

**COUNTRY  
PEACEBUILDING FUND  
PROJECT STATUS REPORT  
30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

<b>Project No &amp; Title:</b>	<b>PBF/IRF-36 - 'Infrastructure for peace' - Policy dialogue and preventive action</b>				
<b>Recipient UN Organization:</b>	OHCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, Centre for Preventive Diplomacy - UNRCCA as strategic partner	<b>Priority Sector:</b>	Policy dialogue and preventive action		
<b>National Authority:</b>	Department on ethnic, religious policy and civil society interaction of the President's Office, Parliament, relevant Government Institutions, Local Self Governments, local and international NGOs				
<b>Location:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kyrgyz Republic (country-wide)</li> <li>• UNHCR focus of project implementation: Osh and Jalalabad cities and Osh, Jalalabad and Batken oblasts</li> </ul>				
<b>Project Cost:</b>	Total UNHCR - 899,512 Total UNDP -1,918,616 Total: OHCHR - 181,872 <b><u>Overall Total 3,000,000</u></b> (out of which a minimum of 471,856 will be dedicated to women) <b><u>Contribution to the overall project (in addition to above overall total)</u></b> UNHCR contribution - 2,507,500 UNDP contribution- 477,000				
<b>SC Approval Date:</b>	n/a	<b>Starting Date:</b>	July 15, 2011	<b>Completion Date:</b>	July 14, 2012
<b>PBF Outcome and Priority area</b>	<p><b><u>PBF Priority Areas addressed by the project</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the implementation of peace agreements and political dialogue</li> <li>2. Promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution</li> </ol> <p><b><u>PBF Programmatic results and related indicators to which this project contributes</u></b></p> <p><b>PBF Programmatic result 2:</b> Conflicts resolved peacefully and in a manner that supports the coexistence of actors/groups that were involved in previous conflicts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicator (2) - Inclusive political dialogue: # of countries with strong partnerships for inclusive political dialogue in place representing political parties, civil society organizations, marginalized groups, traditional and religious leaders that are supportive to the successful implementation of the peace agreement</li> <li>• Indicator (3) - Peaceful conflict resolution: # of countries with mechanisms in place that solve disputes in access to limited resources (e.g. land, water) effectively</li> </ul>				

	<p><b><u>Project Outcomes contributing to PBF programmatic results</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome 1: Laws/ policies and collaboration between State institutions in place that successfully address immediate threats to stability</li> <li>• Outcome 2: Knowledge and capacity of relevant State institutions and NGOs strengthened to promote the rights of minorities and ensure implementation of the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation where it is in line with international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review which specifically relate to non-discrimination</li> <li>• Outcome 3: Local tensions and immediate threats to security addressed through collaborative early warning and response mechanism involving Oblast level conflict management structures</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Description:</b></p>	<p>The ‘Infrastructure for Peace’ project focuses on an approach that is proactive, participatory and inclusive as the interventions aim at strengthening national processes / policies and institutions that can improve the ability of society to prevent and manage conflicts, thereby addressing immediate peacebuilding needs towards reducing the risk of relapse into conflict. This involves supporting mechanisms for cooperation among relevant stakeholders in peace-building by promoting cooperative problem solving for conflicts, as well as strengthening communities, civil society and Government institutions to resolve conflicts internally and with their own skills (including immediate protection interventions), institutions and resources. The project was designed to promote a framework for immediate action that can be sustained beyond the project duration.</p> <p><b>Amending and drafting of laws that can promote stability (implemented by UNDP):</b> The work will include support to the Parliament in drafting, amending and passing of laws and policies that are of direct relevance for peacebuilding and social cohesion (including the application of a methodology that can ensure that laws are formulated in a way that they do not fuel existing tensions or increase the divide in the society). A number of priority will be identified that need to be amended urgently to reduce the potential for violence and foster ethnic development and consolidation. Targeted mass media campaigns will raise country-wide awareness and understanding of the laws that are being drafted or amended. Public hearings will be organized around the country to seek inputs from the society on the laws to be amended or drafted.</p> <p><b>Ensuring respect for the rights of minorities and supporting the implementation of the concept for Ethnic Development and Consolidation where it is in line with international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review which specifically relate to non-discrimination (implemented by OHCHR and UNDP):</b> The Concept on Ethnic Development initiated by the President’s Office is still under discussion and it therefore remains unclear when exactly and in which form the Concept will be adopted and whether it will be in line with international standards. At the same time, an alternative approach to ethnic development (founded on the notion of Kyrgyz ethnicity as the central element of nationhood) is being promoted by a political party in the Parliament.</p>

Because of the above uncertainties, the project will support the Government to implement the Concept (or parts of it) where it is in line with international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review.

