



United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)/ Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

<p>Project Title: Building the evidence base to facilitate responsive gender policy and programs for equality and lasting peace in Kyrgyzstan</p>	<p>Recipient UN Organization(s): UN Women, UNFPA, IOM</p>
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<p>Project Description: The Gender in Society Perceptions Study will identify critical threats to gender equality and potential conflict triggers in order to establish a credible, reliable evidence base for informed, targeted policymaking and programming for equitable gender outcomes.</p>	<p>Total Project Cost: \$700,001 Peacebuilding Fund: 630,001 Government Contribution: N/A Other: \$70,000 from UN Women Proposed Project Start Date: 1 March 2015 Proposed Project End Date: 30 June 2016 Total duration (in months): 16</p>
<p>Gender Marker Score: 3</p>	
<p>Project Outcome: Effectiveness of gender equality promotion and inclusive peacebuilding policies and programs by government institutions, international agencies including members of the UNCT, and civil society is strengthened for lasting peace and women's empowerment.</p>	
<p>PBF Focus Area: Priority area 2 – Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflicts, conflict prevention/management</p>	

² PBSO monitors the inclusion of gender equality and women's empowerment in PBF projects, in line with SC Resolutions 1325, 1888, 1889, 1960 and 2122, and as mandated by the Secretary-General in his Seven-Point Action Plan on Gender Responsive Peacebuilding.

IRF PROJECT DOCUMENT

<p>(for IRF-funded projects)</p>	
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Please include signature block for each RTMD receiving funds under this IRF.

IRF PROJECT DOCUMENT

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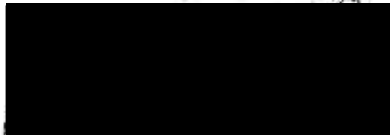
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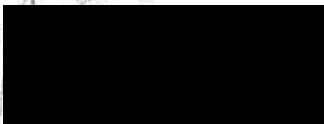


Mr. *[Signature]* *Meiler Omurzakov*
UNFPA
Assistant Representative

(i) stamp PBSO for mission savings and RC for non-mission savings. If it is a joint project all the Heads of UN Entities/Agencies receiving funds should sign)

Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)

Name of Representative



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Peacebuilding Support Office, NY

Date & Seal

16 MAR 2015

Representative of National Authorities



Mr. *[Signature]* *Buzurbay Kudairbegen Buzurbayevich*
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Resident Coordinator (RC)

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²Please include signature block for each UN/O receiving funds under this IRF.

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I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support

a) Peacebuilding context

i. Major conflict issues and triggers

Economic instability and disenfranchisement among youth, along with related migration trends, represent some of the **greatest threats to gender equality and inclusive peacebuilding** in the Kyrgyz Republic today. As substantial portions of the country's young population, particularly women and men from rural areas, leave their communities to work abroad, family and neighborhood support structures decay, allowing root causes of conflict to fester, including frustration with lack of economic and social opportunities and inadequate government services for cohesive communal living. The lack of perspective flowing from declining state and social support systems **exacerbates the symptoms of gender inequality, such as discrimination, violence, and exploitation of women and girls**. Traditional institutions for preserving community peace, such as local self-government and elders' courts, are rapidly losing moral status as the younger generation observes their inability to solve the pervasive problems of poverty and corruption.

In the absence of effective mechanisms for countering resulting disenchantment and feelings of insecurity, **many youth are turning to alternative routes of economic and social activity**, including not only labor migration but also criminal enterprises and radical religious groups, both within Kyrgyzstan and abroad. Women, in particular, may see support structures that turn out to be subversive and non-traditional as an opportunity for security and protection of their rights which are guaranteed by the Kyrgyz Constitution and national legislation, but today remain largely unenforced by governmental and community structures.³

The decline of family support systems as labor migration rises creates an **even more tenuous situation for women and girls in the country**, who suffer both from the lack of community support and assistance mechanisms as well as the risk of exploitation. Civil society groups around the country report rising levels of gender-based violence, and trafficking of women and girls for sexual and labor purposes is also increasingly observed. In 2012, 23% of women in Kyrgyzstan reported suffering physical domestic violence since age 15, and one-third of all women felt that hitting a woman was justified under some circumstances.⁴ Many women seek work opportunities abroad in order to escape poverty and violence in their families or to support aging family members and children, only to fall victim to exploitative practices at the hands of criminal groups once outside the country.⁵ Recently numerous reports of Kyrgyz women being trafficked for sexual and combat exploitation in violent conflicts have emerged,⁶ and fears that rising numbers of young women will be recruited by radical groups are becoming increasingly credible and urgent. Certain radical religious groups openly acknowledge targeting women in Central Asia for recruitment due to their ability to influence children and other family members.⁷ The State National Security Committee reports that 29 women from Kyrgyzstan are known to be in Syria today serving in combat, caring for wounded militants, or engaging in "sexual jihad."⁸ Local NGOs report that women fall prey to radical group recruiters for reasons including conflicts at home, unemployment, and past victimization, such as loss of a loved one in the June 2010 inter-ethnic violence.⁹

The sexual exploitation of young women in conflict, as well as the rise in frequency of early marriage defended by radical teachings, carries grave consequences for the sexual and reproductive health of girls, and bars women and girls from realizing their right to access basic services like education and full participation in community and public life. These young women and girls are ultimately prevented from participating as actors in inclusive peace-building processes and as advocates for positive social change, including gender equality.

