

Liberia MPTF PROJECT DOCUMENT

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| <p>Project Title: Sustaining peace and improving social cohesion through the promotion of rural employment opportunities for youth in conflict-prone areas</p> <p>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):</p> | |
| <p>List all direct project recipient organizations : FAO, ILO and WFP</p> <p>List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental: Ministry of Youth & Sports(MYS), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (MoGCSP); Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and Social Protection (MoGCSP); Liberia Land Authority; Cooperative Support Organizations (Cooperative Development Agency; Liberian National Federation of Cooperative Societies and the West Africa Farmers Cooperatives) and National Farmers Union Network (FUN).</p> | |
| <p>Expected project commencement date : 1 December 2018</p> <p>Project duration in months: 24</p> <p>Geographic zones for project implementation: Liberia, West Africa: Lofa and Bong Counties)</p> | |
| <p>Total approved project budget* (by recipient organization): \$1,500,000.00 FAO: USD 760,041.60 ILO: USD 405,699.81 WFP: USD 334,258.59 Total Project total budget: USD 1,500,000.00 Project total budget: USD 1,500,000.00</p> | |
| <p>1st tranche: FAO: USD 532,029.12 ILO: USD 283,989.87 WFP: USD 233,981.01 Total: USD 1,050,000.00</p> | <p>2nd tranche*: FAO: USD 228,012.48 ILO: USD 121,709.94 WFP: USD 100,277.58 Total: USD 450,000.00</p> |
| <p>Project Gender Marker score: 2</p> <p>50% and the amount of \$750,000 of total project budget is allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment</p> | |
| <p>Project Risk Marker score: 0¹</p> | |
| <p>Sustainable Development Goals to which the project contributes:</p> <p>SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 8: Decent Jobs and Economic Growth; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 16: Peace and Justice; SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals.</p> <p>UNDAF outcome(s) to which the project contributes: Outcome 2.2: Improve equal access to sustainable livelihood opportunities in an innovative and competitive private sector</p> <p>Peace Building Fund Focus Areas²: (3.1) Employment</p> | |
| <p>Type of submission:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New project</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project amendment</p> | <p>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</p> |

¹ **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes; **Risk marker 1** = medium risk to achieving outcomes; **Risk marker 2** = high risk to achieving outcomes

² **PBF Focus Areas** are: (1.1) SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue; (2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management; (3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services; (4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats)

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| | <p>Extension of duration: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months:</p> <p>Change of project outcome/ scope: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Additional budget: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX</p> <p>Brief justification for amendment:</p> <p><i>Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.</i></p> |
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PROJECT SIGNATURES:



List of Abbreviations

| | |
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| Arcelor Mittal | AML |
| Business Development Service | BSD |
| Employment-Intensive techniques | EII |
| Equatorial Palm Oil | EPO |
| Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | FAO |
| Golden Veroleum Liberia | GVL |
| Household Income and Expenditure Survey | HIES |
| Human Security Unit | HSU |
| International Labor Organization | ILO |
| Joint Programmed on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women Economic Empowerment | JRWEE |
| Joint Programmed on Youth Empowerment and Employment (| JP YEE |
| Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services | LISGIS |
| Liberia Market Information System | LIMIS |
| Managing My Cooperative | My. Coop |
| Ministry of Agriculture | MoA |
| Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection | MoGCSP |
| Ministry of Internal Affairs | MIA |
| Ministry of Youth and Sports | MYS |
| Multi Partner Trust Fund | MPTF |
| National Project Coordinator | NPC |
| Peace Building Fund | PBF |
| Peacebuilding Support Office | PBSO |
| Sexual Gender Based Violence | SGBV |
| Sime Darby Liberia | SDL |
| Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) | SIYB |
| Sustainable Development Goal | SDG |
| United Nations Children Education Foundation | UNICEF |
| United Nations Country Team | UNCT |
| United Nations Development Assistance Framework | UNDAF |
| United Nations Development Programme | UNDP |
| World Food Programme | WFP |

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I. Executive Summary

The project titled “Strengthening the role of youth in reducing conflict through the promotion of rural employment in conflict-prone areas” aims to sustain peace by addressing two interlinked root causes of conflict in Liberia, namely grievance over insufficient participation of young women and men in local dispute resolution and lack of employment and livelihoods opportunities for rural youth.”³ Land disputes are a major driver of fragility in post war Liberia, and in particular in the two countries of Bong and Lofa, on which the project will focus geographically. Having been particularly hard hit by the civil war, and following massive conflict-induced displacements, disputes over land are particularly concentrated in the two neighboring counties in the North-West of Liberia. Risks of resurging conflict as identified by Liberians in a major 2017 survey on peacebuilding were particularly high in both regions. According to the survey, land disputes and youth agitation remain contentious factors in the country.

To sustain a youth-inclusive peace and improve social cohesion in the conflict prone regions of Liberia, the project focuses on two interrelated outcomes:

Outcome 1: Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace.

In line with government peacebuilding priorities, the project will support youth’s participation in peacebuilding at the community level, promote young women and men to have increased access to land conflict resolution mechanisms as a vehicle for youth-inclusive peacebuilding and will provide both technical and material support for youth to become champions and peace ambassadors. It will engage young men and women as active agents of peace, and have their voices heard in local dispute resolution mechanisms, particularly in the conflict prone communities and districts. This outcome will be anchored in existing community structures putting emphasis on community leaders, religious leaders, women organization, youth leaders, traditional leaders, the use of radio, social media and other collaborating partners to support awareness building campaigns about the importance of youth’s role in conflict prevention, resolution and the importance of their economic empowerment. Trainings will include lessons on cultural tolerance and promoting dialogue, as well as need to reduce violence and realize improved social cohesion.

Outcome 2: Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict.

Supplementing improved access to land, the project will promote tangible peace dividends for young women and men, focusing on decent farm and non-farm jobs through skills and entrepreneurial training and by improving the management and productive capacities of agricultural youth-based cooperatives and enterprises through value chain development. The interventions will focus on the three value chains of rice, vegetable and poultry, whose selection builds on their national comparative advantages and have high growth potential and employment opportunities particularly for youth and women. Vulnerable youth will benefit from diversified livelihood support in view of boosting resilience and self-reliance at both household and community levels. Offering support both to small youth-led enterprises and to cooperatives in these sectors ensures that the specific needs of youth in different entrepreneurial models will be met. Such targeted, integrated interventions will produce economic opportunities, and promote contact and address grievances among young men and women in Lofa and Bong Counties.

FAO, WFP and ILO will jointly implement the proposed project in close collaboration with their its implementing partners that which include, among others, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), the Ministry of Labor, local government representatives and civil society organizations working on bottom-up, alternative land dispute resolution and livelihood support and development. FAO as lead will ensure proper coordination for provision of robust technical support and expertise to safeguard the successful implementation of the project. This project will be implemented in accordance with to the national development priorities outlined in the Government of Liberia’s Pro-Poor Agenda (“New Vision towards a Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development”), focusing in particular on the Pillar I “Power to the People” and its Goal I of “Reducing developmental inequality to enable the people to prosper”, that sees youth empowerment as a key priority, as well as Goal 3, “Sustaining the Peace”.

The project will It also contributes to the Government’s progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), including SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 8: Decent Jobs and Economic Growth; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 16: Peace and Justice; SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals.

³ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports--dcomm/documents/statement/wcms_535665.pdf

II. Context and rationale for support

A. Conflict Analysis

Liberia has experienced two civil wars in the last thirty years, between 1989-1996 and 1999-2003. In late 2017, Liberia experienced a peaceful and democratic change in government for the first time in seventy years, followed by the drawdown of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) in June 2018. Despite these two significant achievements, peace in Liberia remains fragile – a main cause of which is the exclusion of youth from sustainable livelihood opportunities and in economic decision-making processes which affect their lives.

The 2017 “Mapping of opportunities for the consolidation of peace in Liberia”, carried out by the Liberia Peace Building Office in 2017, identified land and property disputes as well as youth agitation (mainly about unemployment) and as key aspects of conflict and fragility in Liberia.

Conflicts over land are a common phenomenon in Liberia that may result in demonstrations, roadblocks and destruction of property. Given the localized nature of land disputes, tribal groups and villages were identified as the most important conflict actors by Liberians surveyed in the 2017 mapping⁴. The significance of land disputes as a fragility factor in post-conflict Liberia is not surprising, as large majorities of Liberians live in rural communities and depend on access to land and agricultural resources for sustainable livelihoods. Youth and women are particularly vulnerable of being deprived of land and other productive factors, and are underrepresented in the resolution of land disputes, which creates **grievances** over youth’s and women’s economic exclusion.

Linked to inequalities in access to land, youth unemployment constitutes a second major risk factor on Liberia’s path of sustaining peace. For the post-conflict period, recent research on Liberia has found a relationship between youth unemployment and their engagement in illicit activities, including illegal resource extractions and recruitment into regional armed conflicts⁵. The study highlights the **lack of economic opportunities** for youth as a considerable threat to sustaining peace in Liberia⁶. Accordingly, the promotion of sustainable, decent youth employment is a priority within the Liberia Peacebuilding Plan, which directs the role of the UN system and other partners in Liberia⁷.

The fragile nature of peace and threats to human security have a significant gender dimension: Legal frameworks addressing violence against women are inadequate (e.g. while rape is the highest reported crime, conviction in such cases has remained minimal). Gender inequality is rife with Liberia ranked 150th out of 159 countries on the Gender Inequality Index (UNDP HDR 2016). Even though women make up 54 percent of the labor force in formal and informal sectors, they are continued to be challenged by gender inequalities that marginalized them from equal employment across the productive sectors. As regards access to and inheritance of land, and other productive factors such as capital and skills, young women face particular barriers, rooted in discrimination based on age *and* gender.

Despite the challenges Liberian women face, they continue to make headways in challenging a system that initially excluded them; women are now represented in parliament and cabinet although not yet proportionate to men. Liberian women were crucial to achieving peace in Liberia, having acted as informal peacemakers and peacekeepers during the civil war even though they are often marginalized.

Proximate and root causes of conflict dynamics

In the 2017 mapping, (1) unclear property rights over land, insufficient resolution mechanisms and, relatedly, (2) citizen’s grievances about patterns of socio-economic injustice, marginalization and lack of economic opportunities are cited as main motives for – and hence proximate causes of – conflict.