The project therefore focuses on strategic interventions that enable state actors to better understand, practically apply and implement the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation, thereby ensuring that a crucial long-term process will commence. Irrespective of the final form the Concept will take and when it is adopted, the IRF project will strengthen relevant state institutions and NGOs to promote the rights of minorities and the principles of non-discrimination more broadly, ensuring that the Government meets international human rights standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Through close collaboration with executive and legislative institutions, including the President's Office, the Parliament, the Government and the Ombudsman's Office, the project will train and mentor officials to improve their understanding of international and national legal standards for the protection of minority rights. These activities are designed to reduce the likelihood of a return to violent ethnic conflict.

**Engaging State Institutions and civil society to collaborate on early warning and response (UNDP and UNHCR):** A simple but effective conflict monitoring and response mechanism (also enabling rapid protection interventions) will be established. Simple and concise early warning / conflict monitoring information will be provided by existing Provincial Advisory Committees (called Oblast Advisory Committees), supported by UNDP, that will facilitate the process of collecting relevant information in partnership with other stakeholders at the provincial level. Through a collaborative approach consensus will be built among local conflict management structures on the kinds of responses at the local level they want to engage in order to address conflict risks. Based on priorities identified by the Provincial Advisory Committees on the ground, preventive action will be implemented by local and international NGOs.

Relevant State institutions will work together through a National Steering Board (NSB) to discuss signs of tensions / potential conflict in the country that need to be addressed at the national level. The NSB will not only discuss early warning signs coming from the provincial level but (more importantly) will seek consensus on early preventive action at the national level to be implemented by various State institutions. The mechanism will also include a web portal for peace architecture to improve information sharing in monitoring and response, and the training, mentoring and coaching of a national Mediation Team.

Rapid protection interventions and the monitoring of the protection situation throughout South Kyrgyzstan will also provide valuable inputs to the early warning mechanism. Using a rights-based approach UNHCR will implement monitoring interventions through participatory methods in each assigned community. The monitoring strategy will include individual and group interviews, focus group discussions, Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming, etc.

	<p>The regular follow up visits of protection field staff as well as collection of information in a well-organized and systematic manner through other sources will identify both, existing and emerging protection issues, allowing independently analyze trends and data and contribute to the national early warning mechanism.</p> <p>In order to provide immediate peace building response and ensure bringing results within the duration of the project, UNHCR will implement community-based, small scale and quick impact projects (at the value of 10,000-50,000 USD each). Short term local infrastructure, community development, and livelihoods projects will be designed to bridge critical gaps and needs in order to promote reconciliation and peace, targeting and connecting communities of different backgrounds. Projects identified by local communities that aim to address urgent protection, social, health and other concerns revealed during protection monitoring will be prioritized. These projects will be implemented in close coordination with local authorities and will contribute to building trust between them and local communities. UNHCR interventions will benefit the June affected population, as well as neighboring communities in Osh, Jalalabad, Batken cities and regions to ensure rapid protection interventions and facilitate the sooner reconciliation and sustainability of the communities and preventing further displacement.</p>
<p><b>Immediate Objectives:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support the parliament in developing and passing inclusive and conflict-sensitive policies and laws promoting social cohesion and peacebuilding</li> <li>• To enhance dialogue and collaboration between key State institutions, civil society and local conflict management structures towards initiating early responses at the national level</li> <li>• To ensure respect for the rights of minorities and support the implementation of the concept for Ethnic Development and Consolidation where it is in line with international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review which specifically relate to non-discrimination</li> <li>• To support relevant State institutions, civil society and communities to implement interventions that promote ethnic development/ social cohesion</li> <li>• To improve the protection environment of the affected population and their enjoyment of rights through equal, non-discriminatory and harassment free access to documentation and housing, land and property rights</li> <li>• To facilitate set-up and functioning of simple but effective conflict monitoring and response mechanism</li> <li>• To implement preventative actions that reduce tensions and security threats at the Oblast level</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Status as at June, 2011</b></p>	
<p><b>Funds disbursed:</b></p>	<p><b>UNHCR - USD 201,695</b>  <b>UNDP – No PBF funds used until the end of September 2011 (see note below)</b>  <b>OHCHR - USD 212,313</b> (n.b. this figure includes funds disbursed for PBF IRF II ‘Infrastructure for Peace’ and ‘Administration of Justice’ projects)</p> <p><b>Note regarding UNDP spending:</b> USD 477,000 across all project activities represent the UNDP contribution towards achieving the envisaged results of the project.</p>

