

**COUNTRY  
PEACEBUILDING FUND  
PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

<b>Project No &amp; Title:</b>	<b>PBF/IRF/22 (ID00076632)</b>			
<b>Recipient UN Organization:</b>	UN Women	<b>Priority Sector:</b>		
<b>National Authority:</b>	Government of Kyrgyzstan			
<b>Location:</b>	Kyrgyzstan			
<b>Project Cost:</b>	USD 513,107.80			
<b>SC Approval Date:</b>	<b>Starting Date:</b>	November 2010	<b>Completion Date:</b>	October 2011
<b>PBF Outcome and Priority area</b>	<b>Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution</b>			
<b>Project Description:</b>	<b><i>Empowering women and vulnerable communities to contribute to peacebuilding and reconciliation in Kyrgyzstan</i></b>			
<b>Immediate Objectives:</b>	Women and women's networks are empowered to effectively and meaningfully engage, influence and mobilize for peace, security and reconstruction			
<b>Project Status as at June, 2011</b>				
<b>Funds disbursed:</b>	<b>USD 250,880.32</b>			
<b>Delivery rate:</b>	<b>49 %</b>			
<b>Outputs delivered:</b>	Output 3.1: Access of women to support facilities increased Output 3.2: Legal assistance to women is provided Output 3.3: Local authorities and state service providers more responsive to women of both ethnic communities			
<b>Achievements and challenges</b>	<p><u>Output delivery:</u></p> <p>In November 2010 UNIFEM (part of UN Women, starting from 1 January 2011 - UN Women) started a project <b><i>Empowering women and vulnerable communities to contribute to peacebuilding and reconciliation in Kyrgyzstan</i></b>. Through this initiative, UN Women supports the efforts and strengthens the capacities of women and vulnerable communities, other partners from civil society and government to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Kyrgyzstan, in the contexts of ethnic and social conflict.</p> <p>Acknowledging the leading role of women in the movement towards peace, fostering the culture of peace that upholds justice and tolerance, it is necessary to increase the importance of addressing needs of women's security in the conflict situation, join the efforts of women activists for conflict resolution and recovery and make them visible contributors. With support of the current project, a network of 20 local <u>Women Peace Committees (WPC)</u> was organized at district level. The WPCs are represented on various peace building and post-conflict recovery/reconstruction committees at provincial level in the south of Kyrgyzstan. As such, from village to province level, the WPCs have full legitimacy to voice the specific concerns of women and vulnerable groups in the process of post-conflict priority setting, reconciliation and resource allocation in the South of Kyrgyzstan.</p> <p>Women's Peace Committees to date have been proved to be efficient instruments for</p>			

leading people-to-people diplomacy, dialogue, and mediation. Unlike government institutions and international development agencies, this network enjoys and promotes trust among residents. Several events conducted up to date by WPC demonstrated that they created people's demand and support for peace and reconciliation in the South of the country. More events and campaigns as well as small grants initiative are planned on the eve of the commemoration of June 2010 events and onwards.

During the reporting period, three consultative seminars were held with WPC and representatives of local authorities to identify the priority areas of work for WPC. Members of WPC have received training on monitoring and analysis of the situation in their regions and as a result, 3 substantive analytical reports were developed based on WPC monitoring reports and submitted to Province Advisory Boards (under the Province Administrations) for follow up and response. WPC held 7 initiatives devoted to the commemoration of the tragic events of 2010, promoting a culture of peace and tolerance. All initiatives were highly supported by local authorities and population and found a positive feedback in the media.

32 small grant proposals were elaborated by the activists of WPC to undertake actions for restoration of infrastructure, promoting reconciliation and tolerance, avoiding relapse into conflict due to the high level of tension in some regions. All projects went through the competitive selection and 11 projects were supported by the project.

Another result up to date is establishment of two information and support centers and mobile teams established in Osh and Jalalabad, provide information/support and legal guidance to Uzbek and Kyrgyz women and their families on issues such as restoration of documentations, reporting of criminal and civil cases and the use of existing support mechanisms.

Specific legal support and counseling is being rendered to the victims of violence, vulnerable women (single women/women bread winners, elderly women, widows, women in religious marriages and spouses of migrant workers) enabling them to exercise their fundamental human rights. The project also aims at improving access to basic services provided by the state by sensitizing staff members in gender and conflict sensitivity.

