

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



United Nations
Peacebuilding

PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

COUNTRY: SIERRA LEONE

TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL SEMI ANNUAL

DATE OF REPORT: 31 JULY 2018

Project Title: CONFLICT PREVENTION AND MITIGATION DURING THE ELECTORAL CYCLE IN SIERRA LEONE	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00105794	
PBF project modality: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund: UNDP and OHCHR Sierra Leone
List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc): UNDP, OHCHR	
List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental: Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC), Judiciary, Office of National Security (ONS), Sierra Leone Police (SLP), Human Rights Commission (HRCSL), National Commission for Democracy (NCD), Legal Aid Board (LAB) BBC Media Action (BBC MA), Media Reform Coordination Group (MRCG), West African Peacebuilding Network (WANEP), Women's Forum, Campaign for Good Governance (CGG)	
Project commencement date¹: 05 June 2017	
Project duration in months:² 18 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: \$ 2,764,398 OHCHR : \$ 235,400 : \$: \$ Total: 2,999,798 <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: One tranche for UNDP and full tranche for OHCHR	

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.

Report preparation:

Project report prepared by: UNDP and OHCHR PBF team Sierra Leone

Project report approved by:

Did PBF Secretariat clear the report:

Any comments from PBF Secretariat on the report:

Has the project undertaken any evaluation exercises? Please specify and attach: Mid-term evaluation on going

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):

The project, as a multi-dimensional, multi-stakeholder effort, delivered a vast number of outputs in the prodoc, contributing decisively to preventing and mitigating violence during the electoral cycle by April 2018. This included facilitating high-level dialogues including at a community level, establishing coordination centers and providing training to multiple constituencies, conducting outreach to women and youth at multiple levels, building the capacity of police, judiciary and human rights institutions for election support, and developing activities to strengthen early warning systems. The revision and promulgation of the Code of Conduct, the work with the Eminent Persons Group, and the signing of a peace pact were particularly notable outputs. The preparatory activities and the implementation of the project have been coordinated with the Government and implementing partners; weekly steering committee meetings and technical meetings were held with implementing partners and CSOs.

The next phase of the project will focus on mitigating conflict risk in the aftermath of elections, focusing on peace and social cohesion and the completion of the work with the judicial sector on the remaining cases of electoral violence. A ‘lessons learnt’ exercise from the election process will be organized in early September.

The project is on track in terms of absorption of funds, with significant progress made on project expenditures (Expenditure rates: UNDP 93.15 % and OHCHR 40.34%).

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 PBF project continues to be relevant and well placed to work on addressing tension and conflict in the country, both in the context of election-related violence and broader transition and post-conflict. The project has made significant contributions to the peaceful and secure environment during the election process and beyond. This will be used as the basis to work on preventing future violence and building a basis for the long-term national cohesion in Sierra Leone.

During elections, promoting dialogue was supported through the established dialogue structures, such as convening dialogues among local actors, training and capacity building activities on mediation and peacebuilding to key national actors. This is the basis of a long-term effort for the country to address key impediments to stability and promote dialogue as a means of building cohesion.

Peace advocacy and preventing violence was supported through human rights monitoring and work with district and communities. Regular human rights reports, analysis and recommendations were released to provide understanding and promote prevention, in addition to training for security actors on human rights in accordance to

the international standard. This has improved national capacity to incorporate human rights into actions in dealing with election issues. The project anticipates a no cost extension to ensure completion of remaining work and engaging with the new government on post-election support.

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).

While the project specifically aimed to ensure a peaceful and secure environment for the election, it has also built the basis for the country's long-term resilience and capacity in addressing transition and post conflict in Sierra Leone.