	<p>In order to mitigate tensions prior to the elections and respond to emerging needs before the PBF funds were disbursed, UNDP used its available funding to start project activities (also recognizing that otherwise delays would have incurred due to the fact that programming of new funds requires some time after funds have been received. To avoid any delays, over 60% of the entire UNDP contribution was spent during the start-up phase of the project.</p>
<p><b>Delivery rate:</b></p>	<p><b>UNHCR</b> - 22%  <b>UNDP</b> – 0 % (as explained under ‘Funds disbursed’)  <b>OHCHR</b> – 18% (as explained under ‘Funds disbursed’)</p>
<p><b>Outputs delivered:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Outcome 1: Laws/ policies and collaboration between State institutions in place that successfully address immediate threats to stability</u></b></p> <p><i>Outputs delivered under outcome 1:</i></p> <p><u>UNDP:</u></p> <p><u>Activity 1.1 b) Conduct Rule of Law assessment and make contingency plans to ensure preparedness and quick response capacity of State institutions towards ensuring stability and security before, during and after Presidential elections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In July this year, UNDP in partnership with the international peacebuilding NGO International Alert commissioned an assessment of the strategies for mitigation of the potential election-related violence during the presidential elections in the Kyrgyz Republic, scheduled for 30 October 2011. The expert team that conducted the study consisted of local and international experts. The report resulting from the assessment highlighted risks for potential disturbances during the upcoming presidential elections. Findings and recommendations of the report were widely disseminated among representatives of Government, high-level decision makers (e.g. dissemination of the report to participants of the ‘High-level Dialogue’ that is funded by the Swiss Foreign Ministry and implemented by International Alert), civil society and donors. The presentation of the report was well received during meetings of the Development Partners Coordination Council – DPCC (overall donor coordination mechanism in Kyrgyzstan) as well as the Donor Coordination Sub-group on Reconciliation, Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (RECAP). Donors have committed to take some of the recommendations forward in their discussions with Government and implementing partners in order to close gaps.</li> <li>• Based on the recommendations made in the before-mentioned report, a number of preventive measures and actions were taken taken by UNDP towards mitigating the risk of election-related violence. Besides addressing issues that relate to the electoral process (related to UNDP’s Election Support Programme), UNDP supported preventive action in the framework of this project (see other sections of this report).</li> </ul>

**Outcome 2: Knowledge and capacity of relevant State institutions and NGOs strengthened to promote the rights of minorities and ensure implementation of the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation where it is in line with international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review which specifically relate to non-discrimination**

*Outputs delivered under outcome 2:*

OHCHR:

*Implementation of the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation*

- A detailed commentary on a draft law on ethnic policy, which was passed by the parliament in the 1st reading in summer 2011, was provided to the law drafters by the OHCHR. The commentary has been also distributed among other actors involved in the work on the concept. The document highlights deficiencies of the draft with respect to international norms and standards of minority protection and proposes ways to address these deficiencies.
- Consultations were held with the drafters to convey the importance of revising the document in line with international standards. Major limitations of the existing draft were discussed in details. The importance of participation and inclusion of different stakeholders in the on-going process of work on the draft law has been highlighted during the consultations.
- A meeting was organized with representatives of international community in Kyrgyzstan in order to inform them about developments related to the ethnic concept. The meeting was used to encourage international organizations to provide relevant expertise (gender, youth matters etc.) for the work on the concept and to encourage them conveying to their national government and non-governmental counterparts the importance of sustaining the efforts to develop a comprehensive document. Such a document needs a broad political support and has to be adopted by the parliament – attempts to pass it by individual ministerial orders were described during the meeting as counterproductive for achieving long term objectives of building non-discriminatory and ethnically inclusive environment in the country.