³ *Discussions held in Bishkek on Opposition to ISIS and Involvement of Women in Extremist Groups*, ISLAMIN.SNG, 22 Oct. 2014, <http://www.islaminsng.com/kyz/report/8257>.

⁴ NATIONAL STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2012, at 248, 279.

⁵ Radio Free Liberty Europe, "Kyrgyz Victims Recount Horrors of Sex Trafficking," 14 Oct. 2014,

<http://www.rferl.org/media/video/kyrgyzstan-trafficking-slavery/26637176.html>; U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT, *2013 Trafficking in Persons Report: Kyrgyz Republic*.

⁶ *Kyrgyzstan Struggles with Rise of Fanatic Islamists*, EURASIANET.ORG, 18 Sept. 2014, <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/70036>.

⁷ LIMITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE, *Special Report: Preventing Violent Extremism in Kyrgyzstan* (Oct. 2014), at 5-6.

⁸ *Jihadists recruit more Kyrgyz women*, CENTRAL ASIA ONLINE, 17 Oct. 2014,

http://centralasiaonline.com/en_GB/articles/cai/features/nq/14/10/14/feature-01.

⁹ *Id.*

At the same time, growing concern with the threat of radicalization, fueled largely by an uninformed and often irresponsible media, is leading to increasingly tough rhetoric and legislative measures by the government sometimes putting at risk religious freedoms. This may alienate peaceful, moderate religious groups that not only comprise the majority of religious devotees in Kyrgyzstan, but also constitute allies of the state and civil society in combating violence that threatens both gender equality and state stability.

Another effect of recent media reports and national fear of the exploitation of women and girls has been growing support for the restriction of women's liberties and freedom of movement, a direct threat to the goal of furthering gender equality and women's rights in the country. A draft resolution passed by Parliament in 2013 spoke of the need to "preserve the moral values and prevent a demographic crisis."¹⁰ Disturbingly as in contradiction with Constitutional requirements, some members of Parliament have proposed that women under the age of 23 should be prevented from traveling abroad without parental permission, ostensibly in order to protect them from exploitation.¹¹ Clearly, these attempts to limit the independence of women and force their compliance with cultural stereotypes, rather than to provide for their protection abroad in the absence of the state currently effectively providing such protection on Kyrgyz Republic soil.

ii. Critical current needs

Establishing a gender-equal peace requires a clear understanding of the preconditions for and threats to it, which is currently lacking. Although numerous sources, including high-level government actors and voices in civil society, note the growing problems of gender discrimination and declining opportunities and a shrinking public space for women, as well as the threat posed to women and girls by criminal and radical groups, to date no comprehensive study exists seeking to understand the sources of these problems and prevailing gender practices which may contribute to them, in order to develop practicable, effective solutions. Vast amounts of anecdotal 'data' cannot inform the effective realization of government commitments for achieving gender equality and neutralizing threats to the safety of women and girls, or civil society efforts to do so.

Actors currently engaged in promoting gender equality in Kyrgyzstan lack a credible, evidence-based foundation with which to analyze the way in which societal gender norms are shifting at individual and community levels. This including attitudes and expectations of traditional gender roles, household economics, and involvement in community institutions, such as religious groups, and how these changes relate to migration patterns and gender inequality, including violence against women and girls and youth involvement in criminal enterprises.

The proposed project – the design, preparation, implementation, and dissemination of a nationwide **Gender in Society Perceptions Study (GSPP)** – is well suited to meet this crucial need by providing a convincing and reliable source of information on risk factors for gender inequality and threats to inclusive peacebuilding and by directly supporting government policymaker, international actors and civil society to integrate this new data into implementation of current strategies and future plans. As described below, this study would allow all actors working on promoting gender-equal peace in Kyrgyzstan to understand the pressing issues of instability, mistrust, and conflict leading to gender discrimination, including violence and exploitation, as well as their relationship to migration and poverty and women's susceptibility to radicalization.

iii. Peacebuilding strategies in place and focus

The 2013 Peacebuilding Priorities Plan for the Kyrgyz Republic addresses three PBF outcome areas: rule of law, national reconciliation, and democratic governance. More specifically, the PPP sets forth the following priority outcomes: 1) critical laws and policies are created to uphold rule of law and protect human rights; 2) the capacity of local self-government bodies and state institutions is strengthened to facilitate peaceful coexistence and resolution of conflicts; and 3) policies and programming are generated and carried out to support the development of a common civic identity and respect for human rights.

