PEACEBUILDING FUND
[Libya]

PROJECT HALF YEARLY PROGRESS UPDATE

AS OF JANUARY – JUNE 2012

Project No & Title:	PBF **81770**, Support To Civic Engagement in Libya's Transition.
Recipient Organization(s)[1]:	UNDP
Implementing Partners (Government, UN agencies, NGOs etc)	Government of Libya-Ministry of Culture & Civil Society, Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Planning. **Responsible Parties:** UNSMIL, UN Women, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Women's NGOs, Libyan Universities, CSOs, Libya Scouts & Girl-Guides Association.
Location:	Libya.
Total Approved Budget[2]	1,923,860 (Funds received on 14/05/2012)

Funds Committed[3]	192,589.03	**% of funds committed / total approved budget:**	10%
Expenditure[4]:	196,266.97	**% of expenditure / total budget: (Delivery rate)**	10%
Project Approval Date:	**January 2012**	**Possible delay in operational closure date (Number of months)**	12 months
Project Start Date:	**May 2012** (upon receipt of funds)		
Expected Operational Project Closure Date:	**June 212**		
PBF Outcome and Priority Area	Priority Area 2: Support to national efforts and build and strengthen capacities that promote peaceful coexistence, good governance and national reconciliation. PBF Outcome: Libyans participate meaningfully in electoral and constitution-building processes with evidence of increased trust in the transition towards democracy.		

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[1] Please note that where there are multiple agencies, only one consolidated project report should be submitted.

[2] Approved budget should be the amount transferred to Recipient Organisations

[3] Funds committed are defined as the commitments made through legal contracts for services and works according to the financial regulations and procedures of the Recipient Organisations.

[2] Actual payments (contracts, services, works) made on commitments.

Qualitative assessment of achievements and challenges	**Outcome evaluation** By all accounts, the Libyan general elections on 7 July 2012 were held successfully with a meaningful participation of voters (60%). A small number of security incidents did not derail the process as a whole and the elections results were considered as representative of the people's will. The project contributed to raising citizen's awareness on the voting process by facilitating access to electoral information and materials for nearly 85,000 voters. The project will now concentrate on citizens' participation in the constitution-making process, contributing thereof as well to the overall project outcome. At the output level, progress achieved so far can be summarized as follows: **Output 1.1: CSOs are able to mobilize citizens in participating actively in the new democratic processes** The project provided capacity-building support to 434 CSO volunteers so that they are better equipped to raise voter's awareness on the electoral process and increase their participation. This activity was conducted in partnership with UNDP LEAP Project (Libyan Electoral Assistance Project) and UNSMIL. The Project also helped strengthen capacities of the Libyan Scouts Movement to reach out to youth (14 – 25). 500 Scout leaders were trained on civic education content and methods and then supported with materials and funding to organize voter education events in their district, two weeks prior to elections. It is estimated that the Scouts Movement reached out to 48,000 potential voters through these voter education events, distributing as well 30,000 printed materials prepared by the High National Elections Commission. **Output 1.2: Youth is fully engaged through a peaceful participation in the transition process** The project trained and certified 23 young Libyans (55% women) as Civic Education Instructors using the BRIDGE methodology. Once graduated from the training program, these instructors conducted civic education sessions for 150 students and Open Days (dissemination of voter education materials) for in 10 universities. Through the Open Days, at least 5,000 students received information directly impacting on their participation in the electoral process. **Output 1.3: Increased women's participation in the political transition process** The project supported women political candidates through five training workshops (benefiting a total of 120 women candidates from all over Libya) and helping a CSO-led national awareness campaign in favor of women candidates (My Vote for Her). Among the 120 women who participated in UNDP training program, 8 were elected in the General National Congress – which is an encouraging result given that only 33 women were elected in the 200 member strong GNC. **Project Highlights**