(1) Concerning root causes of unclear property rights and insufficient resolution mechanisms, many land disputes are consequences of wartime displacement and resettlement patterns, coupled with persistent ambiguities between customary and formal property rights. The long civil war brought a complete breakdown in the structures that are responsible for dealing with problems in Liberian society, and land disputes today are the result of what accumulated during the war when there was no

⁴ Peacebuilding Office Liberia (2017): Mapping of opportunities to consolidate peace in Liberia, p. 9.

⁵ Blattman and Annan (2015): Can Employment Reduce Lawlessness and Rebellion? A Field Experiment with High-Risk Men in a Fragile State. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2431293>

⁶ see also the joint publication by ILO, UNDP, PBSO and the World Bank on “Employment Programmes and Peace” and the research conducted by Brück et al. (2016) on “Jobs Aid Peace” which identifies lack of economic opportunities and inter-group contact and grievances as pertinent drivers of conflict which may be linked to (youth) unemployment

⁷ Government of Liberia and the United Nations (2017) Sustaining Peace and Securing Development. Liberia Peacebuilding Plan.

institution to deal decisively with the situation of land ownership⁸. The government-sponsored dispute resolution through courts is not as effective as it should be in providing speedy, efficient, cost-effective and broadly acceptable means of resolving conflicts⁹

(2) The socio-economic marginalization and lack of economic opportunities is linked to broader socio-economic patterns of exclusion of youth and young women in particular in Liberia: Poverty is pervasive across Liberia (70%) while stunting of children under five years, an indicator of chronic malnutrition, is at exceptionally high levels (32%). 40% of school-age children do not receive any formal education. Youth unemployment and underemployment are of particular concern. According to a 2014 ILO study, youth constitute more than a third of the total population and nearly half of the total labor force in Liberia. However, the labor force participation rate for the 15-24 youth cohort was 35.1%, substantially lower than the national average of 63.5¹⁰. Liberia's high population of disengaged youth and their lack of economic opportunities can lead to frustration, grievances and a lack of engagement between youth from different backgrounds¹¹. This can make it easier for dividing factions to exploit grievances over economic hardship, increasing the risk of a regression into conflict and hostility.

Obstacles for youth to join the labor force include lack of formal education as well as vocational training, a mismatch between skills training and available opportunities and the fact that young people might be viewed as security concerns. Gender inequalities on the labor market are in turn shaped by social norms that exclude women from engaging in productive employment, rooted in complex religious, cultural, social and political traditions that vary between urban and rural areas as well as tribal groups and generations.

Potentials for youth- and gender-inclusive peacebuilding and alternative dispute resolution in rural Liberia

As a result of the challenge posed to formal court-based dispute resolution in Liberia, the government, in partnership with international organizations, has aimed to introduce new, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including in the area of land tenure¹². The marginalization of youth and women prevents them from fully engaging in such processes, which affect their lives, and in their potentially great role of sustaining peace in Liberia. Particularly in the Liberian context where the youth population is high, boosting their participation ensures both the inclusivity and their constructive contribution to local peacebuilding, including in mechanisms aimed at resolving land disputes. Focusing on the role of young women in particular, although there are existing women-led initiatives to address the prevention of conflict and consolidate peace, more needs to be done to ensure peacebuilding efforts are effective, inclusive and benefitting to all members of the Liberian society. Women's participation in peacebuilding must be broadened at local, national and international levels backed by accessible financial, technical and political support that enhances the scale and effectiveness of their contributions.

The important roles played by youth and women in the peace process is recognized by the Liberian public, 78.8% and 74.4% of whom view youth and women respectively as important and effective peacebuilding actors in the country¹³. The carefully targeted project will hence focus on two of the most relevant areas of peacebuilding – namely land disputes and economic opportunities, and a target group with a great potential to sustain inclusive peace – young women and men. Moreover, it will focus on particularly conflict-prone areas of the country, as will be explained in what follows.

Targeted counties and beneficiaries

According to the 2016 Household Income and Expenditure Survey, Bong County has an estimated population of 407,041. Located in the central region of the country, it is the third most populous county. Considered as one of the food baskets in the country, the bordering county of Lofa lies in the north central part of the country with an estimated population of 337,934.

The neighboring counties of Bong and Lofa have been selected due to their high level of conflict risk¹⁴ - linked to the concentration of land disputes in this region and the intensity of the challenge of poverty, food insecurity and lack of educational attainment.

The civil war and the site of some of the war's most intense violence particularly hard hit the counties of Bong and Lofa. Bong County for instance was the rebel base of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) from where major operations were launched. The faction accounted for 63,843 (39.0%) of all human rights violations committed in the Country¹⁵. The county also

⁸ Peacebuilding Office Liberia (2017): Mapping of opportunities to consolidate peace in Liberia, p. 9.

⁹ Ministry of Justice of Liberia (n.d.): Alternative Dispute Resolution

¹⁰ ILO 2014, Liberia Youth, Employment, Skills (YES) Country Pilot Report

¹¹ Brück et al. 2016, Jobs Aid Peace. A Review of the Theory and Practice of the Impact of Employment Programmes on Peace in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries

¹² Ministry of Justice of Liberia (n.d.): Alternative Dispute Resolution

¹³ in the 2017 mapping exercise

¹⁴ identified in the 2017 mapping of opportunities for peace consolidation in Liberia, which builds on a comprehensive survey of Liberians and sub-nationally disaggregated data on the overall conflict risk, and the most pertinent conflict drivers, in Liberia.

¹⁵ Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia, Volume II: Consolidated Final Report; 2009.

played host to two of the most notorious rebel training bases (Camps Gbartala and Narma). The same can be said of Lofa County where two of the major rebel factions hailed, the United Liberation Movement – Kromah (ULIMO-K) and the Liberians United for Democracy (LURD). Both factions accounted for 24,876 (16%) of all human rights violations.¹⁶

Following massive conflict-induced displacements in Lofa and Bong county, disputes over land are particularly concentrated in this region¹⁷. This is why Lofa and Bong counties were among the four piloting counties of the Ministry of Justice's efforts of strengthening alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to solve land disputes¹⁸. Furthermore, 71.3% of Bong Country's population live in absolute, 55.9% in food poverty – similar to Lofa County (68.7% and 55% respectively)¹⁹. In terms of educational attainment, Bong County had the highest, and Lofa county the third highest population-share having enjoyed no education at all (68 per cent for women/50 percent for men and 65 per cent for women/41 percent for men respectively).²⁰ It was also particularly in two counties that young people who joined armed groups became alienated from their families and their social milieu. Even today, they still lack income and employment opportunities that offer them a viable future, which could help curb potential violent tendencies²¹. Hence these youth are vulnerable to relapse or resort to agitations and restiveness if they're not supported out of war trauma

The project targets 1200 young women and men as direct beneficiaries (targeting 50% male and 50% female participants) and 5,000 indirect beneficiaries in Lofa and Bong counties. The selection of beneficiaries will focus on underemployed male and female youth between 18 and 29 years old, living in rural communities of Lofa and Bong counties. To ensure conflict sensitivity, and promote contact between communities, it will be ensured to include members of different ethnic and religious communities in accordance to their overall share of the population of the two counties. The selection of project beneficiaries will be community based and include the following criteria: age bracket; gender; assessed vulnerability; employment status; divers' composition (different ethnic and religious communities). To ensure neutrality, the project will guarantee good representation across different stakeholders to the project, including representatives/leaders of targeted youth/women groups/associations.

A. Alignment with existing strategies and frameworks

In 2016, the Security Council Resolution 2333 requested the Secretary-General to submit a plan to demonstrate how the UN and international partners will assure continued peace and security in Liberia. An intense consultative process led by UNMIL and the Government of Liberia produced the Peacebuilding Plan. The Group of Government representatives, the National Civil Society Council, UNMIL, the UN Country Team and the donor community guided the formulation of national peacebuilding priority areas and areas of possible ongoing assistance.

The Peacebuilding Plan "Sustaining Peace and Securing Development" of March 2017 and the Statement of Mutual Commitments of April 2017 established a timetable for Liberia's transition, focusing on two phases and a roadmap for action, while providing guidance to achieve a peaceful, just and inclusive society, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Phase I outlines the actions required of the UN system in support of the Government's commitment to embed durable national capacities before UNMIL's departure. Phase II, from April 2018, will last for a period to be determined by the new Government, in principle not longer than 2020. During this phase, longer-term peacebuilding priorities will be integrated into development frameworks necessary to ensure ongoing support to national efforts to mitigate, prevent and manage risks of conflict.

The proposed project aligns closely with Phase II of the Peacebuilding Plan during with the UN system aims to address poverty and support sustainable livelihoods and development opportunities with a particular focus on women's economic empowerment and youth employment. The Plan refers to private-sector led economic growth, which could diversify the economy, increase resources mobilization and "defuse socio-political tensions underlying potential conflict". Ongoing work to strengthen the voice and participation of women and youth in decision making should be enhanced (linked to Outcome 1) and human development prospects should be improved with a focus including on inclusive economic growth, high quality education, infrastructure development, entrepreneurship and community livelihoods for women and youth (linked to Outcome 2).²²

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Hartman, Alexandra, 2010. Comparative Analysis of Land Conflicts in Liberia, available at <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/comparative-analysis-land-conflicts-liberia-grand-gedeh-lofa-and-nimba-counties>

¹⁸ Ministry of Justice of Liberia (2014) "Strengthening Governance – Improving Access to Justice and Accountability"

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Liberia Demographic and Health Survey 2013

²¹ GIZ 2012, Livelihoods in Lofa County, available at <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/20001.html>

²² Sustaining Peace and Securing Development

The President of the Security Council issued a statement in July 2017 encouraging the Government and all stakeholders to strive to fulfil the Plan's commitments. The Peacebuilding Commission acknowledged the Plan as an example, which could be emulated by other post-conflict countries. Local agreements may be initiated and managed for this basis. The proposed project will draw concerted efforts from lesson learnt during past and current interventions to have a successful implementation. For example, in the Human Security I and the Rural Women economic Empowerment (RWEE) projects, communities and beneficiaries selection were not harmonized, activities were decided without beneficiaries' participation. During the implementation of this project, beneficiaries will be selected jointly and synergies would be formed with other interventions in the same regions. Beneficiaries will participate in revising work plan and activities during an inception meeting. Regular coordination meetings will take place to determine as to whether implementation is on track or off track. Participating agencies and government partners as well as implementing partners will jointly monitor project implementation. Activities being implementing will complement each other, as it would be key to delivering as one.