The project was implemented during an electoral cycle in Sierra Leone and involved implementing a wide range of diverse but interconnected activities with a focus on building capacities on violence prevention but also strengthening pre-existing systems. The aim of the project was to promote peaceful election practices by establishing harmonious relations between relevant institutions, so they could promote peaceful behaviour around the country. The project has a twofold approach. On the one hand, it increases capacities for violence prevention, including sexual and gender-based violence and, on the other, it strengthens systems for redress and prevention of further escalation of violence. Key implementing partners were enabled to mobilize and sustain political, technical, and logistical support for critical activities during the electoral cycle. The country's unique history was carefully considered, and a broad spectrum of potentially challenging areas were incorporated into the project framework. The project continuously collaborated with institutions from all aspects of society, from political parties to the police to civil society organisations to the media and provided them with a common platform for discussion and activity comparison.

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):

The project promoted a High-Level Dialogue, which all Presidential candidates attended and signed a Peace Pledge, committing to campaign peacefully and ensure that their supporters respect peaceful conduct.

The project established an Eminent Persons Group (EPG), which supported local participation, mediation and dialogue capacity. The EPG engaged with both higher level political leadership and key national actors, promoting peace and national cohesion regardless divisions seen during the elections due to political preferences and affiliation. The project supported PPRC in reviewing existing Codes of Conduct (CoCs) for political parties to sign and coordinating regular party dialogues.

Campaign for Good Governance (CGG) were mandated to monitor that the CoCs are upheld.

Peace advocacy was successfully promoted through partnership with NCD, who conducted nationwide peace building campaigns: 96 jingles aired in five languages and 18 open public sensitizations/ non-violence campaigns in 18 constituencies.

HRC-SL worked on educating stakeholders on human rights issues in the context of the elections, documented human rights violations that occurred during the period and issuing public reports. 405 cases fast tracking settlement and resolutions were

facilitated through the Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism (ADR) reducing significantly the amount of electoral related disputes brought to authorities.

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):

One person who attended BBC MA media training said, “As a journalist, I am now aware of many things, like how to detect fake news on social media... Actually, it is not everything that you see on WhatsApp that is authentic – even if it has a logo or photos. Through the training we learnt how to detect fake news. This is the part that has helped me to do things differently. Now, let us say someone posts a message to you claiming that he got it from BBC MA. To cross-check this information, I will first go to BBC MA’s Facebook page... to see if the same information is there. If it is not there, then I will begin to suspect that the information is false.”

Social media usage is on the rise in Sierra Leone, with Facebook and WhatsApp fast becoming the preferred means of communicating. However, a lack of awareness on how to responsibly use social media greatly contributed to the spread of rumours and fake news, which fuelled tensions in the run up to elections. BBC MA training helped to reduce tensions rising from distorted facts and false allegation by educating students, journalists, and EMBs on how to spot & respond to fake news/ rumours, & social media best practices.

In addition, MRCG trained 490 media practitioners on conflict-sensitive reporting, & 44 media houses committed to adhere to human rights-centred reporting. The establishment of MRCG’s media situation room provided a platform for civilians to report instances of hate speech and non-conflict sensitive material.

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).

The project operated in a highly sensitive political environment. National actors were fragmented into political affiliations. While national stakeholders were working to promote unity and cohesion, they were also facing the reality of political divisions. This makes the project more relevant, which aspired to help build unity in diversity and cohesion despite differences. The project is developing flexible approaches to project planning and implementation to ensure the project remains relevant and realistic and continues to conduct dialogue at technical and policy level with government and IPs, Steering and Technical Committees, and other dialogues structures. The run-off elections slowed activity progress for some weeks. Due to political transition, this project had to re-orient new officials and update on the context and status of project activities. This slowed decision-making from the government. The project embarked on comprehensive bilateral engagements with new government personnel to ensure it remained on track and remaining activities are implemented without delay. There is a need to rebuild awareness, knowledge and buy-in on various peacebuilding programmes to the new government. The project will continue to ensure broad-based partnership and relationship building across institutions to ensure institutional memory is retained and key leadership positions are fully aware of the project implementation and related discussions.

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):

N/A

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.

