to justice (disaggregated by gender, social status, geographic location)	0	100%	All 34 cases presented by vulnerable people - 18 by males and 16 by females - have been taken care of. Out of the 34 cases, 26 cases come from Bairro Velho, 4 from Canhungo, 2 from Bafata and 2 from Buba.	An Agreement between the Bar Association of Guinea Bissau, a Law Firm and the CAJs has been signed in order to improve the population's access to justice.	n/a
	Indicator 1.3.2 Participation of	0	100 (in 5 sectors: Boe,	A meeting with two national CSO	n/a	n/a

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	vulnerable population in campaigns (disaggregated by gender, sector and village)		Pirada, Piche, Gabu and Sonaco)	operating in Gabu has been arranged to understand if there is ground for a partnership.		
Outcome 2	Indicator 2.1					
	Indicator 2.2					
	Indicator 2.3					
Output 2.1	Indicator 2.1.1					
	Indicator 2.1.2					
Output 2.2	Indicator 2.2.1					
	Indicator 2.2.2					
Output 2.3	Indicator 2.3.1					
	Indicator 2.3.2					
Outcome 3	Indicator 3.1					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 3.2					
	Indicator 3.3					
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1					
	Indicator 3.1.2					
Output 3.2	Indicator 3.2.1					
	Indicator 3.2.2					
Output 3.3	Indicator 3.3.1					
	Indicator 3.3.2					
Outcome 4	Indicator 4.1					
	Indicator 4.2					
	Indicator 4.3					
Output 4.1	Indicator 4.1.1					
	Indicator 4.1.2					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Output 4.2	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
Output 4.3	Indicator 4.3.1					
	Indicator 4.3.2					

PART 2: INDICATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL PROGRESS

2.1 Comments on the overall state of financial expenditures

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, delayed, or off track, vis-à-vis project plans and by recipient organization: *on track*

How many project budget tranches have been received to date and what is the overall level of expenditure against the total budget and against the tranche(s) received so far (500 characters limit): The project has already received its full amount. The current overall level of expenditure is 94 168 USD out of a total of 687 850 USD. However around 370 000 is also committed for several ongoing activities, namely the contract for the construction of the House of Justice in Gabu.

When do you expect to seek the next tranche, if any tranches are outstanding: The project will receive no further tranches.

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

Please state what \$ amount was planned (in the project document) to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment and how much has been actually allocated to date: An amount of 50 000 USD (Output 1.3) will be allocated for activities focused on gender.

Please fill out and attach Annex A on project financial progress **with detail on expenditures/ commitments to date using the original project budget table in Excel**, even though the \$ amounts are indicative only.

Annex D - PBF project budget

Note: If this is a budget revision, insert extra columns to show budget changes.

Table 1 - PBF project budget by Outcome, output and activity

Outcome/ Output number	Outcome/ output/ activity formulation:	Budget by recipient organization in USD - Please add a new column for each recipient organization	Percent of budget for each output reserved for direct action on gender equality (if any):	Level of expenditure/ commitments in USD (to provide at time of project progress reporting):	Any remarks (e.g. on types of inputs provided or budget justification, for example if high TA or travel costs)
OUTCOME 1:Melhoria da Governação e da Coordenação no setor da justiça					
Output 1.1:	Inputs and outputs of the database and monitoring system defined	44,492	0%	42,924	
Activity 1.1.1:	Conduct a study for the definition and design of an information system which would provide concrete proposals on their information needs	20,875		20,875	
Activity 1.1.2:	Creation of criminal records database	18,000		16,754	
Activity 1.1.3:	Workshop to present the results of the study to the Thematic Group and other actors in the justice sector	5,617		5,295	
Output 1.2:	The Judicial services are fully functioning in Gabu	420,000	0%	20,845	
Activity 1.2.1:	Construction of House of Justice in Gabu.	410,000		20,845	
Activity 1.2.2:	Organization of local consultations with communities to share the new concept of House of Justice	10,000		-	

Output 1.3:	Knowledge of the population on access to justice is reinforced	100,000	0%	25,872	
Activity 1.3.1:	Campaigns to raise awareness of disadvantaged populations on fundamental rights in Gabon	75,000		-	
Activity 1.3.2:	Support to access to justice by providing legal assistance to the disadvantaged populations	25,000		25,872	
TOTAL \$ FOR OUTCOME 1:					
Project personnel costs if not included in activities above		-		-	
Project operational costs if not included in activities above		42,850		4,363	
Project M&E budget		35,508		-	
SUB-TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:		642,850		94,004	
Indirect support costs (7%):		45,000		15,605	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:		687,850		109,609	

Table 2 - PBF project budget by UN cost category

Note: If this is a budget revision, insert extra columns to show budget changes.

CATEGORIES	Amount Recipient	Budget Revision	PROJECT TOTAL
	LINDP Tranche 1 (100%)		
1. Staff and other personnel	100,000	-100,000	0
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	50,000	0	50,000
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	200,000	-140,000	60,000
4. Contractual services	100,000	280,000	380,000
5. Travel	50,000	-40,000	10,000
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	100,000	0	100,000
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	42,850	0	42,850
Sub-Total Project Costs	642,850	0	642,850
8. Indirect Support Costs (must be 7%)	45,000		45,000
TOTAL	687,850	0	687,850