The proposed intervention is to further align with the following international and national priorities:

- United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Liberia, in particular outcome 2.2: Improve equal access to sustainable livelihood opportunities in an innovative and competitive private sector;
- Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Good Jobs and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 16 (Peace and Justice) and SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals);
- The Liberian Pro-Poor Agenda: Pillar 1 (Power to the People), Pillar 2 (Economy and Jobs) and Pillar 3 (Sustaining the Peace).

Project description

To sustain peace, this project will tackle two interlinked root causes of grievances and conflict in Liberia, namely insufficient participation of youth in local dispute resolution and lack of youth employment and livelihood opportunities.

To address the issues related to youth, gender and conflict in Liberia, this project will provide conflict resolution training to women and youth champions in the conflict prone communities and districts of Bong and Lofa counties. The resolution of land disputes is one of the major arenas of local, bottom-up peacebuilding in Liberia. The government, the Land Authority and major international partners to enhance Liberians' access to justice – and land have increasingly explored alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. Sufficient participation of youth and women's organizations in the mechanisms are vital for an inclusive and sustainable resolution of disputes and the representation of marginalized interests. The trainings to youth will include lessons on cultural tolerance and promoting dialogue, as well as need to reduce violence and realize improved social cohesion. The overall aim of this capacity-building component is to strengthen the role of youth and women as active drivers of peace and resilience.

Linked to their greater access in land-related and economic decision-making, it is imperative to address the socio-economic needs of youth, particularly young women. The economic instability is likely to negatively impact on employment opportunities for disadvantaged youth. The 2017 mapping of opportunities for the consolidation of peace in Liberia emphasized the need to for an enabling environment including through technical and vocational capacity building, entrepreneurship skills and income-generating activities. As such, this project seeks to create decent farm and non-farm jobs for women and youth at risk of being marginalized and disadvantaged in these conflict-prone areas and;

To foster entrepreneurial skills development among youth and women in the selected counties, ILO tools for entrepreneurship training and cooperative development²³ will be adapted to the local context and existing institutions/organizations will be capacitated to deliver respective training to youth and women farmers in the target counties. Demand driven skills development will enhance employability and support self-employment as well as the transition of young people into the labor market. Training in the areas such as conflict resolution and problem solving can increase the contribution of employment to preventing conflict and sustaining peace. Business development services, such as access to finance, infrastructure, technology and networks, will be provided to add value to existing products and grow businesses. Making access to certain services conditional on the participation in training on conflict mitigation can further strengthen the link between business development and peacebuilding efforts. Supporting the establishment and management of agricultural cooperatives among youth farmers will help to sustain support networks, reduce risk, enhance productivity, strengthen access to credit and markets and improve social and economic wellbeing. Cooperatives are jointly owned enterprises that can address socioeconomic inequalities, reduce vulnerabilities, rebuild communities and strengthen resilience. These self-help enterprises have stood the test of time in delivering a range of social services while adapting themselves to diverse contexts and reaching even the poorest communities.

²³ See for instance: https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/cooperatives/areas-of-work/WCMS_628372/lang--en/index.htm

This intervention is placed as a foundation stone for the UNCT-Government of Liberia continued partnership in support to the promotion of youth employment, food security and nutrition. The Government is committed to implement this project in the two selected counties Bong and Lofa as part of its own strategy to promote peace and at the same time the Pro-Poor agenda. In this vein, the project will provide technical and logistical support to consolidate the fragile peace through the strengthening of existing peace building structures and selected value chains to create decent jobs for the vulnerable youthful beneficiaries.

Table 1 – Mapping of peace building activities and gaps

| Results in thematic areas | Funding sources | Major Projects | Project Duration | Budget in USD | Description of gaps to fill |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| The (Human Security Unit (HSU) Initiative in the Most Neglected Communities with the Integration of Efforts by the UN sought to support neglected communities. These communities were not supported, because support was mainly allocated to communities hosting Ivorian refugees. The support tackled youth and women vulnerabilities using the human security approach. | Peace Building Fund (PBF): 240 700 Netherlands 420 000 AUSAID (Australia) 72 000 ECHO/FAO 120 955 UNICEF/Government of Japan 229 713 SGBV JP 88 400 USAID 130 462 Saudi Arabia 22 500 USA Food for Peace 205 623 UNICEF (Fund Contribution) 28 794,80 WFP (Fund Contribution) 31 000,00 ILO (Fund Contribution) 0,00 UNFPA (Fund Contribution) 79 740,00 UN Women (Fund Contribution) 26 550, | Human Security Initiative in the Most Neglected Communities with the Integration of Efforts by the UN Country Team in Liberia | 1 Nov 2014-31 Mar-2018 | 4,196,338 | Under the HSU I, the project was unable to address marketing and improved crop value chain. Under the proposed project, the establishment of market links and networks through the support of ICT and other equipment will be promoted, filling an important gap. |
| Women's Economic Empowerment: Building Peace, Promoting Prosperity, promoting women access to own and co-own land, empowering them to contribute to household expenditure and decision making | Norway: 1,000,000 Sweden: 1,000,000 | Accelerating progress towards Rural Women Economic Empowerment (JRWEE) | <i>project ended</i> December 2016 | 2 million | Due to the limitation of funds project could not address the required number of beneficiaries as enshrined in the project document. Therefore, the proposed intervention will reach out to narrow the gap (supporting some of the groups that were not reached) |

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|--|--|--|---|------------------------|--|
| <p>The proposed HSU II project- Human Security Business Partnership (HSBP) Framework is to:</p> <p>(1) promote the engagement of international companies with the human security approach; (2) facilitate their collaboration with the public sector, civil society and United Nations system in addressing risks; and</p> <p>(3) Contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p> | <p>Japan (US\$1,197,0000) UNDP (US\$ 613,248.00) FAO (US\$ 1,510,504.53 from FAO Technical Cooperation Project and other sources</p> | <p>Promotion of the Human Security Business Partnership towards the Achievement of SDGs in Liberia</p> | <p>2017-2020</p> | <p>5 million</p> | <p>Funding gap.</p> <p>This project is intended to create economic empowerment for vulnerable youth using the human security business partnership framework. It would form synergy with the LMPTF-youth empowerment project and together could narrow the vulnerability gap among young men and women.</p> |
| <p>The project seeks to address the following;</p> <p>1.Create structures like the mufti-stakeholders platform to manage and mitigate tension</p> <p>2.To provide alternative livelihoods to communities reliant on concessions for employment</p> | <p>Peace Building Fund</p> | <p>Strengthening Conflict Prevention through Establishment of Multi-Stakeholder Platforms and Improved Alternative Livelihoods in Concession Areas</p> | <p><i>January 1, 2018-June 30, 2019</i></p> | <p>US\$ 3,233 ,269</p> | <p>This project offers considerable opportunities for synergies which will be sought throughout the project</p> <p>This project is modeled to address the weak concession agreements that have marginalized communities adjacent to them. The project will also bring about innovative ideas to prevent and mitigate conflicts through stakeholder platform for participation of all.</p> <p>It would tackle the issue of unemployment among women and youth to reduce reliance on the concessionaires. More interestingly, it would combine safety net and agricultural production to improve the incomes of households, improve food security and nutrition and most of all reduce violence.</p> |

I. Objectives of PBF support and proposed implementation

a) Project theory of change, outcomes, activities, targets and sequencing

Theory of Change

IF young women and men have more conflict resolution skills and better access to local (land) conflict resolution mechanisms and to sustainable rural employment and livelihood opportunities; **THEN** youth will be able to act as active agents and messengers of peace and be less likely to be affected by drivers of violence; **BECAUSE** the intervention addresses existing constraints for youth to participate in local conflict resolution, notably access and increases economic opportunities, and lessen grievances over young people's exclusion in the economic sphere..

Mobilizing youth to engage in peacebuilding and develop non-violent means of expressing grievances on land conflict (outcome 1) could lay the foundations for long-term peace while providing livelihoods opportunities for youth (outcome 2). As such, this rural employment program is a strategic entry point for youth empowerment

Outcome 1: Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace.

This outcome will provide capacity building for youth through training to participate in local conflict resolution, with a focus on local land dispute resolution, as youth's sustained livelihoods ultimately depend on secure access to land. Youth will receive skills relating to tolerance, conflict prevention and mediation techniques and their application. It will support awareness building campaigns for local and religious authorities that bear duties in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms about the importance of youth's role in conflict prevention, resolution and the importance of their economic empowerment. It will also engage youth by ensuring that traditional conflict mediation and prevention mechanisms are revitalized through broader community-wide awareness building campaigns and promote the creation of intercultural events for peace (community listening clubs; theatrical and musical groups). At community level, socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising-campaigns will be conducted in particular by targeting the already existing youth and women leaders in order to boost their resilience and capacity to play as active agents for effective peacebuilding. The involvement of women and youth will advantage huge demographic dividends for strategic reasons²⁴. Reputable local NGOs with enviable records of peace building and conflict resolution will be recruited to conduct these trainings and community engagement events through competitive bidding.

Output 1.1: Land, youth and gender related drivers of conflicts mapped and documented

An analysis of the conflicts drivers pertaining to youth, land and gender will be conducted and documented using analysis of existing reports, field data collection and analysis. This process would be inclusive and participatory bringing together all actors. A national stakeholder workshop would be conducted to validate report from the analysis and document key findings and recommendations for conflict prevention and resolution. A reputable NGO or individuals with enviable record of peacebuilding will be hired to carry out this duty.

Activity 1.1.1. Carry out a scoping exercise to map youth, gender and land related conflicts in the project communities as well as factors limiting young men and women inclusion in peace building, conflict prevention and resolution.

Activity 1.1.2. Update the conflict profile in the selected communities through community and youth participation

Output 1.2: Young women and men and their communities have enhanced peace-building and conflict resolution capacities

This output will provide capacity building for youth and other duty bearers (such as women and local leaders) through training to provide youth with access and voice in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, focused on land disputes. This output is designed to increase youth participation in peacebuilding in communities that are conflict prone over land related disputes and youth agitation due to unemployment

²⁴ Liberia Peacebuilding Plan 2017

Activity 1.2.1: Conduct four Communities based participatory planning processes focusing on peace building, conflict management, land disputes and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to targeted communities.