- High Level Dialogue and signing of the Peace Pledge:

https://www.pprcsierraleone.org/images/docs/progmed/PBF_Story_final.pdf- PPRC calls together political parties: <https://awoko.org/2017/07/14/sierra-leone-news-pprc-calls-together-political-parties/>

- Human Rights Commission Special Newsletters:

<http://www.hrcsl.org/PDF/Resources/HRCSL%20Newsletter.pdf>

- Human Rights Commission Special Elections Report:

<http://www.hrcsl.org/PDF/Resources/Special%20Elections%20Report.pdf>

- Detailed report on the Eminent Persons Group:

<https://www.pprcsierraleone.org/index.php/ct-menu-item-19/71-epg>

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: Political dialogue, peace advocacy and violence prevention enhanced

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)?

To ensure the commitment of political party and aspirants (including women and youth) to peaceful and violence free elections, 3 separate Codes of Conduct (CoC) were reviewed, validated and signed by representatives of 18 political parties and their respective wings of youths (All Political Parties Youth Association) and women (All Political Parties Women's Association). A High-Level Dialogue forum concluded with all presidential candidates signing the Peace Pledge, which committed them to peaceful campaigns and acceptance of results.

Sustained non-violence campaigns were coordinated by NCD. They travelled nationally to promote a peaceful electoral period by facilitating 18 open public sensitisations on non-violence in 18 constituencies. NCD also contributed to this by conducting 48 outreach sessions on voter education in 16 districts targeting first-time voters, women, and PWD. A total of 4,016 participants (2,627 men & 1,389 women) were provided with practical knowledge on the voting process. Finally, a Citizens'

Platform established held 7 bi-weekly meetings attracting at least 280 participants, which helped to spread the message of non-violence.

To ensure messages on human rights and peaceful elections were promoted across Sierra Leone, HRC-SL trained 109 members of the District Human Rights Committees (DHRC) in 4 regions including 38 women and 71 men. They also conducted community engagements on human rights in 4 regions attracting at least 155 participants (37 males & 118 females) including market women, political party representatives, youth groups, teachers, students, health workers, journalists, human rights defenders, Okada (bike) riders, and the police.

Access to justice for rights' holders, including women and vulnerable groups, enhanced by the Legal Aid Board, who provided legal aid to 363 clients on election related issues (13 women and 350 men), and provided legal counselling and referral services to 111 complainants of electoral related offences. The Judiciary contributed by training over 50 legal staff from the Legal Aid Board (LAB) and the Sierra Leone Bar Association (SLBA) to support litigation of electoral offenses/cases and represent persons in civil cases. Additionally, the Justice App, initially developed with support of the UNDP Bail and Sentencing project, was enhanced through the inclusion of functions for all Electoral Offences. This system is currently being used to track cases processed through the courts.

Outcome 2: Public security, civil protection, human rights promotion and peaceful response capacities sustained.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

To ensure national and community-based Early Warning and Response Systems were strengthened, 3 election security simulation exercises were conducted to provide a practical understanding to the security personnel from different security formations (police, military, custodial corps, etc). This assisted these security institutions to support the election processes at strategic, tactical and operational command levels. The exercises aimed to provide a practical understanding the protective work and services of security personnel and organisations in support of the election process at strategic, tactical and operational levels of command. They also aimed to validate existing plans, testing the established procedures, and develop staff competencies by providing them with practical experiences to more easily execute their roles. At least 330 security personnel participated. Operational capacity of the Integrated Elections Security Planning Committee (IESPC) was further strengthened under ONS and greatly contributed to national Early Warning and Response Systems. To enhance community-based structures, a total of fourteen town hall meetings were conducted by ONS in 14 districts of Sierra Leone to disseminate key messages on election security, attracting 700 participants. The meetings also aimed at building trust between security personnel and citizens during the electoral cycle. Capacity was also provided for ONS offices.