¹⁰ *Parliament Adopts Resolution "On measures to protect the rights of Kyrgyz Republic citizens traveling abroad"*. JOCORUY KINESI PRESS CENTER, 13 Jun 2013, <http://www.kenesh.kg/RIS/Pages/ViewNews.aspx?id=80&NewsID=12565>

¹¹ *Parliament Adopts Restrictions on Travel Abroad by Young Kyrgyz Women*. VECLERNI BISHKEK, 12 Jun 2013, http://www.vb.kg/doc/231867_parlament_prijal_ogranichenia_po_vyezdy_molodyh_kyrgyzstanok_za_granicy.html

The GSPS would directly or indirectly support the realization of all three of these priority outcomes by providing crucial data on gender relations and social and cultural practices, and the most pressing problems disproportionately affecting women, so far lacking in the development of policies and interventions. With the evidence provided by the KAP, state actors, international agencies, and NGOs will be informed to more effectively design policies and programmes focused on protecting the human rights of women and girls. This project will also build national capacity within state institutions, local universities and civil society actors to support the development and assessment of the policies and plans implemented to resolve conflicts.

Table 1: Mapping of existing peacebuilding activities and gaps

Project outcome	Source of funding	Key Projects/ Activities	Duration of projects/ activities	Budget in \$	Description of major gaps in the Outcome Area, programmatic or financial
Promote effective democratic governance	1) USAID	1) Parliamentary Strengthening and Promoting Human Rights	1) 2010-2015	1) \$8,623,529	Projects that work on democratic governance do not examine the specific modes of communication and level of trust that exist between community members, especially women and girls, and community institutions, such as local self-government bodies, religious institutions, and informal justice mechanisms, in order to assess how best to resolve conflicts for women and girls and neutralize threats to gender equality.
	2) UNDP/ UNICEF	2) Strengthening Capacities of LSGs for Peacebuilding	2) 2014-2016	2) \$1,728,877	
	3) UNHCR	3) Building Trust and Confidence among People, Communities and Authorities	3) 2014-2016	3) \$1,424,246	
Promote rule of law, respect for human rights, and conflict mitigation	1) UN Women (PBF)	1) Building a Constituency for Peace	1) 2014-2017	1) \$1,602,150	Existing projects do not clearly identify key risk factors for gender inequality, including violence and radicalization, or create a workable evidence base for future policymaking and programming.
	2) OHCHR (PBF)	2) Peace and Reconciliation through Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection	2) 2014-2016	2) \$973,753	
Promote peaceful development	1) UNFPA (PBF)	1) Multisectoral cooperation for Inter-Ethnic Peace Building in Kyrgyzstan	1) 2014-2015	1) \$822,140	These projects do not explore the relationship between religious leaders, other community organizations, and young constituents in order to understand their potential role in directly mitigating conflict and addressing gender discrimination and violence.
	2) UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA (PBF)	2) Youth for Peaceful Changes	2) 2014-2016	2) \$1,522,351	
Promote common civic identity	1) UNICEF, OHCHR	1) Unity in Diversity (PBF) (promoting multilingualism)	1) 2014-2017	1) \$3,376,535	Programming aimed at promoting harmony and reduced tensions between ethnicities does not investigate how lack of trust in state and community institutions may disproportionately affect women from minority ethnic groups and does not address such risks.

Strengthen law enforcement capacity and inclusivity	1) UNODC (PBI)	1) Peace and Trust Equal Access to Law Enforcement and Justice	1) 2014-2017	1) \$1,460,700	Programs working on strengthening law enforcement do not address root causes of gendered conflicts and the mechanisms by which they could be mitigated before escalating into need for law enforcement.
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c) Rationale for this IRF:

1. How can this project make a peace relevant difference and why is now the right time?

The June 2010 inter-ethnic conflict featured high levels of sexual violence. The conflict erupted in a situation of competition over limited and economic resources constricted from growing by weak governance and high levels of corruption. Constrained economic resources are also a root cause of migration. In 2014, at a time that at best a tenuous stability has prevailed for several years under the current government, now is a critical moment to capture a comprehensive and realistic assessment of the factors underlying community conflict in order to prevent their further negative impact on the future of women and girls. **Understanding perceptions about gender**, including attitudes towards – and women’s experiences of – exploitation and violence, and **how these perceptions relate to migration patterns and the involvement of community institutions** will play a vital role in **developing appropriate programs and policies to effectively prevent further gendered conflict** and involvement of young women with criminal enterprises and radical groups.