Activity 1.2.2: Strengthen existing peacebuilding and mediation structures, including the Land Authority, to establish alternative dispute prevention and resolution for durable land and property conflict

Activity 1.2.3: Socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising-campaign promoted for information on available peacebuilding structures, particularly in land disputes, and the role of young women and men therein

Activity 1.2.4: Strengthen young women and men capacity in participating in local dispute resolution mechanisms and gaining access to land, focusing on youth without access to land

Outcome 2: Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict.

Supplementing improved access to land, the project will promote tangible peace dividends for young women and men, focusing on decent farm and non-farm jobs through skills and entrepreneurial training and by improving the management and productive capacities of agricultural youth-based cooperatives and enterprises through value chain development. The interventions will focus on the three value chains of rice, vegetable and poultry, whose selection builds on their national comparative advantages and have high growth potential for creating employment in the agriculture sector in Liberia.

Vulnerable youth will benefit from diversified livelihood support in view of boosting resilience and self-reliance at both household and community levels. Offering support both to small youth-led enterprises and to cooperatives in these sectors ensures that the specific needs of youth in different entrepreneurial models will be met.

Such targeted, integrated interventions will ease the currently high level of competition in accessing available resources for sustainable agricultural production, will produce economic opportunities and address grievances of young women and men in Lofa and Bong countries. Participatory assessment, using disaggregated youth demographic and gender strategy will be conducted in communities to ensure the participation of communities in need-assessment and planning processes, as well as to facilitate a harmonized targeting of beneficiaries for all output activities.

The creation and expansion of agri-businesses will develop partnerships with the private sector (producers, suppliers, clients and service providers), which in turn will create a robust local economy and reduce unemployment and dependence among young men and women. The role of the private sector will include: supply of inputs and materials to producers; linkage to market; and mentorship of selected youth by providing entrepreneurship to facilitate linking the beneficiaries with potential private sector partner to increase market demand. Market opportunities will be also created through negotiation with the private sector with the concession to purchase products from the selected beneficiaries. These activities will help sustain the peace and reduce potential conflicts and vulnerability as long as young men and women have opportunities to generate income to cater to other social services in the absence of employment by the private sector



Output 2.1.: Young women and men have enhanced access to market-based entrepreneurial skills training and business development services

On the average, over 5,000 persons will indirectly benefit from this intervention, which is meant to improve livelihoods and strengthen resilience by targeting 1,200 youth, half of which will be female. The capacity of existing youth-led small social enterprises, small businesses, and their access to finance will be strengthened, while unemployed youth will profit from training on possibilities to start their own business.

Activity 2.1.1: Conduct value chain analysis of the three enterprises (rice, vegetable and poultry) to identify the challenges and opportunities for young women and men

Activity 2.1.2: Adapt and translate Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) manuals to the local context and target group and facilitate entrepreneurship training for youth farmers with a focus on agriculture using the SIYB entrepreneurship training and Farmer Field and Life Schools Facilitator's Guide.²⁵

Activity 2.1.3: Mentor beneficiaries to screen business ideas and select an enterprise for support (Setting up a viable business plan for selected beneficiaries.

Activity 2.1.4: Provide support to enhance technical skills of beneficiaries on selected value chains enterprise (rice, vegetable & poultry)

Activity 2.1.5: Provide technical support to financial organizations to deliver financial services to small and startup enterprises in select value chains

Activity 2.1.6: Support product development and standardization; products will be standardized before reaching markets; the value chain of the selected enterprise (rice, vegetable and poultry) will be strengthened to give out quality and standard products

Activity 2.1.7: Established Networks and business management fostering market promotion for incubates.

Activity 2.1.8: Provide one-stop shop center with agro-processing equipment and ensure adequate drying and storage facilities in each target location.

Output 2.2: Youth farmers' have enhanced capacity to manage their agricultural cooperative effectively

This output aims to strengthen inclusive employment creation through agricultural cooperatives. To this end, local partners will be identified and training material on managing agricultural cooperatives will be tailored to the local context. The training will enable (potential) managers of cooperatives in the selected areas to promote market oriented agricultural development.

Activity 2.2.1: In collaboration with the Cooperative Development Agency, the Liberian National Federation of Cooperative Societies and the West Africa Farmers Cooperatives identify local cooperative support organizations with knowledge on agricultural cooperatives and conduct a need assessment of their capacity;

Activity 2.2.2: Assess financial organizations operating in the targeted counties with relevant financial products for farmers (savings, credit, insurance) and link beneficiaries with potential financial service providers.

Activity 2.2.3: Based on the selected value chain sectors, translate/adapt relevant ILO tools on cooperative development (e.g. MyCOOP, Think.Coop, Start.Coop, Manage.Coop) to reflect the local context and if need be integrate youth-related aspects;

Activity 2.2.4: Conduct training of trainers from the selected cooperative support organizations (i.e. cooperative Business Development Service (BDS) providers' incl. secondary and tertiary level cooperative organizations) using adapted ILO tools;

Activity 2.2.5: Assist the selected cooperative support organizations in rolling out training for the establishment of new youth led cooperatives in selected sectors or strengthening existing agricultural cooperatives with young members in the identified counties;

²⁵ If necessary, the activity will adapt to the potentially low levels of educational attainment of participants (ILO, UNDP, UNHCR 2017: Youth Employment in Fragile Situations)

Output 2.3: Sixty (60) hectares of integrated community lowland for rice and vegetable production rehabilitated and developed through employment-intensive techniques

This output aims to cultivate 60 hectares of integrated lowland for rice and vegetable production in the two targeted counties. Working with members of youth-led cooperatives supported through Output 2.2., this output will boost agricultural output in the sectors of rice and vegetable production. They will be provided with farm inputs and post-harvest facilities will be constructed and equipped with gender friendly post-harvest technologies. Simple and innovative cost-effective irrigation schemes will be improved while at the same time repairing existing ones, using employment-intensive techniques. These approaches will in addition provide immediate, short-term job opportunities for local youth and support local economic development in the medium term.

Activity 2.3.1: Engage youth, community leaders in the two targeted counties for site selection

Activity 2.3.2: Source, procure and distribute farm inputs (improved planting materials, hand tools and agro processors)

Activity 2.3.3: Introduce simple and innovative irrigation schemes and repair existing ones, using employment-intensive techniques

Activity 2.3.4: Construct post-harvest facilities, using employment-intensive techniques

Activity 2.3.5: Conduct improved crop production training for rice and vegetables,

Activity 2.3.6: Conduct training on community-based asset creation for integrated lowland productivity while integrating behavioral Change Communication to improve youth participation in agriculture.

Output 2.4: Poultry production and productivity improved

This output will focus on the employment-intensive construction and equipment of two poultry facilities in the two-targeted counties. Beneficiaries and in particular the management team will be provided with improved poultry production training to build their capacity on the management of the enterprise and to ensure sustainability

Activity 2.4.1: Engage youth cooperatives and community leaders in site selection and construct, using employment-intensive approaches, two poultry facilities in two targeted counties

Activity 2.4.2: Identify local raw materials for sustainable production of feed

Activity 2.4.3: Source. Procure and distribute 2,500 day-old chicks, feed and other poultry materials

Activity 2.4.4: Conduct improved poultry production training

- b) Project **result and resource framework**, outlining all project results, outputs, activities with indicators of progress, baselines and targets (must be gender- and age- sensitive), and resources.

| Outcomes/Outputs | Performance Indicators | Means of Verification | Activities | Budget (USD) |
|--|---|---|------------|----------------|
| Outcome 1: Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace. | 1.a % change in perceptions among youth, women and local leaders of their own ability to prevent, reduce and cope with conflict and promote peace Baseline: To be determined at the beginning of the project Target: at least 20% increase in perception change | Data Source: Project report Data Collection: Final evaluation report by Consultant December 31, 2020 | | 368,659 |

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|---|---|--|---|--------|
| | <p>2. A % change in the number of land related conflicts and disputes in the project areas.</p> <p>Baseline: To be determined from the 2017 mapping of opportunities for peace consolidation in Liberia.</p> <p>Target: At least 25% reduction in land related disputes and conflicts.</p> | Monitoring of land related issues during project implementation | | |
| <p>Output 1.1: Land, youth and gender related drivers of conflicts are mapped and documented</p> | <p>1.a # of land, youth and gender related conflict drivers mapped and documented</p> <p>Baseline: There is one existing report on the drivers of conflict in concession affected areas</p> <p>Target: at least 1 report on land, youth and gender conflict drivers identified and documented</p> | <p>Data Source: Analysis report</p> <p>Data Collection: Project report by Consultant December 31, 2018</p> | Carry out a scoping exercise to map youth, gender and land related conflicts in the project communities | 15,140 |
| | <p>1.b # of updated conflict profile</p> <p>Baseline: There is an existing conflict profile</p> <p>Target: 1 updated conflict driver profile</p> | <p>Data Source: Conflict profile report</p> <p>Data Collection: Project report by Consultant December 31, 2018.</p> | Update the conflict profile in the selected communities through community and youth participation | 8,520 |
| <p>Output 1.2: Young women and men and their communities have enhanced peace-building and conflict resolution capacities</p> | <p>1.2.a. # of community based participatory planning conducted</p> <p>Baseline: To be determined during the inception of implementation</p> <p>Target: At least 4 Community Based</p> | <p>Data Source: Planning processes report</p> <p>Data Collection: Field visit and project monthly update by National Project Coordinator</p> | Conduct four Communities based participatory planning processes focusing on peace building, conflict management, land disputes and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to | 82,930 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| | <p>Planning Processes in Lofa and Bong Counties</p> <p>Milestones: quarterly</p> | <p>December 31, 2019</p> | <p>targeted communities.</p> | |
| | <p>1.2.b. # of peacebuilding structures strengthened</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 1 in each county including the LLA</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project bi-annual progress report</p> <p>Data Collection: Project bi-annual progress report by project coordinator by October 31, 2018</p> | <p>Strengthen existing peacebuilding and mediation structures, including the Land Authority, to establish alternative dispute prevention and resolution for durable land and property conflict</p> | <p>100,000</p> |
| | <p>1.2. c. # of socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising-campaign conducted</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 in each county</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Through report and field visit by the NPC by 30 June 2019</p> | <p>Socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising-campaign promoted for information on available peacebuilding structures, particularly in land disputes, and the role of young women and men therein</p> | <p>41120</p> |
| | <p>1.2.d. # of dialogue and capacity building for peacebuilding organized</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: Young women and men participating in at least 4 peacebuilding dialogues</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Through report and field visit by the NPC by 31 December 2019</p> | <p>Strengthen young women's' and men's' capacities in participating in local dispute resolution mechanisms and gaining access to land, focusing on youth without access to land</p> | <p>59729</p> |
| <p>Outcome 2: Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict</p> | <p>2.a % of targeted youth with access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 50% of targeted youth (male: 50% and female: 50%)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Through report and field visit by the NPC by 31 December 2019</p> | | <p>1,131,341</p> |

