



**PEACEBUILDING FUND  
GUINEA-BISSAU**

**PROJECT QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT**

**AS OF 30 JUNE 2012**

<b>Project No &amp; Title:</b>	<b>PBF/GNB/E-1 Guinea-Bissau National PBF Secretariat Support 2012-2013</b>				
<b>Recipient UN Organization:</b>	UNDP & UNIOGBIS	<b>Priority Sector:</b>	Public Administration		
<b>National Authority:</b>	NA				
<b>Location:</b>	Guinea-Bissau				
<b>Project Cost:</b>	USD 531,347 (2 years)				
<b>SC Approval Date:</b>	13 October 2011	<b>Starting Date:</b>	9 December 2011	<b>Completion Date:</b>	9 December 2013
<b>PBF Outcome and Priority area</b>	<p><b>Priority area:</b> Establishment or re-establishment of administrative services and related human and technical capacities.</p> <p><b>Strategic Result (PMP):</b> PBF positioned most effectively at peacebuilding strategic levels to ensure it provides the best added value and comparative advantages to the peacebuilding process.</p> <p><b>Indicator (PMP):</b> Perception of stakeholders and partners (multi/bilateral) on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) programme effectiveness (funding relevance within transitional setting, innovation, risk taking, catalytic effect, operational speed, national ownership);</li> <li>b) level of expertise of PBSO in PB;</li> <li>c) contribution to increased UN coherency and synergy</li> <li>d) Synergy between PBF and PBC.</li> </ul>				
<b>Project Description:</b>	Support to National/Joint PBF Steering Committee from January 2012 to December 2013.				
<b>Immediate Objectives:</b>	<p>PBF funds managed transparently, strategically, cost-effectively and catalytically maximizing PB opportunities.</p> <p>The outputs of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) National Steering Committee and Technical Review Group effectively oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation.</li> <li>2) PBF National Secretariat established as a local repository of knowledge, lessons learned and institutional memory regarding PBC/PBF engagement in Guinea-Bissau.</li> <li>3) Capacity of national government counterpart (Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Integration) to oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation strengthened.</li> </ol>				
<b>Project Status as at 30 June 2012</b>					

<b>Funds disbursed:</b>	172,757.09 USD
	<b>Delivery rate:</b>
<b>Background/ Implementation Context:</b>	<p>Guinea Bissau has been among an initial first group of four countries to be referred by the Secretary General to the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), which established a Country-Specific Configuration (CSC) in December 2007. Subsequently, in 2008, the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) allocated a funding envelope of US\$ 6 million, followed, in 2010, by a second allocation of US\$ 16.8 million. The new allocation envisages a comprehensive support package focused on four areas: (1) Security Sector Reform - Military; (2) Security Sector Reform – strengthening civilian authority; (3) Peace dividends: Employment; (4) Reconciliation, National Dialogue and Good Governance. Joint Programmes have been developed in all four areas during 2011 and have begun implementation in 2012. In addition, the allocation provides for the continued consolidation of the National PBF Secretariat in order to effectively support the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) and the Technical Review Group (TRG).</p> <p>The PBF Secretariat supports the oversight role of the JSC, liaises on regular basis with the Technical Review Group and has developed a strong partnership with MPTF-O to ensure compliance with PBF rules as well as all relevant reporting obligations. The Secretariat has also functioned as an important institutional link between the UNCT, on the one hand, and UNIOGBIS, on the other, in coordinating and providing technical guidance on all aspects related to the work of the PBF on the ground.</p> <p>Against this background, the military coup that took place on 12 April and its aftermath have left Guinea Bissau – and, by extension, UNIOGBIS and the PBF Secretariat - to grapple with a situation of unexpected complexity. While the peacebuilding needs of the country have never been greater, the presence of an internationally recognized government formally committed to peacebuilding, normally a condition <i>sine qua non</i> of the PBF’s engagement, has been lacking. Further, political developments have been marked by contradictions: a crisis that has gone on long enough to be turning into a de facto status quo; a government recognized by some segments of the international community and rejected by others, which has explicitly declared its intention to abide by the existing international commitments of Guinea Bissau, including SSR, the fight against impunity and the fight against drug trafficking; a deeply fragmented political and military; and finally a population caught in the middle of these contradictions, powerlessly watching the little available international assistance evaporate, even as public services are suffering and the country teeters on the brink of a major food crisis.</p> <p>PBSO responded to the coup in a letter from ASG Cheng-Hopkins on 26 April 2012. According to the letter, <b>all activities</b> ‘in direct support of the Government should be ceased immediately until further notice, while activities in support of civil society can continue, alongside minimal recurrent project expenditures.’</p> <p>To address these changes and challenges, the PBF Secretariat jointly with the Strategic Planning Unit and under the direction of senior management has been conducting a comprehensive review of the PBF portfolio. Conclusions and recommendations will be submitted to PBSO as well as presented to the UN Senior Policy Group.</p>