*International and national consultants' research and fact finding work on the situation of ethnic minorities*

- Two areas were identified as priorities in this work. One is the situation with the presence of the members of ethnic minorities in such law enforcement agencies as police, procuracy, and corpus of judges. The analysis of structural and institutional problems that contribute to the lack of minority inclusion is the focus of work in this particular area. Detailed terms of reference were prepared and competition announced for the position of a national consultant responsible for drafting the report on 'Ethnic Minority Inclusion in Law Enforcement Agencies in Kyrgyzstan'.

The report will provide a systematic review of a situation with minority inclusion and will develop a set of recommendations with respect to legislative norms and policy practices that regulate recruitment and promotion in law enforcement agencies.

- The second area is realization of the right to effective participation of minorities in public affairs. An overview of the situation with minority participation in decision making bodies on the national and local levels is the focus of work in this area. National consultants have been already employed to do research and fact-finding work on both national and local levels of government. This work will identify major gaps and deficiencies in terms of minority involvement in decision making. It will also help to establish examples of good practices in this area. The findings and recommendations will be presented in the report entitled ‘Realization of the right to effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in public affairs.’

#### ***Survey of minority communities on participation in public life and equal treatment***

- Detailed terms of reference for announcing competition for survey implementation have been prepared. The work continues on the questionnaire design – this involves collection of focus groups and field research data, consultations with local minority experts, academics, and human rights activists.

#### ***Training on monitoring, reporting and advocating on minority rights***

- Given the potential importance of the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation for combating discrimination of ethnic minorities and ensuring the implementation of principles of equal treatment in various spheres of public life, workshop and training activities are planned to follow the progress with the development of the Concept. Parliamentary hearings on the Concept are expected to take place sometime in November-December 2011, which will allow choosing the most optimal form for the training envisioned by the project.

#### **UNDP**

#### **Activity 2.2 b) Support relevant State institutions (Department for Ethnic, Religious Policy and Interaction with Civil Society in particular) in identifying funding for the implementation of the strategy and support in donor coordination**

- As part of the activities aiming to support development of a strategy/action plan for the country-wide implementation of the ethnic development concept UNDP has contributed logistical and financial support to a country-wide Kurultay (Public Gathering) on the draft Ethnic Development Concept with involvement of more than 800 people representing central and local authorities, ethnic groups, diasporas, civil society and donors. The support included the publication of 1000 copies of the Concept and translation assistance. As a result of this multi-stakeholder participatory conference 800 people got acquainted with draft ethnic development concept and were able to express their concerns, comments and recommendations.

Activity 2.2 c) Provision of grants for the implementation of strategic and innovative pilot projects that showcase ways how the ethnic development concept can be implemented

- Under the small grant facility over USD 200,000 of grants were provided to NGOs to support inter-ethnic reconciliation and ethnic development. While no final Concept has been approved by the Government until now, UNDP funded interventions that generally promote inter-ethnic relations without being attached to a particular concept.
- Grants included for example the production of short documentary films on inter-ethnic harmony and tolerance (by NGO 'Door Media'), the establishment of the Center for Peacebuilding and Development Studies in the Fergana Valley under the Osh State University (NGO PDFV), activities challenging prejudices/stereotypes (Polis Asia), and

**Outcome 3: Local tensions and immediate threats to security addressed through collaborative early warning and response mechanism involving Oblast level conflict management structures**

UNDP

Activity 3.1 a) Conduct mapping of existing peace architecture/ local conflict management capacities/ mechanisms in each Oblast

- To identify potential conflict management structures in Kyrgyzstan and strengthen them UNDP has contracted an international consultant. The final report prepared by the consultant encapsulates the findings of the participatory training needs assessment of OACs/LAACs and other key structures as well as recommendations on the most suitable individuals/institutions that are well placed to collaborate with the Oblast Advisory Committees in conflict monitoring (early warning) and early response.

Activity 3.1 c) Setting-up conflict monitoring mechanism in each Oblast, linking local/ district level monitoring with Oblast Advisory Committees & Activity 3.2 b) Establishing link between Oblast level and national level to transform early warning into early response (months 2-12)

- The process of establishing a simple but effective conflict monitoring and response system has been launched in partnership with Foundation for Tolerance International and Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). The joint FTI/ GPPAC project that was developed is aiming at establishing links between Oblast Advisory Committees (OACs) and the National Steering Committee (NSC) by building the potential of both OACs and national-level decision makers to transform their early warning system into early response.