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|--|--|---|--|--------|
| | <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> <p>2.a.i.% of participants who expect their future economic situation to be better than their present economic situation</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 50% of targeted youth (male: 50% and female: 50%)</p> <p>Milestone: bi-annually</p> | | | |
| Output 2.1.: Young women and men have enhanced access to market-based entrepreneurial skills training and business development services | <p>2.1.a # of livelihood activities youth engaged in for self-reliance</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least three agriculture-based livelihood (rice, assorted vegetables and poultry products)</p> <p>Milestone: bi-annually</p> | <p>Data Source: Ministry of Youth and Sports annual report</p> <p>Data Collection: MYS coordinator assigned to project by December 2019</p> | <p>Conduct value chain analysis of the three enterprises (rice, vegetable and poultry) to identify the challenges and opportunities for young women and men</p> | 45,000 |
| Output 2.1.: Young women and men have enhanced access to market-based entrepreneurial skills training and business development services | <p>2.1.b. # of training manuals adapted to local context</p> <p># of TOT workshops conducted</p> <p>% of targeted youth with access to business development training</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 (SIYB and Farmer Field and Life Schools Facilitator's Guide)</p> <p>Target: 1 TOT workshop.</p> <p>Target: At least 50% of targeted youth (male: 50% and female: 50%)</p> <p>Milestones: (Quarterly)</p> | <p>Data Source: Assessment</p> <p>Data Collection: (Field visit by 30 September 2018</p> | <p>Adapt and translate Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) manuals to the local context and target group and facilitate entrepreneurship training for youth farmers with a focus on agriculture using the SIYB entrepreneurship training and Farmer Field and Life Schools Facilitator's Guide.</p> | 55795 |
| | <p>2.1.c. # of mentorship and business management training conducted</p> | <p>Data Source: Training report</p> | <p>Mentor beneficiaries to screen business ideas and select an enterprise for support (Setting up a</p> | 6,400 |

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|--|---|--|--|--------|
| | <p>Baseline:TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 in Nimba and Bong</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Collection: (through training report and field visit by project coordinator by 31 December 2018)</p> | <p>viable business plan for selected beneficiaries</p> | |
| | <p>2.1.d. # of capacity building training conducted</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 in Bong and Lofa</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Training report</p> <p>Data Collection: Field visits by coordinator by June 30, 2019</p> | <p>Provide support to enhance technical skills of beneficiaries on selected value chains enterprise (rice, vegetable & poultry)</p> | 90,000 |
| | <p>2.1.e # of financial organizations receiving technical support</p> <p>Baseline:TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 financial organizations per county</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Supervisory mission by Coordinator by 31 December 2019</p> | <p>Provide technical support to financial organizations to deliver financial services to small and startup enterprises in select value chains</p> | 36,942 |
| | <p>2.1.f. # of products competitive in the market against imported products</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 3 products (rice, assorted vegetables and poultry products)</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: M & E report through field visits by December 2019</p> | <p>Support product development and standardization; products will be standardized before reaching markets; the value chain of the selected enterprise (rice, vegetable and poultry) will be strengthened to give out quality and standard products</p> | 10,000 |
| | <p>2.1.g. # of market network established</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least one functional market networking</p> <p>Milestones: (Quarterly)</p> | <p>Data Source: Liberia Market Information System (LIMIS) monthly market bulletin</p> <p>Data Collection: market visits by LISGIS County</p> | <p>Established Networks and business management fostering market promotion for incubates.</p> | 10,000 |

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| | | team (monthly) by December 2019 and onwards | | |
| | <p>2.1.h. # of centers established</p> <p>Baseline:TBD</p> <p>Target: 1 equipped center</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 1 equipped center</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Project report and field visits by National project Coordinator – June 2019</p> | Provide one-stop shop center with agro-processing equipment and ensure adequate drying and storage facilities in each target location. | 110,738 |
| Output 2.2: Youth farmers' have enhanced capacity to manage their agricultural cooperative effectively | <p>2.2.a. # of local partners engaged in developing/supporting youth agricultural cooperatives identified</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Reports from the Cooperation development Authority (CDA)</p> <p>Data Collection: (Field visit by project coordinator in September 2018.</p> | In collaboration with the Cooperative Development Agency, West African Farmers' Cooperatives and the Liberian National Federation of Cooperative Societies Identify local cooperative support organizations with knowledge on agricultural cooperatives and conduct a need assessment of their capacity; | 10,072 |
| | <p>2.2.b. # of financial institutions identified/assessed</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: At least 2 in Bong and Lofa</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Project report</p> <p>Data Collection: (Field visit by project coordinator by December 2018.</p> | Assess financial organizations operating in the targeted counties with relevant financial products for farmers (savings, credit, insurance) and link beneficiaries with potential financial services providers. | 7280 |
| | <p>2.2.c. My.COOP training package adapted and available in the local language;</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> | <p>Data Source: Reports from the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Institutions,</p> | Based on the selected value chain sectors, translate/adapt relevant ILO tools on cooperative | 12000 |

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|---|--|--|--|--------|
| | Target: My.COOP training package available in the two selected countries | Project progress report Data Collection: (Field visit by Project Coordinator January 30, 2019) | development (e.g. MyCOOP, Think.Coop, Start.Coop, Manage.Coop) to reflect the local context and if need be integrate youth-related aspects; | |
| | 2.2.d. # of TOT workshops conducted; Baseline: 0 Target: 2 TOT workshops Milestones: (bi-annually) | Data Source: Reports by the Ministries of Agriculture and Youth and Sports, project progress report, independent evaluation report, and training materials Data Collection: (Field visit by project implementation team by February 28, 2019) | Conduct training of trainers from the selected cooperative support organizations (i.e. cooperative BDS providers incl. secondary and tertiary level cooperative organizations) using adapted ILO tools; | 12,800 |
| | 2.2.e Number of youth groups trained in the formation of cooperatives using the My.COOP training package Baseline: TBD Target: 6 youth and women groups trained Milestones: (bi-annually) | Data Source: Training report Data Collection: (Field visit by project coordinator and other implementing agencies by December 31, 2018) | Assist the selected cooperative support organizations in rolling out training for the establishment of new youth led cooperatives in the selected sectors or strengthening existing agricultural cooperatives with young members in the identified counties. | 63,843 |
| Output 2.3: Thirty (30) hectares of integrated community lowland for rice and vegetable production rehabilitated and developed through employment-intensive techniques | 2.3.a. # of hectares identified and selected Baseline: 0 Target: 30ha in Lofa and Bong Milestones: (Quarterly) 2.3.a.i. % of participants who report feeling comfortable working | Data Source: Project report Data Collection: (Field visits by project coordinator and M & E report by September 30, 2018) | Engage youth and community leaders in the two targeted counties for 30ha of lowland sites selection | 2000 |

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|--|--|---|---|---------|
| | <p>alongside a member of other social group</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: at least 50% of targeted beneficiaries (male:50%, female: 50%)</p> | | | |
| | <p>2.3.b. # of farm implements sets, planting materials and agro processors distributed to beneficiaries</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 1.Assorted hand tools and rain boots (cutlass, regular hoe, axe, shovel and sharpening files): 1000 pieces</p> <p>2.Rain boots:1,000 pieces</p> <p>3.Planting materials (assorted rice and vegetable seeds):</p> <p>Rice seed (NL-19, S-8):12.5Mt</p> <p>4.Vegetable (assorted): 50Kg</p> <p>5. Implements</p> <p>1. Power tiller: 8</p> <p>2. Leveler: 30 locally made</p> <p>Milestones: (bi-annually)</p> | <p>Data Source: Delivery note</p> <p>Data Collection: Report from delivery note and Field visits by coordinator by 31 October, 2018</p> | <p>Source, procure and distribute farm inputs (improved planting materials, hand tools and agro processors)</p> | 75,000 |
| | <p>2.3.c # of irrigation schemes rehabilitated and developed</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: 8 simple irrigation technology</p> | <p>Data Source: project report</p> <p>Data Collection: Through progress reports and field visits by 31 October, 2018</p> | <p>Introduce simple and innovative irrigation schemes and repair existing ones</p> | 50,000 |
| | <p>2.3.d # of post-harvest facilities constructed</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Target: 2 in Lofa and Bong</p> | <p>Data source: Project report</p> <p>Data collection: field visits by NPC by 30 June 2019</p> | <p>Construct post-harvest facilities</p> | 100,000 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---------|
| | Milestone: (bi-annually) | | | |
| | 2.3.e # of training conducted for rice and vegetable Baseline: TBD Target: 4 in Lofa and Bong Milestone: (Quarterly) | Data source: Training report Data collection: From training report and monitoring mission by NPC by 31 January 2019 | Conduct improved crop production training for rice and vegetables | 40,000 |
| | 2.3.f Number of trainings conducted on asset creation on integrated lowland productivity and behavioral change communication to improve youth participation in agriculture Baseline: 0 Target: 6 training (3 in Lofa and 3 in Bong) Milestone: (Quarterly) | Data source: Delivery note Data collection: From training report and monitoring mission by NPC by 31 January 2019 | Conduct training on community-based asset creation for integrated lowland productivity and behavioral change communication to improve youth participation in agriculture | 40,000 |
| Output 2.4: Poultry production and productivity improved | 2.4.a. # of sites identified for poultry production Baseline: 0 Target: 4 sites in 2 counties Milestones: (Quarterly) | Data Source: Project report Data Collection: Supervisory visits by coordinator by June 30, 2018 | Engage youth, community leaders in site selection for the construction of poultry facilities in two targeted counties | 2,000 |
| | 2.4.b. # of raw material identified locally Baseline:TBD Target: At least 3 local raw materials (maize, beans and supplements) Milestones: (bi-annually) | Data Source: Project report Data Collection: Supervisory mission by Coordinator by June 30, 2018 | Identify local raw materials for sustainable production of feed | 21,000 |
| | 2.4.c # of birds and associated poultry materials distributed to beneficiaries Baseline: 0 Target: Day-old chick: 5,000 Feed: 16.5 Mt | Data Source: Warehouse delivery note Data Collection: Supervisory mission by Coordinator by June 30, 2019 | Source. Procure and distribute 5,000 day-old chicks, feed and other poultry materials | 150,000 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------|
| | Milestone: Bi-annually | | | |
| | 2.4.d. # of training conducted Baseline: 0 Target: 4 trainings in Lofa and Bong Milestones: (bi-annually) | Data Source: Training reports Data Collection: (monitoring visit by M & E officer by June 30, 2018) | Conduct improved poultry production training | 40,000 |
| Project management (monitoring, GMS, etc.) | | | | |
| Total | | | | \$1,500,000 |

c) Project implementation strategy

FAO, WFP and ILO are trusted humanitarian and development partners of the Government of Liberia.