<b>Outputs delivered:</b>	<p><b>Prior to 12 April 2012:</b></p> <p><b>Output 1:</b> National Steering Committee and Technical Review Group effectively oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of PBF Oversight and Implementation Structure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Allocation.</li> <li>• Approval of Calendar of Activities for the PBF Joint Steering Committee.</li> <li>• Approval of Work Plan for the Employment Joint Programme.</li> <li>• Matrix of Actors and Funding Gaps by Sector within the context of PBF Joint Programmes developed by the PBF Secretariat</li> <li>• Meetings/briefings on PBF/PBC issues with JSC members carried out by the PBO</li> <li>• Financial and work plan template for quarterly reporting developed to support and improve reporting process</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 2:</b> PBF National Secretariat established as a local repository of knowledge, lessons learned and institutional memory regarding PBC/PBF engagement in Guinea-Bissau.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance note on quarterly reporting drafted to support and improve reporting process</li> <li>• Guidance note on closure of PBF projects drafted (both narrative and financial) to establish a systematic approach to the closing of PBF 1 projects</li> <li>• Capacity building sessions conducted jointly with M&amp;E expert in RCO to improve UNIOGBIS reporting</li> <li>• Regular communication with PBSO</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 3:</b> Capacity of national government counterpart (Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Integration) to oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation strengthened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 meetings of the Technical Review Group coordinated by the Ministry of Economy.</li> <li>• Regular meetings between PBF Secretariat and Coordinator of the Technical Review Group to strengthen joint decision making</li> </ul>
	<p><b>After 12 April 2012:</b></p> <p><b>Output 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JSC suspended, but with PBSO support to FAO for the process of reallocation of \$391,107 out of the initial allotment of 764,999US\$ to address the urgent need for seeds by 8,000 families in rural areas under the Employment JP</li> <li>• Review of PBF portfolio initiated</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table of expenditure of Joint Programmes as per PBSO request.</li> <li>• Continued support and technical guidance to UNROs on PBF issues.</li> <li>• Regular communication with PBSO.</li> </ul>

<b>Achievements and challenges</b>	<p><b>Output 1 - National Steering Committee and Technical Review Group effectively oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation.</b></p> <p><b><u>Achievements and Challenges</u></b>  During the reporting period, the JSC convened on 22 February to discuss the implementation documents related to the Joint Programmes of Employment and National Dialogue. The Committee approved the work plan for the Employment Programme, but decided to postpone the approval of the work plan for the Dialogue Programme until a new President is elected. The JSC also approved an Oversight and Implementation Structure aiming at an efficient follow-up of the Joint Programmes funded under the PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> Allocation and the calendar of activities of the Committee. At the same meeting, 3 new members were invited to join the JSC: Ministry of Finance, Angola and France.</p> <p>However, political events soon overtook the agenda of the JSC. The electoral campaign made it difficult for the JSC to convene in April, as planned, and the 12 April coup definitively ended its agenda, as most government members took refuge in foreign embassies and later left the country.</p> <p>The PBF Secretariat is currently conducting a comprehensive review of the PBF portfolio to take stock of the situation and propose concrete steps for the way forward.</p> <p><b>Output 2 - PBF National Secretariat established as a local repository of knowledge, lessons learned and institutional memory regarding PBC/PBF engagement in Guinea-Bissau.</b></p> <p><b><u>Achievements and Challenges</u></b>  Following the 12 April coup, the PBF Secretariat has been functioning as a ‘crisis management’ center for the PBF portfolio, gathering information from all partners, regularly liaising with PBSO and working with senior management and the SPU to articulate a strategy for the way forward under conditions that remain uncertain. In addition, the Secretariat has focused on strengthening the planning, monitoring and reporting capacity related to the PBF Joint Programmes at UN level to facilitate rapid, meaningful and successful interventions when/if the PBSO suspension is lifted.</p> <p><b>Output 3 - Capacity of national government counterpart (Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Integration) to oversee the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PBF allocation strengthened.</b></p> <p><b><u>Achievements and Challenges</u></b>  N/A due to political circumstances</p>
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