To build the capacity of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), 3,000 SLP officers were trained on election security management and conflict prevention. The training covered relevant sections on human rights and was facilitated by a member of HRC-SL, with technical advice provided by OHCHR. Finally, the project furnished 6 Incident Command and Control Centres (ICCs) for the SLP in 6 regions to ensure early monitoring mechanisms were in place. These ICCs helped to improve on the free-fall

of information throughout the police command structure, ensuring a timely response in cases of conflict.

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

<p><u>National ownership:</u> How has the national government demonstrated ownership/ commitment to the project results and activities? Give specific examples. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>To ensure national ownership, commitment and sustainability of the project, the project (OHCHR and UNDP) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) jointly convened and co-chaired all project Technical Committee (TC) meetings attended by all the thirteen (13) project implementation partners and project donors (PBF team and UK Aid)</p> <p>Additionally, the implementation plans, and progress of the project were reviewed by the TC in its regular sittings to provide strategic direction and ensure that the project is on track to meeting its objectives and desired results.</p> <p>At higher levels, a Steering Committee (SC) between ministries, departments and agencies also convened to bring together key institutions and all donors.</p>
<p><u>Monitoring:</u> Is the project M&E plan on 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>The project organised and supported regular high-level SC meetings and lower level TC meetings to monitor the overall status of activities executed by national counterparts. For example, during the meetings, which increased its frequency from bi-monthly meetings to weekly two months during the elections, a readiness tracker was prepared and presented by each partner during meetings. The Human Rights Advisor (OHCHR) was also present at these meetings and ensured that human rights issues were raised as appropriate, as well as supporting the HRC-SL. The project also utilised an M&E plan prepared based on submissions by each partner. Regular quarterly/monthly monitoring visitations and spot-checks were carried out to track progress, performance and results. Regular field monitoring reports, partners' quarterly reports are used to monitor progress and track results.</p>

<p><u>Evaluation:</u> 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>The project is presently conducting a mid-term evaluation and the report is expected to be finalised after getting input from all stakeholders.</p> <p>An external evaluation for the project is also scheduled to be conducted during the last two months of the project and a total of USD 122,500 has been budgeted for.</p>
<p><u>Catalytic effects (financial):</u> 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>Yes, the project attracted non-PBF funding and commitments. During the period under review, the project mobilised additional funding from the Canadian government with a total budget of USD 401,517, which contributed to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to the EPG and the High-Level Peace Dialogue through the PPRC. • Support to youth and women by the PPRC through APPYA and APPWA. • Voter education and sensitisation through the NCD. • National peace and non-violence campaign initiatives through the NCD. <p>The UK Aid provided funding equivalent to \$2,023,174 which contributed to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Warning Mechanisms at decentralised levels (district and chiefdom levels) through the ONS. • Simulation exercises for security personnel in Sierra Leone through the ONS. • Trainings on ethics during the election period through the SLP. • Training on mediation and peacebuilding skills targeting PPRC staff at regional levels. • Training of media institutions on conflict-sensitive reporting through the MRCCG. • Operationalisation of the National Situation Room by the ONS. • Trainings and workshops on responsible use of social media during campaigns/elections through the BBC Media Action
<p><u>Catalytic effects (non-financial):</u> Did the project create favourable conditions for additional peacebuilding activities by Government/ other donors? If yes, please specify. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The project marshalled political and financial support for the electoral cycle in Sierra Leone. By assisting key Government institutions and CSOs, the project helped inform the government, regional actors, and international partners on the electoral process and the challenges that could potentially lead to conflict if not handled appropriately. Similarly, strategic committee meetings at higher levels provided a platform for engaging on discussions. This encouraged additional government commitments and international partner funding contributions for preventing conflict in Sierra Leone. Further funds were allocated and mobilised to enable key EMBs to adequately prepare for the elections.</p>