Most of the required expertise is already available on the ground within the FAO, WFP and ILO Country Teams, consisting of both national and international specialists and capable experience field specialists upon which the project will build on and expand. FAO as lead will recruit a National Coordinator, Irrigation Specialist, Agronomist a Value Chain Expert and Youth Employment/Entrepreneur Expert. The Coordinator will be hired for period through the implementation; he/she will lead the effective coordination of project implementation among the participating agencies. Two Focal Points (Agriculture Technicians) will be deployed in Bong and Lofa while experts will be recruited periodically to provide technical support in crop and poultry value chains. ILO will also hire a Project Manager that oversees all its implementation modalities and he will support the NPC for gathering information and reporting. WFP has decentralized offices within the region and will have a Program Assistant to support implementation and a Marketing Expert to support market promotion. Each of the three agencies will sign a letter of agreement (LoA) with local NGOs and CSOs with proven experience in peacebuilding and conflict prevention and resolution to serve as implementing partners in providing technical inputs. This project will be implemented in partnership with decentralized services of the MoA, MYS and Gender Children, and Social Protection (MoGCSP) at county and district levels.

Target Beneficiaries

The project targets 1200 young women and men household heads including youth living with disabilities as direct beneficiaries (targeting 50% male and 50% female participants) and 5,000 indirect beneficiaries in Lofa and Bong counties. These 6,000 are dependents of the 1200 household heads; using an estimated average of five per household (Liberian household threshold).). The direct beneficiaries will be absorbed into the program according to area of individual interest.

The selection of beneficiaries will focus on two key target groups living in rural communities of Lofa and Bong counties:

- un- or underemployed male and female youth between 18 and 29 years old, including those that have been in contact with law enforcement agencies and violent groups
- young women and men between 18 and 29 years old that are already involved in peacebuilding activities and can act as youth community leaders to disadvantaged peers

The idea to target two groups of youth with slightly different characteristics aims to bring together disenchanted, marginalized youth with those that have already taken responsibility for community cohesion. The idea is that the activities neither focus only on those already engaged, nor excluding those that have already shown their leadership and can act as role models in their communities.

Of the 1000 direct beneficiaries, about 75% of them will benefit from the livelihood component of the intervention. This is in accordance with the report of the 2017 mapping of opportunities for the consolidation of peace in Liberia, to provide merit-based employment targeting youth groups who are engaged in peace building activities. Beneficiaries will be selected using harmonized criteria focusing on underemployed and at risk youth in consultation with stakeholders, community leaders, young men and women's organizations.

To create synergies between the different programme activities led by individual agencies, peacebuilding activities, business and cooperative development services, and value chain development activities in the three identified sectors will be integrated and provided to the same beneficiaries.

Conflict sensitivity: To ensure conflict sensitivity, it will be ensured to include members of different ethnic and religious communities in accordance to their overall share of the population of the two counties. Criteria of targeting will be consulted and adjusted with local stakeholders and made transparent throughout the

programme. Targeting these youth to enhance their capacities in peacebuilding and at the same time provide livelihood opportunities, will encourage more youth participation in championing peace-building activities.

Gender: The intervention will mainstream gender considerations in a systematic way in all activities implemented under this proposal and this strategy will reflect in all documentation produced by the programme. The project will ensure equal participation in project activities and decision-making (targeting 50% women and 50% men). Male and female will have equal opportunities to access technologies introduced in the project.

a) Recipient Organization and Implementing partners

FAO, WFP and ILO will ensure coordination, and enhanced interagency communication under this project to guarantee implementation as One. All three agencies have conducted successful joint programmes in the past while each agency brings complementary technical capacity and expertise relevant to this project and, specifically, peacebuilding in the Liberian context.

FAO: as lead will set the pace to ensure transparency throughout the project cycle as required by PBF. FAO plays an important role in reducing rural poverty and in particular in supporting decent rural employment. FAO's functions of promoting agricultural and rural development, along other areas of expertise, allow for a multi-angle and multi-disciplinary approach to creating opportunities for youth in the agricultural and rural sector. FAO has supported over 40 countries across Africa on youth employment and entrepreneurship, including for the design of large-scale youth employment in agriculture programmes such as Nigeria's Youth Employment in Agriculture Programme. The Organization has developed skills development approaches, such as the Junior Farmer and Field Life School (JFFLS) methodology, business models and guidance for the agri-food sector to be more effective in creating better jobs for rural youth. FAO also has long-standing expertise in providing support to agricultural and rural stakeholders. Completing its technical breadth and depth, FAO has a long-lasting close relationship with the government of Liberia since 1977, in particular with the ministries and departments concerned with agriculture, rural development, forestry, fisheries and natural resources. Multi-disciplinary team of technical officers covering all the organization's fields conducts the delivery of this work. Similarly, FAO's engagement in the field cultivated its network of partners and collaborators from the non-governmental sector (NGOs and CSOs) and from the private sector.

WFP: The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) as one of the implementing agencies is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger and seeking hunger based solutions worldwide. Its core strategies focuses on Saving lives and protecting livelihoods in emergencies; Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings in post-emergency settings; Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs; and reduce under-nutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger.

ILO: The International Labor Organization (ILO) has for long been working with the Government and people of Liberia to ensure the promotion and provision of sustainable and decent employment opportunities. It has developed expertise to deliver policy and technical cooperation assistance in areas such as employment intensive investment, skills training, entrepreneurship development and promotion, local economic development, and institution building at the grassroots levels. In Liberia, the ILO has been working on agricultural sector rehabilitation, agriculture and infrastructure development, rural economic empowerment, skills development and social protection. The ILO has extensive experience in leveraging the promotion of employment and decent work for preventing conflict and building peace. Its work in fragile settings is guided by the ILO Recommendation 205 on Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience and falls under its Jobs for Peace and Resilience flagship programme, which combines supply- and demand-side oriented measures of employment promotion, with a focus on youth and women, to tackle economic root causes of conflict and fragility.

The Government of Liberia has a long-standing history of working with the United Nations country Team through relevant ministries and agencies. Government through the MYS, MoA and MoGCSP will take the lead

and will ensure coordination through regular meetings and information sharing. Reputable local NGOs and CSOs with proven record of peacebuilding will be recruited to technically support outcome one, while those with competencies in agribusiness and value chain will also be hired to provide technical support to outcome two and three. These technical supports provided to outcome two and three will seek to promote rural employment for youth.

b) Project management and coordination

The project's implementation will build synergies with UNDP, UNWOMEN, and other possible UN actors with a mandate or expertise relevant for this project. Procurement of assets and selection of implementing partners and activities will be conducted via the individual agencies' rules and regulations cognizant of the PBF's requirements. FAO as lead in collaboration with WFP and ILO shall provide the following management services during project cycle:

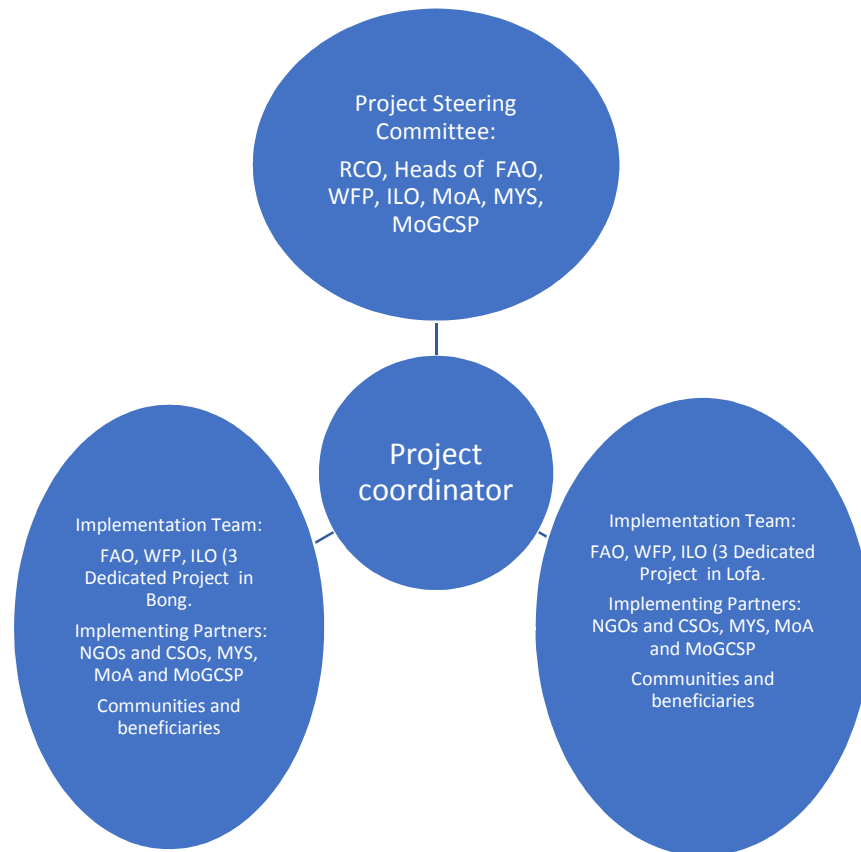
- Providing financial and audit services to the project;
- Overseeing financial expenditures against budgets;
- Ensure coordination of implementing agencies; convene regular coordination meeting; ensure building synergies and avoiding overlaps between RUNOs and between the project and other ongoing projects.
- Ensuring that activities including procurement and financial services are carried out in strict compliance; with agencies' procedures but will not contravene PBF procedure;
- Ensuring that the reporting to PBF is undertaken in line with PBF requirements and procedures.