In the reporting period, the main highlights in results achieved are:
- <u>Voter education by the Scouts Movement</u>: this activity was envisaged in the project document but it was not expected to reach such a level (where Scouts commissions from all districts in Libya were involved) nor that the Scouts would be so successful in reaching out to voters. This activity highlighted the great potential of Scouts as civic education agents, not only towards the youth population but also towards adults. More support towards the Scouts movement to increase its civic education role is planned for the future.
- <u>Training of Civic Education Instructors</u>: the first group of certified instructors (23), coming from all areas of Libya, has been very active following their certification in many training and civic education events organized by SCELT but also the HNEC and other Libyan organizations. This activity answered an urgent need among Libyan civil society for qualified civic education professionals. This group of civic education instructors is now establishing its own association to further their professional development and gain additional support from government and donor agencies.
- <u>"My Vote For Her" Campaign:</u> The campaign provided an opportunity for the women candidates' public and media exposure. As a result of the campaign, more women were encouraged to run as candidates and take a lead role in the GNC elections. A total of 238 women candidates benefited directly from the campaign. The campaign also helped raise the profile of women candidates in general among the Libyan electorate.

Catalytic effects:
The SCELT project has been funded from different donors, including PBF, but since these allocations were made approximately at the same time, one cannot conclude that PBF funding had a catalytic effect on other donors' contributions.

In terms of peace relevant processes, contributed to a better understanding by Libyan citizens of the democratic transition, in particular for electoral processes. Greater support of Libyans to the transition processes reinforces chances of a lasting peace and stability in the country.

Addressing drivers of conflict

The greatest challenge on peace & security in Libya currently is the lack of government control on various armed groups subsisting after the 2011 Revolution. Also, tensions between regional & tribal identity groups pose a definite threat to Libya's unity and successful transition.

To increase its control, the government needs increased legitimacy. This will come in part from citizen's participation in democratic processes, such as elections and constitution-making. The project participates directly in increasing channels for civic engagement and hence contributes, ultimately, to increased government legitimacy.

The project pays also strong attention to securing participation in its activities of Libyans from all regions. This way, project activities also become a space

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for dialogues between regional identities and help build consensus on a common vision for Libya's democratic future. The project has also deployed personnel in the Eastern part of the country to facilitate the participation of civil society in that area into project activities.

Finally, by deploying efforts to increase the participation of women in the political process in Libya, the project responds to recommendations of UNSCR 1325 regarding the rights and roles of women in post-conflict situations. While not at the source of the conflict itself, women are usually the main victims of conflict. Libyan women played an essential role, though less visible men, in the Revolution, and they are now eager to be part of bringing back stability and prosperity in the country. The Project provides them with capacities needed to achieve this goal.

Risks & Challenges

One of the main challenges met during the implementation period, especially for Output 1, has been the weakness of the project's main Libyan institutional counterpart (Ministry of Culture & Civil Society). It has been difficult to move forward with certain activities that need the full involvement of the Ministry as the Ministry lacked internal cohesion (between Tripoli & Benghazi branches) and suffered from an unclear mandate in its support to civil society organizations. Since August 2012, the Cabinet has established an independent Civil Society Support Centre, which it will fund provisionally, to provide various capacity-building services to Libyan CSOs. The Project will now work with this partner to implement activities forecast under Output 1 in support of Libyan CSOs.

Similarly, the Project has faced difficulties engaging with Libyan universities. Indeed, this engagement should happen through the Ministry of Higher Education but the Ministry itself is facing problems securing cooperation of Universities in programs that are centrally-designed. There has been a lingering leadership issue with many universities in Libya following the Revolution, as the students & teacher community at many universities wanted to elect their own leadership while the transitional government wished to retain control over the nomination of university presidents. The Project will continue trying to involve Libyan universities in its activities through the Ministry but should progress be too slow, the Project will try to work directly with Universities, albeit a smaller number of them.