	<p>Continuous support and engagement by the UN Resident Coordinator's office, the UNDP, OHCHR and members of the diplomatic core, contributed to not only to securing and sustaining political commitment around conduct of peaceful elections, but also advancing the peacebuilding agenda and bringing together Sierra Leoneans of diverse political backgrounds.</p> <p>Due to mainstreaming human rights throughout the project by OHCHR, the project contribute to increased awareness of and respect for human rights norms in the future by the police and other implementing partners. The project also empowered the HRC-SL to develop a systemic framework for human rights monitoring that can be used to monitor all violations, not just those related to elections.</p>
<p><u>Exit strategy/ sustainability:</u> 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>From the inception of the project, mechanisms and deliberate efforts have been put in place to ensure the sustainability of the project. Through the TC, national partners and counterparts continuously collaborated in executing actions which provided a great platform to learn and share experiences. Through sustained technical support provided by the experts seconded to specific institutions (SLP, ONS, Judiciary, MRCG and PPRC), execution and delivery of their functions will be improved and sustained.</p> <p>The final 30% of the remaining budget (second and last tranche) will be used for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staffing costs, - Pending trainings by the PPRC, - Support to the DCMC, the EPG and the SLBA, - Support to ongoing mediation efforts, - A mid-term and end of project evaluation and audit. - Funding for the National Social Cohesion project (phase 3) <p>Funds will be allocated to further sustain activities highlight as vital by IPs during a recent TC meeting. These activities were deemed so successful that IPs wish to incorporate them into their framework. Such activities include the SLP Command and Control Centres and HRC-SL human rights mobile monitoring and complaint teams. Overall, the final 30% will work towards laying a solid foundation for the next election and will begin the process of necessary and immediate capacity building.</p>
<p><u>Risk taking:</u> 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 project kept an extensive risk log, which was frequently reviewed at both SC and TC levels. OHCHR also contributed to this risk log to ensure human rights issues were taken into consideration. The March 2018 elections led to a political transition that saw a new government and administration in power, which affected</p>