Activity 3.2 a) Conduct national KAP base line survey

- Public Fund Civic Initiative for Internet Policy in partnership with the Ukrainian Research Consultancy center “Promova” has developed and tested a KAP survey methodology with funding from UNDP. In particular, Promova consultants have explored overall available research, surveys, reports on Kyrgyzstan and based on those findings developed preliminary hypothesis for the nation-wide survey that will be completed before the end of 2011. Moreover separate training workshops have been organized for 15 local research experts out of whom 10 were pre-selected for further involvement in the larger base line survey. International consultants and the group of local experts conducted expert interviews at different levels, identified a suitable sampling methodology and developed and tested a questionnaire.

Activity 3.2 g) Preventive actions/ measures addressing immediate threats to stability contribute to violence prevention, with a particular focus on election-related violence prevention and cross-border tensions

- The capacity of local conflict prevention structures/ peace councils supported by UNDP PDP was strengthened and basic training in conflict monitoring and early preventive action provided: 7 Oblast Advisory Committees (OACs) at provincial, 8 Local Authority Advisory Committee (LAACs) at district level and an NGO network can therefore get engaged in responding to local-level tensions during the elections. These structures together with other UNDP partners additionally implement a number of community level activities that promote social cohesion and the reduction of tensions.
- Series of working meetings of OACs and LAACs (JA OAC, Bazarkorgon, Alabuka, Uzgen and Kara-Suu LAACs) have been held to strengthen interethnic cooperation and conflict prevention and elaborate respective action plans with recommendations
- The establishment of a coordination centre on early response to conflict situations in Batken was supported (NGO FTI Batken).
- Jalalabat OAC in response to emerging tensions over the work of mining companies has convened ad hoc meeting and decided to send its members to those areas to monitor the situation. As a result an analytical document unveiling root causes of the tensions was developed and shared with local Government and jointly addressed.
- As part of the UNDP and UN Women co-funded activities around 1000 people participated in the Friendship Festival organized by the «Women Peacemakers of Kyrgyzstan» Network on 28th of September in Bishkek. 36 Young Peace Ambassadors made an appeal to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and members of the Parliament to strengthen peaceful and friendly relations among peoples of Kyrgyzstan.

On September 29 President Rosa Otunbaeva met with young ambassadors. During the meeting young activists told the President about their activities and meetings, and shared their peace building ideas. The Friendship Festival was preceded by a mission of the Young Ambassadors Caravan consisting of 30 young activists of different ethnicities between the ages of 17 to 20 years. The mission visited seven provinces of Kyrgyzstan. Young activists spent time communicating to their peers about ideas of peace, development and harmony all over the country, especially in light of the upcoming elections.

- UNDP supported the development of an online platform (<http://map.inkg.info/>) that was developed based on Ushaidi ([www.ushaidi.com](http://www.ushaidi.com)) open source software. This technology is based on a new concept called ‘crowd sourcing for conflict prevention’ that was used successfully in other countries to track and map fast moving events in order to enable quick response capacity of relevant actors. The NGO supported is training monitors that will be placed at polling stations in particular to map violations of the electoral code of conduct. The Ushaidi Kyrgyzstan platform will be able to map the geographical location of monitors sending information by SMS. Besides verified content from ‘official and trained’ monitors, other online and mobile phone users will contribute information that will be used by the NGO in order to inform relevant stakeholders that would be required to respond to violations in order to reduce related tensions (CEC, Law enforcement, civil society etc.).

Activity 3.2 h) Establish web portal for peace architecture to enhance sharing of information and usage of ICT in monitoring and response (combining social media, blogs, SMS to share relevant information)

- To further promote 7 Oblast Advisory Committees (OACs) and 8 pilot district level Local Authority Advisory Committees (LAACs) as core part of the infrastructures for peace UNDP in partnership with public fund “Civic Initiative for Internet Policy” has drafted concept of web portal for OACs and LAACs including its goals and objectives, risks and capacities as well as timeframe, action plan and budget. The peace web portal will enhance sharing of information and usage of ITC in monitoring and response (combining social media, blogs, SMS to share relevant information). A professional IT consultant has developed a detailed ToR to be used during the upcoming tender.

Activity 3.2 i) Training, mentoring and coaching of a national ‘Mediation Support Unit’ (as requested by the President)

- The first phase of the training, mentoring and coaching of the national ‘Mediation Support Unit’ has been finalized with the following outcomes: Kyrgyzstan Mediation Projects Coordinating Committee has been created to facilitate overall coordination on mediation related activities in Kyrgyzstan. A series of meetings organized by this this Committee resulted in mapping of key agencies working on mediation in Kyrgyzstan including interventions, case studies, concrete proposals etc. This mechanism will also support the capacity building of a group of professional mediators that can be deployed to support complex negotiations.