Within the reporting period 220 persons were provided legal consultations, out of them 203 women, 120 from Uzbek ethnicity, 99 Kyrgyz, 1 Russian. 5 cases taken to the court, all successfully resolved in the favor of the clients. 9 mobile groups visits were undertaken into the districts identified by the WPC, in which 177 persons received legal consultations (out of them 137 are women).

Within the project, it is planned to strengthen the capacities in gender and conflict sensitivity for local authorities and state service providers from Osh and Jalalabad cities/oblasts. At the moment, the training curriculum is being developed, to address the specifics and needs of Kyrgyzstan's civil servants involved in the process of peace building/recovery/reconciliation for ensuring consideration of women's rights and specific needs in peace building and post-conflict recovery process.

Outcome achievements (with reference to programme results and indicator of PMP):

Explain briefly (4 to 5 short statements max.)

-To what extent the output delivery - as described before – contributes to the overall outcome achievements?

As the overall PBF initiative focuses on a priority to promote coexistence and peaceful resolution, the specific UN Women project interventions work towards ensuring that plans to support efforts and capacities of women and women's networks, as well as other national partners from government and civil society to advance gender equality and women's human rights in Kyrgyzstan, in the contexts of the political instability, lack of rule of law and wide spread violence, especially in the south of the country. Towards this end, the project works at the following interdependent and mutually reinforcing levels:

- at the grassroots, by supporting women and women's groups and networks, building capacity to participate and influence the decision making process;
- at the level of state governance bodies/local administrations and state authorities to meaningfully engage women and women's groups and create enabling environment for women's empowerment in peacebuilding and reconciliation process

- What has been planned, what has been actually achieved?

During the reporting period, all planned interventions are being implemented. Taking into consideration the mid-term reporting period, some interventions are completed (establishment of Women's Peace Network, its institutional and capacity development, setting legal support centres, supporting local community reconciliation initiative), some are in progress and planned. Actual achievements are in line with the planned outputs and therefore do not require revision. The project implementation is progressing as planned. Details are provided above.

- What worked? What did not?

As the project is in the midst of its implementation, the actual number of initiatives of the Women's Peace Network is limited to 7. Although with the gained knowledge the activism of Women's peace Committees is increasing. The dialogue with local authorities is working out well, resulting in a number of meetings and consultations held, where Women's Peace Committees addressed a set of recommendations to the local state structures' representatives. However, due to the lack of national legal framework to address women's needs in conflict and post-conflict restoration, high level advocacy is required to put forward Women's Peace Network recommendations. This need is addressed by UN Women-led consultations with the Government and in particular with its working group developing a national Concept for ethnic policy and national reconciliation in Kyrgyzstan.

- How will the challenges be addressed?

Within the current project UN Women in close partnership with the Office of the President have convened (on 15-16 February 2011) a nationwide consultation on *ROLE OF WOMEN FOR BUILDING TRUST, PEACE AND RECONCILIATION* to have an in-depth discussion over causes and consequences of the conflict for women and children, and map out a joint way forward. As a result of two days intense debates and discussions, the participants have deliberated in-depth on four major directions for key partners to improve women's participation and contribution to peace and confidence building in Kyrgyzstan. UN Women-commissioned rapid assessment in the south of Kyrgyzstan, outlining major factors contributing to insecurity and instability, laid the basis of the discussions.

The recommendations of the meeting were taken as a basis into the current process of the development of Concept of the State Policy on Ethnic Development and Consolidation, which is expected to become one of the primary components of the future formal peace-building strategy of Kyrgyzstan.

The Second National Consultation of the role of women in post-conflict restoration took place in late June 2011 and provided a platform for dialogue of Women's Peace Network and service providers on addressing the specific needs of women in post-conflict planning and restoration.

In addition, through its regular programming, the UN Women initiated discussions with national partners to start elaboration of the National Action Plan (NAP) on implementation of SC Resolution 1325 on women in conflict. Through its cross-regional programme on UN SCRs (Kyrgyzstan is one of target countries for the programme) UN Women intends to provide a technical assistance to a working group on drafting NAP and to support to learn existing best practices and approaches for NAP on UN SCR 1325.