Women in Libya face several challenges in post-Revolution Libya when it comes to participating more actively in public affairs. The Libyan society remains deeply conservative and the dominating political forces tend to see the role of women in political / public affairs has not a priority. The rise in insecurity, due to poor control of armed groups & individuals after the Revolution, mean also that the public space remains a potentially threatening one for women. Nevertheless, there are strong Libyan women activists and politicians who continue lobbying for a greater role for women in shaping and organizing the transition. The Project will deepen its relationship with women's groups and women MPs so as to better understand their needs and respond to them. Also, the Project maintains strict standards when it comes to ensuring gender balance among its beneficiaries, especially for training

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opportunities.

Finally, the security situation in certain parts of the country (East & South) limits the capacity of Project staff for internal travel and building partnerships with grassroots organizations. Whenever possible, project activities take place outside of the capital city but when this is not feasible, the Project makes sure to invite representatives of all regions to activities held in Tripoli.

Expected future achievements

By the end of the year, the Project aims at achieving the following:

Output 1

- Strengthening national capacities to design and conduct civic education programs by working with the Government-funded Civil Society Support Centre. The Centre is newly-established and needs organizational development support to achieve its mission. By working with this Centre, the Project hopes to build economies of scale and benefit, ultimately, a much larger number of CSOs.
- Providing grants to approx.. 50 Libyan CSOs for small civic education projects focusing in particular on women & youth. Grants will be accompanied by capacity-building support to CSOs (training, mentoring) to ensure maximum impact of their projects.

Output 2

- The project will certify another group of 30 young civic education instructors using the BRIDGE program (www.bridge-project .org). They will contribute, as the previously-certified group, to increase Libya's human resources in civic education. These instructors will organize, as part of their accreditation process, a number of civic education events directed to a further 180 CSO activists across the country so as to increase the cascading effect of the BRIDGE training program.
- The Project will initiate with the Ministry of Higher Education a civic education program for students (*Students for Democracy Program*) that will combine academic classes with extra-curricular activities promoting students participation in the democratic transition. Until the end of 2012, 4 universities are targeted. More universities will be included in 2013.

Output 3

- The project will continue supporting the development of women leadership in Libya by working with national and international gender organizations in training Libyan CSO activists on leadership, advocacy and campaigning skills. A total of 200 women will be targeted.
- The project will also initiate a capacity-building program aiming elected women and aspiring candidates.

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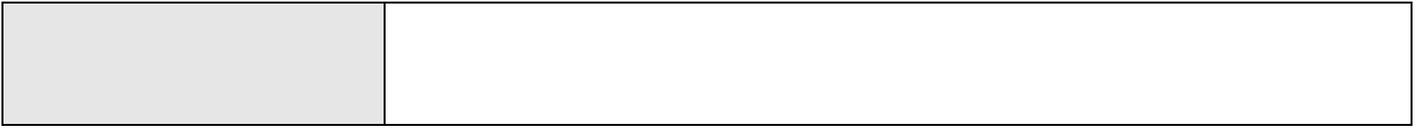
INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document** - provide an update on the achievement of indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why, as well as plans on how and when this data will be collected.

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Risks
Outcome 1[5] Libyans participate meaningfully in electoral and constitution-building processes with evidence of increased trust in the transition towards democracy	**1. Non-relapse into Conflict:** # of violent incident decreasing a) before start vs. after electoral process. b) acceptance of outcomes of elections without outbreak of violence.	No baseline available as no previous experience in Libya with democratic elections	No target set	Not applicable as no target set.	In the days prior to the elections on 7/7/12, there were about a dozen of violent incidents mostly directed towards offices and staff of the High National Elections Commission. In the days following the elections, the number of incidents decreased but a total of 5 people were killed and electoral materials were lost. Nevertheless, the announcement of results was not followed by widespread political violence.	
	2. Public confidence and trust: Evidence of positive change of public confidence and trust in transitional state authorities in their	No baseline set in the Prodoc,	No target set	Not applicable as no target set.		