## UNHCR

### Activity 3.2. c) Provide rapid protection interventions. Monitor the protection situation throughout South Kyrgyzstan and feed-back to early warning mechanisms

- 593 protection monitoring visits covering affected areas in Osh and Jalalabad cities and provinces were conducted by our implementing partners, Centre for International Protection (CIP) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC).
- Based on UNHCR's coordination of the Protection Cluster and together with relevant authorities and partners, the Office established a referral system to ease the access of vulnerable individuals, identified through protection and community monitoring activities to social and health services. UNHCR implementing partners, CIP and DRC, More than 42 cases, identified during protection monitoring, were referred to Protection Sector service providers. UNHCR is working to link the referral system to services provided by local government and NGO services to ensure sustainability of support.
- A free helpline staffed by implementing partner, CIP, received 685 phone calls. Individuals use the helpline to raise security concerns, and queries on humanitarian aid provision and housing, land and property issues. UNHCR receives daily call reports to ensure an immediate response to problems, if necessary. The helpline remains one of the main sources of information to assess protection gaps.
- Other mechanisms to identify protection and assistance needs were community mobilisation activities, conducted by community peace monitors in many conflict prone communities.
- Verification surveys of the affected communities were conducted in September covering 8,100 households in Osh, Jalalabad and Batken Provinces to find out how many people are still negatively affected by the events of 2010 and related discrimination. This information will be used to help with effective planning of future protection interventions.
- UNHCR remains ready to feed our collected information into the international systems of early warning system, however the relevant systems are not yet fully operational.

### 3.2. d) Enable communities in South Kyrgyzstan to identify and address potential conflict, tensions and to work for reconciliation

The following meetings and trainings were developed and provided at the request of communities seeking various platforms to raise, address and discuss issues of contention amongst themselves, different communities and relevant government authorities. The involvement of government officials in some of the below activities importantly allows them to hear, learn and respond to queries and concerns of the community facilitating increased government awareness of issues at hand.

- Introductory presentations on forthcoming peacebuilding activities and initiatives to be held over the coming months were given to nine communities, 291 participants.
- One Local Public Council was conducted aiming to facilitating dialogue between communities and authorities.
- 40 community social group meetings held with 386 community members for community leaders to discuss planned work, identify potential risks which may arise and make work plan changes accordingly.
- Five information meetings with 116 participants including law enforcement officials, religious leaders, community residents took place.
- 10 conflict management, mediation and negotiation training for active members in target communities, with 191 participants. These trainings provided active community members exposure to different methods of peaceful conflict solution, focusing on skills such as negotiation and mediation.
- Six round tables held to involve youth in community development discussions with community leaders, 103 participants. These sessions gave young people the opportunity to voice their own concerns and suggest how their challenges could be addressed by communities leaders.
- Three trainings on tolerance, mediation and negotiation for Community Social Group members of Batken oblast, 80 participants.

3.2. e) Compile and analyze early warning information from all project sources and make it available to project stakeholders (Supervision and mentoring)

Since funding was secured in July, the activities carried out were mostly in the planning phase:

- Peacebuilding Consultant was recruited and commenced employment in mid-September
- Meetings were held with relevant UN and external partners, particularly UNDP, both in the north and the south, regarding early warning and related activities taking place currently in Kyrgyzstan
- The Peacebuilding Consultant began to map and become familiarized with information trends from relevant project sources
- A two-day training was held in September for all Protection Monitors to focus their attention on analysis and report writing with regard to reporting information which could be used for early warning purposes.