	<p>timely implementation and led to delays from government partners to coordinate ongoing activities. Despite this challenge, successful orientations were held with the new administration to familiarise them on ongoing activities. The project TC continues to take a pivotal role in implementing activities in the 2018 annual work plan.</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? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	<p>Gender sensitive and responsive interventions are a core focus of the project. A key activity focusing on women’s empowerment was the training of female aspirants running for parliamentary and chair/mayoral positions as independent and party affiliated. A total of 341 female aspirants were trained on “effective participation in political and decision-making processes” during elections. 40 selected candidates were further given a platform on radio programmes to present their agenda in relation to their political candidature. Profiles for the candidates were profiled and shared on social media. 20 radio programs focusing on the participation and inclusion of women and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in elections were broadcasted across 31 radio stations in Sierra Leone, receiving overwhelming acclamation by the public on the role of women in leadership. In capacity building and training initiatives of the project, deliberate efforts were made to mainstream gender at every stage. For example, during training of 3000 police officers on “elections and security” in February 2018, the capacity of 300 female police officers was enhanced due to deliberate efforts to include women in such and similar initiatives. Issues relating to discrimination based on gender also formed a key component of the training manual developed, with the support of OHCHR, by the HRC-SL for the monitoring of human rights during the election, and was an integral component of the sensitization.</p>
<p>Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></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 Political dialogue, peace advocacy and violence prevention enhanced	Indicator 1.1 Number of reported and resolved election related incidents of violence (disaggregated by age, gender, location, type of violence)	18 cases reported and resolved in 2012 by SLP (did not represent all actual cases)	At least 90% of all reported electoral-related incidents of violence are resolved in accordance with agreed SOPs.	Data still to be collected		
	Indicator 1.2 Percentage of people that express confidence in safety and security measures to enable them to participate in the electoral processes (disaggregated by	83% of respondents confirmed that political competition did not lead to violence in communities in the 2012 elections (KAP	90% (midline target Feb 2018); 97% (end-line target Sept 2018).	This percentage will be clarified after some analysis and surveys are conducted.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	age, gender, and location)	Baseline Survey page 67, IGR, April 2017)				
	Indicator 1.3 Level of influence by media campaigns towards inclusion of marginalized and excluded persons (women and PWD)	No activity and/or assessment in 2012 (no baseline).	Respondents report greater understanding of the concerns of women and PWD and show greater willingness to vote for them	660 persons trained by BBC Media Action. Post training surveys indicate a greater understanding of women and PWD in politics and a willingness to vote for them.		
Output 1.1 Political parties and aspirants develop and commit to peaceful and violent free elections	Indicator 1.1.1 No. of political parties that commit and participate in mediation and dialogue at different level.	1. 100% political parties represented in inter-party dialogues. 2. 80% of cases of electoral related	1. 100% political parties represented in inter-party dialogues 2. 90% of electoral related cases resolved	1. 16 political parties were represented at inter-party dialogues 2. 305 electoral related cases solved by Alternative		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
		disputes were mediated and resolved in 2012	through dialogues in 2018 elections.	Dispute Resolution mechanisms.		
	Indicator 1.1.2 Percentage of registered political parties that sign onto the Code of Conduct (CoC); including APPYA & APPWA CoC	100% (12) parties signed in 2012 elections.	100% - all registered political parties, APPYA and APPWA subscribe to the CoC	100%		
Output 1.2 Sustained non-violence campaigns conducted and messages on human rights and peaceful elections promoted across Sierra Leone.	Indicator 1.2.1 Percentage of sampled community members that are aware of the importance of election-related non-violence, human rights, protection of women and girls from SGBV	79.6% (KAP Survey 2017- page 52 proxy indication is awareness of the role of political parties in elections)	85% (midline target); 90% (end-line target)	This percentage will be clarified after some analysis and surveys are conducted.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 1.2.2 Number of women and youth organisations sensitized on election-related non-violence and prevention of GBV.	30 % of targeted youth and women organisations and associations undertook non-violence and GBV prevention activities.	75% of targeted youth and women organisation and associations are undertaking dedicated non-violence and GBV prevention activities during election cycle			
Output 1.3 Public security, civil protection, human rights promotion, and peaceful response capacities sustained.	Indicator 1.3.1 Number of election related cases adjudicated and completed by the courts handling electoral cases in accordance with agreed process flow.	Approximately 65 cases in 2012. No cases adjudicated in accordance with process flow.	At least 150 cases (civil / criminal) adjudicated in accordance with process flow in 2018 election.	42 cases were currently being heard in court in accordance with agreed process flow.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 1.3.2 Number of reported cases on elections-related Human Rights violations (disaggregated by gender, location, age, and violation type).	13 cases reported in 2012 elections	40 cases targeted in 2018 elections.	24 cases were reported to the Human Rights Situation Room during the 2018 elections.		
Outcome 2 Public security, civil protection, human rights promotion, and peaceful response capacities sustained.	Indicator 2.1 • % of reported complaints of police response to election-related incidents with excessive use of force • No of reported complaint for police response to incidents with excessive police force	0% in 2012 elections	50% success rate in 2018	This percentage will be clarified after some analysis and surveys are conducted.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	•No of reported police response to elections violence					
	Indicator 2.2 Percentage of members of public that express confidence with response of the police and other security personnel in addressing Human Rights violations and election-related offences, including SGBV (disaggregated by age, gender and location)	14% of sampled population confirmed national security agencies are neutral (KAP survey page 71 proxy is public perception that security agencies are neutral).	25% of sampled population confirmed national security agencies are neutral (Midline target); 30% end line target	This percentage will be clarified after some analysis and surveys are conducted..		
	Indicator 2.3 An effective and coordinated early-warning system is in place to prevent	In 2012 several situation rooms were in place but	Well-structured and coordinated situation room is operational	1. National Situation Room fully operational throughout election period.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	election-related conflict and violence.	not fully coordinated in terms of reports and early response.		2. Simulation exercise attended by 330 security personnel enhanced capacity for early-warning system 3. Strengthened operational capacity of the Integrated Elections Security Planning Committee (IESPC) under ONS		
Output 2.1 The National and community-based Early Warning and Response System strengthened	Indicator 2.1.1 Percentage of security committees that are functional and responsive to election related incidence (disaggregated by	100% in 2012 elections	100% in 2018 elections	100% in 2018 elections		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	type of committee i.e. DISEC, PROSEC, etc.)					
	Indicator 2.1.2 Percentage of early warning issues reported to the Situation Room that are responded to in accordance with established processes and SOPs (disaggregated by type of issue and location).	None documented in 2012	50% of reported issues responded in 2018 elections	Data still to be collected		
Output 2.2	Indicator 2.2.1 Number of cases identified and addressed by the security personnel trained on election security.	Zero cases recorded in 2012	A minimum of 100 cases by SLP	This percentage will be clarified after some analysis and surveys are conducted.		
	Indicator 2.2.2	Weak response	3 simulations conducted.	•ONS have stated that the simulation		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Improvement in level of preparedness of Security Officials to respond to election security threats •Number of contingency plans put in place by the SLP to support and address issues during the elections 	preparations in 2012 elections	Gradual increases in level of preparedness from 1-3	<p>exercises greatly improved their response mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Number of contingency plans has yet to be clarified. 		
Output 2.3	Indicator 2.3.1					
	Indicator 2.3.2					
Outcome 3	Indicator 3.1					
	Indicator 3.2					
	Indicator 3.3					
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 3.1.2					
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					
Output 4.2	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
Output 4.3	Indicator 4.3.1					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 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): One tranche for UNDP and full tranche for OHCHR, the total expenditure against the tranche is 93.15% for UNDP and 40.34% for OHCHR (indicative)