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[5] Either country relevant (from the Priority Plan or Project Document) or PMP specific.

		commitments to democratic governance. **3. Catalytic leverage:** Evidence of catalytic leverage in terms of overall peace building relevant processes and institutional reforms.				
Output 1 Civil Society Organizations are able to mobilize citizens in participating actively in the new democratic processes	**Indicator 1.1.** No. of civic awareness and election related campaigns/events/trainings undertaken by CSOs	There is no national baseline available on CSO activities. The total number of CSOs itself is estimated at 2,500 by the Ministry of Culture & Civil Society. It is not clear how many of these are civic education CSOs.	The project did not set a specific target for events run by CSOs sponsored.	The project supported through this output a total of 434 Libyan CSOs, as well as 24 Scout Commissions, in the context of the electoral education campaign. Through training and provision of printed materials, these CSOs were able to conduct elections-related events in their communities.	N/A as no target set	
	Indicator 1.1.2 Outreach to citizens through	The total voting population in Libya is 2.8 m.	No target was set in terms of nb of citizens to be	No data available on number of citizens reached by CSOs	N/A as no target set at the onset.	

civic education		reached. It is difficult to measure outreach achieved by the project as it can happen in many different ways (direct interaction with activities sponsored by the project or through mass media coverage of project activities).		trained by the project. However, we can safely assume that a minimum of 100 citizens was reached by each CSO, which would give a total of 43 400 citizens reached. In addition to this, an estimated number of 43,000 citizens were reached directly by scouts' members trained by the project in 13 districts. Therefore, in total the Project could have benefited about 3% of the total electorate.		
Output 1.2 Youth is fully engaged through a peaceful participation in the transition process	**Indicator 1.2.1** No. of universities adopting civic education in their curriculum	Prior to the Revolution, no universities in Libya provided civic education courses to its students other than related to the teaching of the Green Book.	The project had as a target to start working with Tripoli University and expand over to 10 other Universities.	10 universities benefited from project-sponsored civic education activities, in coordination with the Ministry of Higher Education.	N/A	The Government has asked that all university-based activities be channeled through the Ministry of Higher Education. Yet, MoHE itself faces problems in securing cooperation of

						Universities which are claiming bigger autonomy after the revolution.
	Indicator 1.2.2 % students enrolled in civic education activities	All students had to undergo classes on the Green Book prior to the Revolution. After the revolution, there has been a flurry of student-organized civic education activities all across the country but no statistics are available as to exact student participation.	The project aimed at providing civic education classes to 10,000 students. This was to be achieved through a cascade training model starting with the certification of 30 young civic education instructors through a 4 month training program.	150 students taking part in civic education classes organized by the project + 5000 students attending Open Day on Civic Education conducted on University Campuses (10 universities). These activities were conducted by 23 civic education instructors trained by the Project.	It proved operationally too difficult to organize full civic education classes to 10,000 students as initially planned as students did not have the needed availability in their academic agenda. Indeed, in 2012, Universities have been intensifying classes so that students can catch up on the teaching days lost during the Revolution.	
Output 1.3 Increased women's participation in the political transition process	**Indicator 1.3.1** No. of women taking the lead / responsibility in civic awareness campaigns	No indicator available.	No target set in the project document	Through a number of events targeting women CSO leaders and women politicians, the project reached 463 women.	Not applicable	
	Indicator 1.3.2 % of women participating in the vote	No baseline available as no previous experience with democratic	No target set in project document but assumption was that women's turnout rate should	In the July elections, 45% of registered women voted against 69% among registered men.		

		elections.	be at least equal to that of men			
	Indicator 1.3.3 # of women elected in the new parliament	Not applicable as no free elections run before the revolution	33 women elected in Parliament	Out of the 33 women elected, 8 have received direct capacity-building support from the project	Not applicable as the project did not set a goal for the number of women elected in Parliament. This number is anyway out of the project's control and influence.	