Each of three agencies implementing this project is either represented in the target areas or will deploy staff or dedicated focal points and put in place internal coordination mechanisms with their implementing partners. The project's coordination will be established at national level through a team of international (FAO) and three dedicated national staff from each Agency (FAO, ILO and WFP) to specifically manage the implementation of their respective components. The coordinator (FAO) will liaise with the National PBSO focal point for the country. The Project Coordinator will have the responsibility to coordinate the implementation of their teams at field level and will make sure that the field focal points have the required skills.

Regular coordination meetings for the coordinating Teams will take place, tentatively on a monthly basis. These meetings will assess the progress of the project and provide corrective measures to ensure effective implementation. Representatives of relevant national authorities will participate in these meetings. The regular reporting period of the PBSO will be adhered to. The project will ensure implementing a participatory approach to ensure full consultation and participation of the community at all levels of implementation.

The participating agencies will monitor the project activities using their technical capacities, before drafting progress reports to be consolidated by FAO and submitted to PBSO focal point in the country. Regular consultation with other PBF projects including the UNDP led "strengthening Conflict Prevention through the Establishment of Multi-stakeholders Platforms and Improved Livelihoods in Conflict Areas". A Steering Committee will be formed to oversee the project implementation. The Steering Committee will meet twice a year to review the status of the project and with the support of the Coordinator take decisions to keep the project on track. The committee will comprise of the RCO, and heads of implementing agencies including relevant government line ministries.

The organogram below depicts how the steering committee work filters down from the project coordinator to the personnel implementing the project onwards to the communities and beneficiaries.



c) Risk assessment and management

Environment and social risks

The project is promoting peacebuilding participation and employment for young women and men in conflict-prone areas, through conflict resolution training, community sensitization and mobilization and the provision of decent farm and non-farm jobs and livelihoods to reduce risk and vulnerability. Given the focus of the project on particularly conflict-prone regions of Liberia, it is all the more important to ensure that the project will do no harm and be sensitive of local conflict dynamics and grievances.

The agricultural livelihood promotion activities will take into account regulations on environmental degradation that are in line with international good practices for **resource protection and environmental management**; it will not result in pollution of water, loss of livelihood, access, or assets. The incubation centre of selected value chains (poultry, rice and vegetable) will not have confrontational influences on critical tangible cultural heritage nor on the environment.

The project targets young women and men and will put the emphasis on being gender and conflict sensitive. To this end, opportunities for participation and decision-making will be transparent, gender-equitable and consulted with local stakeholders. To ensure conflict sensitivity, it will be ensured to include members of different ethnic and religious communities in accordance to their overall share of the population of the two counties. Criteria of targeting will be consulted and adjusted with local stakeholders and made transparent throughout the programme. Targeting these youth to enhance their capacities in peacebuilding and at the same time provide livelihood opportunities, will encourage more youth participation in championing peace-building activities.

With all these principles firmly in place the environmental and social risk, seem low to medium. Generally, priority is on prevention of harmful environmental, social and economic impacts. In the case where prevention is not possible, negative impacts will be minimized and positive impacts enhanced, through adequate

environmental, social and economic planning and management. Such management includes mitigation measures, monitoring through stakeholder consultations or joint field visits. Please see Risk log in **Annex A**.

d) Monitoring & evaluation

The implementing Agencies will put in place a simple and participatory M & E system to assess results, which include those on peacebuilding. Based on the Joint research on Employment programs and peace conducted by ILO, PBSO, UNDP and the World Bank, the project will benefit from an ILO guide on defining peace-related results of employment and livelihood projects. Therefore, a simple sample baseline survey will be conducted at the beginning of the project, through a set of key informant interviews, focus group discussions and/or participants' surveys. This survey will also work with communities in the identification of youth networks/organizations/initiatives that could support and participate in project implementation including through the delivery of specific activities. The data will be monitored during the implementation of the project and at the end. The results will contribute to adjust project activities but also to an ILO knowledge management platform on the linkage between employment and peace building, particularly concerning youth and women empowerment, for up-scaling and replication.

With the help of mobile surveys using ODK or EpiCollect5, project peacebuilding outcomes will be measured through a baseline survey of participants' perceptions and behaviour regarding their peacebuilding capacities, economic opportunities, grievances and social cohesion²⁶. ODK and EpiCollect5 are open data sources for electronic data collection using android devices.

At the end of inputs distribution, all beneficiaries and the amount of inputs received and registered one month after the input distribution, the implementing partners will undertake a rapid evaluation of the use of the inputs, again with the help of mobile surveys using ODK or EpiCollect5. A feedback mechanism will be put in place to have beneficiaries informed about the evaluation report. An internal evaluator will conduct a mid-term evaluation.

A second survey would take place towards at the end of the project, to track changes in perceptions and attitudes of participants and the overall satisfaction of beneficiaries with their participation in the programme. Monitoring will also be conducted on changes in gender- and youth-sensitive drivers of conflict in order to assess changes in conflict profile across gender.

Such methodology builds also on ILO's efforts to improve M&E of its Jobs for Peace and Resilience projects. The proposed project would offer a unique opportunity to roll out the methodology of participant surveys, and would feed into the partnership between ILO, UNDP, PBSO and the World Bank on employment programmes and peace.

Building on the data collected by the project team, the final evaluation will be done independently. Regular joint monitoring of the project following standard monitoring and evaluation guidelines will be conducted. These include measurable indicators, reviews and evaluation reports of the project impact. Building on solid M&E processes and on the identification of lessons learned, successful practices would be presented for scaling up. All activities will be recorded in reports showing the level of results including lessons learned.

Throughout project implementation, monitoring and reporting, special emphasize will be put on the link between the two outcomes, and recommendations on how to leverage respective synergies and complementarities will be highlighted in the surveys and progress reports to be developed.

In addition, the involvement of each actor (WFP, ILO, FAO and including consultants) will result in a report showing the results, conclusions and recommendations. Lessons learned will be captured at various points during the implementation of the project. The monitoring and evaluation framework will track unintentional consequences and allow for project adaptations as deemed necessary. Findings and recommendation from

²⁶ guided by the project's theory of change, which itself builds on

monitoring will be discussed with the stakeholders to ensure that appropriate action is taken. Furthermore, regular monitoring missions and related reports will be conducted. Notwithstanding, an M&E framework will be developed which will specifically be designed to address the needs of the project and 7% of project budget (US\$ 105,000) will be dedicated to M&E activities interventions, including an independent evaluation, surveys ongoing project site visits, project visibility promotion, communication and outreach The FAO will be responsible for the preparation and delivery of all documentation prepared by the project. Evaluations will be jointly managed by FAO, WFP and ILO. The project will produce the following reports:

1. **Inception report**: An inception workshop will be held during the first month after the project has become operational. A workshop report will be produced in the month following the workshop. The report will highlight major issues discussed and consensus reached along with a revised work plan with revised project activities, outputs and outcome, the period for their delivery, and indicative cost by activity.
2. **Progress report**: A progress report will be produced every 6 months after the effective project implementation start date. The report will be prepared by FAO with inputs from the project participation agencies-WFP and ILO. The report will highlight progress in project implementation, an assessment of the quantity and quality of intermediate project outputs, and a suggestion for remedial action, if needed, with the view to ensuring that the project is on target to achieving its stated outputs and outcome.
3. **Terminal Statement**: The project will be concluded with a Terminal statement by the designated National Project Coordinator, with support from WFP and ILO and will be submitted to the PBF within 3 months of completion of project activities. The aim of the Terminal Statement is to inform about the project's major achievements and recommendations for follow up actions. Please find monitoring plan in **Annex B**.

e) Communication and donor visibility

Through this project, the three agencies will jointly develop a Communications and Donor Visibility Strategy to ensure timely and informative communications to all project beneficiaries, stakeholders, and members of the public, project donors as well as with wider development partners within Liberia. To ensure implementation as one, the agencies will meet regularly to implement the Communications and Donor Visibility Strategy, including identifying and producing the required communications and visibility products and ensuring their timely distribution to the intended audiences.

To maintain external communications with beneficiaries, the agencies will provide regular programmatic updates to all targeted beneficiaries. These will be disbursed at regular intervals throughout the project and will include, but not be limited to, schedule of cash transfer, project period, transfer value (USD \$ amount as appropriate) to each beneficiary and group, and the schedule of trainings and meetings. Within this project, the agencies will strive to ensure that donors to the programme, including the LMPTF, receive the due recognition and visibility for their timely contributions so that donor constituents and the people served understand the donor's support. Visibility may be pursued through multiple channels, including social media, public statements, donor signage or logos, and others.

f) Project exit strategy/ sustainability

The sustainability of the intervention is ensured through the strong involvement of stakeholders at all levels, including local, national partners and existing young men and women's organizations. The project will prioritize securing the commitment of the national governments, building the support from a strong coalition of stakeholders, and ensuring the strong involvement of the PBF Secretariat and key partners at all stages of the process and their active participation in all the phases of the project. The project will also seek to collaborate with the International Financing Institutions such as the World Bank and others operating in Liberia, as well as with the private sector. This collaboration was factored in during the project design stage. With the PBF seed

funding, the project team will engage with the IFIs from the onset of the project and explore potentials to scale it up to include other components that would possibly be supported by the IFIs.

The creation of a steering committee, the extensive consultations at national and local levels, and the various technical meetings and workshops will all prepare the ground for activities subsequent to this intervention. In addition, the project’s alignment with the national developmental agenda of the country, as well as with priorities in the development community, will create an enabling environment for long-term sustainability and further mobilization of the necessary human and financial resources.