When do you expect to seek the next tranche, if any tranches are outstanding: August 2018

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:

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.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES PLEDGE PEACE AHEAD OF THE MARCH 7 GENERAL ELECTION

By Ms. Busi Ncube
International Mediation Advisor

5 March 2018

On Wednesday 28 February 2018, Sierra Leoneans were able to follow the live coverage on three television broadcasting stations and three radio stations broadcasting in 10 local languages as well as live streaming on Facebook as nine of the 16 Presidential Candidates; including the only female Presidential candidate signed a Pledge for Peace and Non-Violence a week before the March 7 General Elections. This was a first for Sierra Leone.



The Peace Ceremony was preceded by a High-Level Breakfast Dialogue with Political Party Leadership (Chairmen, Secretaries General; Presidential Candidates and their Running Mates at Radisson Blu Hotel in Freetown. All 17 registered Political parties were in attendance. The event was organised by the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC) which is mandated, under the Political Parties Act of 2002, 'to monitor the affairs or conduct of political parties so as to ensure compliance with the Constitution, the Political Parties Act and the terms and conditions of their registration'. Additionally, it is 'to promote political pluralism and the spirit of constitutionalism among political parties'. Sub-section 6d of the same Act specifically mandates the PPRC '*when approached by the persons or parties concerned, to mediate any conflicts or disputes between or among the leadership of any political party or between or among political parties*'.



In November 2017, mindful of the need to invest in preventive efforts in order to mitigate violence, the PPRC re-activated the District Code Monitoring Committees (DCMC) in all 16 Districts. Their role is to monitor compliance to the Political Parties Code of Conduct which all Parties signed to in December 2017. In addition, they act as local level peace committees and comprise of 34 representatives from different sectors including women, youth and persons with disabilities as well as the security sector and the PPRC staff in that district. The Commission however, noted that at the National level, there was



To watch the ceremony, go to [woezortv](https://www.facebook.com/WoezorTV/videos/150433958973843/) live on facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/WoezorTV/videos/150433958973843/>

no structure to do preventive work and serve as mediators in support to the PPRC especially with regards to high-level mediation. As such, the PPRC saw it fit to establish a 5-member group of Eminent persons drawn from Religious leaders, the Media, Business and Women's groups; two of the members are female. All these were efforts to prevent violence at the local and National Levels.