	<p><u>3.2. f) Mitigate tensions, prevent conflict and advance reconciliation in South Kyrgyzstan through community based Quick Impact Projects (at the value of 10,000 – 50,000 USD each)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In July when funding was secured UNHCR finalized sub-contracts with our implementing partner, Mercy Corps, for community-based QIPs to be carried out in Osh, Jalalabad and Batken provinces in 29 key targets areas, directly and indirectly affected by the violence, previously identified as likely to reap most benefit from activities to mitigate tensions and promote reconciliation.</li> <li>• UNHCR received over 200 proposals directly from the communities as well as from local NGOs. In addition, Mercy Corps received some 80 proposals through the community meetings.</li> <li>• Planning and implementation of QIPs continues through working closely with communities (thorough community groups and leaders), and other relevant actors including local government authorities, educational institutions, religious leaders and local police forces.</li> <li>• UNHCR is rehabilitating the sport facilities of 48 schools and is currently assisting with procurement processes for materials.</li> <li>• 42 other QIPS relating to the strengthening collaboration amongst youth, celebration of culture and tradition, income generation projects and provision/rehabilitation of infrastructure were implemented in Osh, Jalalabad and Batken provinces. All projects were aimed at solving social problems of the communities and improve livelihoods of vulnerable social groups.</li> </ul>
<p>Achievements and challenges</p>	<p><u>Outcome achievements</u> (with reference to the strategic result and relevant indicator of PMP):</p> <p><u>UNDP/ UNHCR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tensions reduced through a number of activities carried out by UNHCR and UNDP (thereby contributing to the prevention of election-related violence and reconciliation in the South)</li> </ul> <p><u>OHCHR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project is in its start-up phase and it is therefore too early to report on major achievements towards the overall outcome. The implementation of key activities have already started and proceeds according to a plan which makes it realistic to achieve a strategic result of strengthening knowledge and capacity of relevant State institutions and NGOs to promote the rights of minorities in Kyrgyzstan.</li> </ul>

- The process of development of the Concept of Ethnic Development and Consolidation proved to be much longer than national actors involved in this process initially expected. This is due to a highly contested nature of the topic and its large political significance. OHCHR had to adjust its strategy in order to accommodate much longer horizons for the passage and implementation of the document. OHCHR's involvement in this process, however, already contributed to such important developments as, for example, the emergence of a broad consensus among stakeholders on the necessity to pass such a concept by the national parliament rather than by a decision of the executive government. This enhances the status of the proposed document and ensures that the process of finalizing the document will be broadly inclusive and participatory. OHCHR intends to use the open nature of this process in order to continue to advocate a more extensive incorporation of international standards and the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review into the final version of the document.
- Unavailability or inaccessibility of some basic governmental data on key parameters of minority inclusion and participation in public life constitutes one major challenge for a comprehensive and detailed analysis of problems that members of ethnic community face. A number of strategies have been currently devised to mitigate problems that this lack of reliable statistics generates for the analysis of the situation and the development of nuanced recommendations.

**- How relevant for the peacebuilding process?**

UNHCR

UNHCR's range of protection monitoring measures collects important information on the remaining protection gaps and continuing areas of tensions throughout 2011. These gaps are analyzed for raising issues with relevant levels of government or for effective planning of protection activities to deal with individual cases or undertake efforts to mitigate tensions on a larger scale. As mentioned above, the protection helpline remains one of the key sources of information to the humanitarian community. Protection monitoring will also allow UNHCR to monitor trends and add value to the forthcoming humanitarian community's early warning system in alleviating tensions.

QIPs delivered tangible peace dividends for individuals and communities through improved livelihoods, inter-ethnic relations and stability. All initiatives aimed at addressing tensions and allowing communities to raise their concerns plus discuss and suggest ways forward. Small scale infrastructure and income-generation activities provide minor but important contribution to the improvement of the overall livelihood opportunities thus creating conditions for the people to be able to maintain a certain standard of living. It is particularly relevant to the rural areas where the overall level of poverty is high. Furthermore, UNHCR is trying to address not only the directly affected areas, but also neighboring communities or the areas where conflict situations take place.

Having gained the trust of communities and good working relationships with local authorities through previous work, UNHCR is in a unique position to continue producing results contributing to effective reconciliation and peacebuilding.

**Challenges? And how to address them?**

UNHCR

While the Local Public Councils allow communities to raise issues with government to improve perceptions of authorities and see that local government is aware of community concern, it must be noted that with the continuing distrust that prevails in Southern Kyrgyzstan, not all communities are yet ready for such activities. Due to the communities' wariness of possible repercussions from participating in such events, UNHCR is looking into the reasons creating wariness and is mapping corresponding locations before deciding how to proceed with LPCs given that communities still wish to raise their voices in secure fora.

It should be noted that the implementation speed of QIPs during the last month of the reporting period was slower than originally planned due to staffing challenges within UNHCR implementing partner, Mercy Corps. This has been addressed by UNHCR at Osh and Bishkek levels in order that implementation gets back on track and continues as per original sub-agreements.