Furthermore, the project will have a strong capacity development component, aimed at the direct beneficiaries - young men and women. To this end, capacity development will focus on supporting the mainstreaming of youth employment in agriculture and decent work and the capacity development activities will focus on promoting the business and technical skills necessary for entrepreneurship and (self) employment in the farm and off-farm activities in the agricultural sector. These capacity development efforts will contribute to ensuring the sustainability of the gains of the project and they will be complemented by other initiatives.

Finally yet importantly, the project will generate a significant amount of knowledge about the region’s youth and its challenges and potential for employment in agriculture. Jobs created through the agriculture value chain will be sustainable because youth will be trained as entrepreneurs involved in productive activities. In other words, they will be self-employed. If proven successful, the proposed intervention can serve as a model for empowering youth and women to stand on their feet as job and wealth creators rather than job seekers and should attract more resources for women and youth empowerment and long-term sustainability and expansion of the project.

Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace.

V. Project budget

Table 2: Project Activity Budget

| Outcome/ Output number | Output name | Output budget by RUNO (USD) | UN budget category (see table below for list of categories) | Any remarks (e.g. on types of inputs provided or budget justification) |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Outcome 1 : Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace. | | | | |
| Output 1.1 | Land, youth and gender related drivers of conflicts are mapped and documented | 46000 | Equipment, travel, contractual services, supplies, and indirect support costs | This included : Strengthening existing peacebuilding structures and actors to empower rural youth and women champions in peace building as agents of peace and peace ambassadors in epic center communities and spill over areas |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------|---|---|
| Output 1.2. | Young women and men and their communities have enhanced peace-building and conflict resolution capacities | 322,659 | | |
| Outcome 2: Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict | | | | |
| Output 2.1: | Young women and men have enhanced access to market-based entrepreneurial skills training and business development services | 410,738 | Equipment, travel, contractual services, supplies, and indirect support costs | Conducting a joint assessment to harmonize beneficiaries', training youth entrepreneurs, Socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising-campaigns |
| Output 2.2: | Output 2.2: Youth farmers' have enhanced capacity to manage their agricultural cooperative using ILO tools | 200,603 | Equipment, travel, contractual services, supplies, and indirect support costs | This includes, training for youth and women cooperatives using the ILO tools, Identification of local partners with knowledge on agricultural cooperatives, and rolling out training to youth cooperatives in the identified counties |
| Output 2.3: | Output 2.3: Thirty (30) hectares of integrated lowland for rice and vegetable production rehabilitated and developed through employment-intensive techniques | 307,000 | Equipment, travel, contractual services, supplies, and indirect support costs | Development and rehabilitation of lowland for rice and vegetable production, the rehabilitation of existing dams and the introduction of simple irrigation schemes |
| Output 2.4: | Output 2.4: Poultry production and productivity improved | 213,000 | Equipment, travel, contractual services, supplies, and indirect support costs | Includes improved poultry production, construction of facilities to host 5,000 birds, local feed formulation. |
| Total | | \$1,500,000 | | |

Annex A. Risk Log

| # | Description | Date Identified | Type | Impact & Probability | Countermeasures / Management response | Owner | Last Update Date | Status |
|---|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1 | Youth may not be interested in farm jobs for employment | TBD | Social | The project objective to empower youth through sustainable livelihoods and to reduce vulnerability may not be achieved if this occurs P = Low I = High | Agriculture is the most important source of livelihoods in the targeted counties. The project will build on existing structures, including youth-led cooperatives, and focuses on pertinent and high-growth value chains. Tools and services will be adapted to local needs, which ensures ownership of the provided skills and distributed assets. | M & E Expert | TBD | TBD |
| 2 | The project may provoke, instead of addressing, grievances through a lack of equity and transparency in its selection of beneficiaries and inclusion of other actors. | TBD | Socio-political | The project may fail to achieve its objective of contributing to peace if this occurs. P = Medium I = High | The project will select beneficiaries on transparent criteria, and will ensure an equitable inclusion of beneficiaries, regarding age, gender, ethnicity, religion and location. The targeting criteria will be consulted with local stakeholders to ensure that they are conflict sensitive and do no harm. | National Project Coordinator | | |
| 3 | Influential individuals may try to undermine the project for personal gain | TBD | Political | If this happens the intervention may not be of relevance to some of the targeted beneficiaries P=Low I= Low | The project will engage stakeholders at all levels, local and national, including beneficiaries, women leaders and youth to reinforce the importance of the intervention | National Project Coordinator | TBD | TBD |
| 4 | Internal bureaucracies may delay procurement of inputs and project implementation | TBD | Administrative | This may cause project delivery to be low and some of the activities may not be implemented in time P=Low L=High | To mitigate this, procurement plan for all activities will be presented on time to enable timely delivery of project inputs | National Project Coordinator | TBD | TBD |

Annex B. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

| Monitoring Activity | Purpose | Frequency | Expected Action | Partners (if joint) | Cost (if any) |
|---|---|----------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| Project monitoring and field visits including fuel for vehicle and DSA | Tracking progress and ensuring the implementation is on track as enshrined in the logical framework of the project document | Quarterly | Joint monitoring visit every quarter, challenges will be tracked and recommendation for improvement put in place, success will be highlighted and documented | FAO, WFP, ILO, MYS and MoA | 4,500 |
| Monitor and Manage Risk | Monitor activities of Identified risks that may threaten achievement of intended results | Quarterly | Field visits to communities and consultation with beneficiaries and stakeholders to monitor as to whether the identified risk indicated the risk log is not undermining implementation. If it is seen to be of threat, appropriate actions as recommended will be taken to mitigate | FAO, WFP and ILO | |
| Perception survey | To map youth, gender and land related conflicts in the project communities and define factors limiting young men and women inclusion in peace building, conflict prevention and resolution | Annually | Conduct a scoping exercise to identify and map conflicts associated with youth and identify the challenges the prevents their participation in these prevention and resolution | FAO, WFP and ILO | 10,500 |
| Visibility promotion-communication and media outreach | Promote donor visibility to ensure timely and informative communications to all project beneficiaries, stakeholders, and members of the public, project donors as well as with wider development partners within Liberia. | At least bi-annually | Printing of promotional materials, brochures, newsletter etc... | FAO, WFP and ILO | 20,000 |
| Lessons learnt and success stories documentation | To document success stories and lessons learnt for use by future interventions for good practices | Annually | Conduct field visits to communities, interviewing beneficiaries and stakeholders and | FAO, WFP and ILO | 5,000 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|------------------|------|
| | | | accessing real progress for documentation | | |
| Project Report | A progress report will be presented to the LMPTF Steering Committee and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period. | Annually, and at the end of the project (final report) | Timely production of quality reports (narrative and financial). | FAO, WFP and ILO | 5000 |

Evaluation and Audit Plan

| Evaluation / Audit Title | Partners (if joint) | Planned Completion Date | Key Evaluation Stakeholders | Cost and Source of Funding |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Baseline surveys | FAO; WFP and ILO | Before final evaluation | FAO, WFP and ILO, survey firm to be identified | 5,000 |
| Internal midterm review | FAO,WFP and ILO | June 2019 | Internal evaluator | 20,000 |
| Terminal/ End period evaluation | FAO,WFP and ILO | After project's NTE | Hire independent evaluator to conduct final evaluation through field visits and desk review and including focus group discussions and key informant interviews | 35,000 |

Annex A.1: Project Administrative arrangements for UN Recipient Organizations

(This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)

AA Functions

On behalf of the Recipient Organizations, and in accordance with the UNDG-approved “Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi Donor Trust Funds and Joint Programmes, and One UN funds” (2008), the MPTF Office as the AA of the PBF will:

- Disburse funds to each of the RUNO in accordance with instructions from the PBSO. The AA will normally make each disbursement within three (3) to five (5) business days after having received instructions from the PBSO along with the relevant Submission form and Project document signed by all participants concerned;
- Consolidate the financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF annual consolidated progress reports to the donors and the PBSO;
- Proceed with the operational and financial closure of the project in the MPTF Office system once the completion is completed by the RUNO. A project will be considered as operationally closed upon submission of a joint final narrative report. In order for the MPTF Office to financially close a project, each RUNO must refund unspent balance of over 250 USD, indirect cost (GMS) should not exceed 7% and submission of a certified final financial statement by the recipient organizations’ headquarters.);
- Disburse funds to any RUNO for any costs extension that the PBSO may decide in accordance with the PBF rules & regulations.

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

Recipient United Nations Organizations will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

Each RUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent from the PBF account. This separate ledger account shall be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures, including those relating to interest. The separate ledger account shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to the RUNO.

Each RUNO will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

| Type of report | Due when | Submitted by |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Semi-annual project progress report | 15 June | Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist |
| Annual project progress report | 15 November | Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| End of project report covering entire project duration | Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides) | Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist |
|--|--|--|

Financial reporting and timeline

| Timeline | Event |
|---|--|
| 30 April | Annual reporting – Report Q4 expenses (Jan. to Dec. of previous year) |
| <i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i> | |

UNEX also opens for voluntary financial reporting for UN recipient organizations the following dates

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 31 July | Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June) |
| 31 October | Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September) |

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in the RUNO undertaking the activities. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the RUNO shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

Public Disclosure

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Administrative Agent’s website (<http://mptf.undp.org>).

1. Target youth: In the project document, please specify how many of the 1,000 target youth will benefit from which activities under both outcomes, and how they will be chosen (what criteria will be used?). Going forward, during project implementation, please ensure do no harm measures are in place to avoid creating tensions (e.g. with those who are not selected), and monitor/report on this aspect. Finally, consider which existing youth organizations / networks / initiatives the project could rely on and reinforce.
2. Catalytic effect: In the project documents, please elaborate how PBF funding will be used for the project to be catalytic (what are project follow-on scenarios and/or potential donor engagement

plans? How will the project seek to create linkages with the local private sector, which will be necessary for the value chain approach to work?). Going forward, ensure that according plans and actions are reflected in progress reports.

3. Relationship between outcomes 1 and 2: Building on the strong conflict analysis that highlights youth access to land resources as a conflict driver, ensure that in project implementation, monitoring and reporting the link between both outcomes is scrutinized and followed through, and reflect on this accordingly in progress reports.