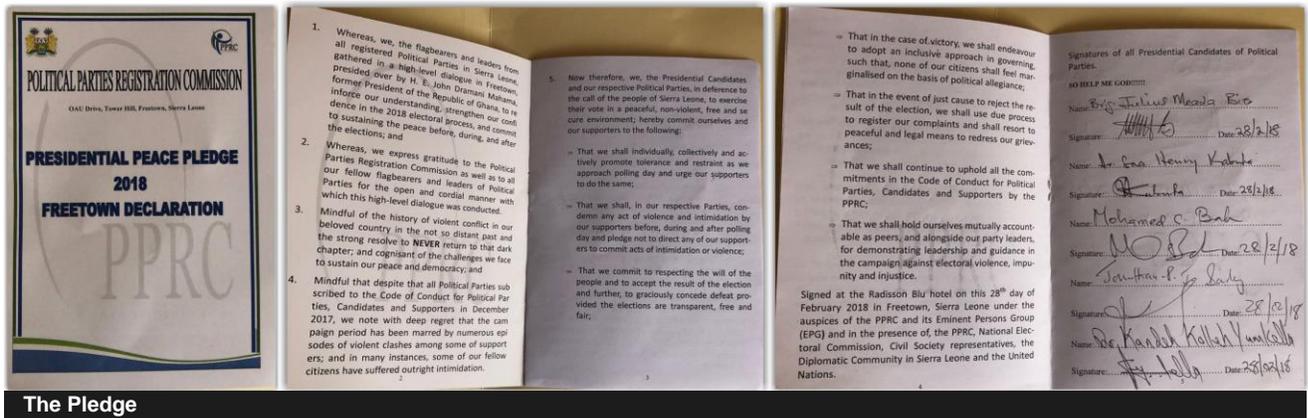
However, recognising the pivotal role that Political Leaders play in the prevention of electoral violence and the strategic importance of engaging them to take a decided stand against violence; coupled with the need to ensure that tolerance is demonstrated by all 17 contesting parties not just during the campaign period but after polling day; the PPRC extended an invitation to His Excellency John Dramani Mahama former President of the Republic of Ghana to dialogue with Party Leaders. Celebrated for his uncharacteristic act of conceding defeat as an incumbent after losing the election in 2016, He was deemed best suited to undertake this task. Prior to the



President Mahama and the PPRC Chairman Justice Hamilton during the ceremony



NGC Presidential Candidate signing the pledge



The Pledge

High-Level Dialogue, President Mahama commenced his three-day visit with consultations with Key stakeholders including Security Sector, The National Electoral Commission; Civil Society; Members of the Diplomatic Corps and Political Parties to familiarise himself with the issues of concern. He then took the opportunity to share his own experience in addressing some of the concerns raised by political parties and to remind them that regardless of whether or not the conditions were fully conducive for the conduct of a free and fair elections, in their view; they as leaders, still had a moral and a political obligation to assume full responsibility for condemning and shunning violence as well as admonishing their supporters to do the same. Further, he reminded them that there will only be one President emerging out of this contest but that all of them and their supporters could emerge as winners if they chose peace and collaboration in governing to ensure a prosperous, inclusive and just Sierra Leone. He then proposed that Presidential Candidates demonstrate this commitment by crafting the Presidential Peace Pledge, which all 17 Political Parties accepted. A draft pledge was shared for their input and all parties then adopted it with very minor amendments. It is this pledge that was read out and sung at a moving Peace Ceremony that evening presided over by President Mahama. Subsequently, two Presidential Candidates have signed including the ruling party APC flag bearer over the weekend and the remaining 5 have committed to do so by the 6th of March.

To watch the ceremony, go to woezortv live on facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/WoezorTV/videos/150433958973843/>