Providing state institutions with the required data and analysis **to design and implement targeted, responsive, and gender-sensitive policies** plays a key role in Kyrgyzstan’s peacebuilding process. The Department on Ethnic, Religious Policy and Interaction with Civil Society of the Office of the President and the National Defense Council are key stakeholders in this process and will be consulted throughout especially in regards to the nature of questions to be posed in the KAP and its methodology to ensure full ownership and to sustain confidence in the process. Politicians, decision makers and development partners in the Kyrgyz Republic lack a thorough, evidence-based understanding of gender issues, addressing them only by considering women as victims deserving no questions-asked grants or project beneficiaries, which disempowers women further. Little investment is made in attempts to eliminate root causes of gender inequality. Well-documented links between gender equality and all other areas of policy, economic, and social development are usually ignored. If state services and policies are not designed and implemented to effectively address citizens’ needs, particularly those of women and minorities, the wider population will continue to mistrust and avoid state institutions (or duty bearers), driving further conflict.

The uniquely positive impact of the proposed project stems from its ability **to generate sorely needed data on gender and conflict factors while simultaneously building the capacity of government institutions, universities, and young women and men associated with them** to continue collecting and understanding similar data in the future, thus facilitating ongoing improvement in development of policies and programs designed to promote peace and gender equality. In order for the project to have the desired impact data collection, analysis and dissemination phases lead into a series of policy planning workshops between the RUNOs and their respective state counterparts, with participation of civil society representatives and international organisations. This will help state entities to integrate the study’s findings towards the end of enhanced policy planning, putting gender equality promotion at the heart of policy making, and giving civil society solid evidence to inform policy making, not least in relation to peace building. The project has been carefully designed to initiate sustained cooperation with state research centres including those linked to universities with the aim of creating a stable and gender-sensitive research and policymaking environment for analysis and planning in future.

This project will make a critical contribution to **bridging the gap between the Kyrgyz government’s stated policy objectives** on the elimination of gender inequality (through its National Strategy for Gender Equality 2012-2020) and the strengthening of women’s participation in peacebuilding processes (through NAP 1325) **and the lagging realization of those commitments**. The government’s challenges in fully implementing these policy goals are significantly rooted in the

near-complete absence of reliable information on the mechanisms underlying gender equality and risk factors for violence and abuse of women, including the rise in exploitation schemes disguised as economic opportunities for youth. Unfulfilled expectations by national and local governments threaten to unravel the progress the country has made towards achieving a peaceful, inclusive, and more prosperous nation for women and men of a variety of ethnicities as well as numerous religions. By shedding light on the largest risk factors and the mechanisms through which young people adopt gender role expectations and tolerance of violence, **the findings of the GSPS will help inform national and local government organs in order to neutralize these threats to gender equality and countrywide peacebuilding.** Access to the data generated by the study would also empower international agencies, including UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM, as well as civil society actors to assess the effectiveness of their peacebuilding approaches thus far and adjust their current and future strategies and programming as necessary in order to ultimately achieve a gender-equal peace in Kyrgyzstan.

ii. Why is PBF the right mechanism?

This project addresses the urgent gendered aspects of peacebuilding expressed in PBF objectives, the 7-Point Action Plan on Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding, and the National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325. The GSPS would **explore and clarify the fundamental problems of faltering trust and human security at the community level that were identified by the conflict analysis** in the Kyrgyz Republic 2013 Peacebuilding Priorities Plan. The complex web of conflict synergies noted in the PPP – including those between weak governance and social disintegration, impunity, and lack of trust – affect women disproportionately in the forms of rising levels of gender-based violence, discrimination, and virtually no access to justice. This creates an environment in which women are disempowered and especially vulnerable to exploitation and denial of their fundamental rights to basic social services. An **effective, gender-mainstreamed approach to addressing these risk factors requires a more complete understanding of the gender dimensions of these conflict synergies**, which is what the GSPS will provide.

Furthermore, the GSPS would support the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) and other Resolutions on Women and Security, such as UNSCR 2122, by increasing capacity for national actors to identify and analyze the gendered aspects of community-level conflict and threats to women's participation in peacebuilding, which would allow state and non-state actors in peacebuilding to examine and revise their programmes. The GSPS will also provide timely information and analysis about how women and men are differently affected by instability and conflict in Kyrgyzstan and their role in mitigating these threats to gender equality and peace.

The project also **further Commitment 4 of the 7-Point Action Plan on Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding**, building gender-responsive civilian capacity,¹³ through several mechanisms. First, the training of university partners, national institutions, regional NGO affiliates, and survey teams in each province will focus on gender-sensitive research methods, especially confidentiality measures, victim protection, and participation of women in the planning and design of research tools. Second, the project will generate critical understanding of, and strategies for analyzing, gender awareness and inclusiveness in peacebuilding efforts in young women and men at committed local universities, who are staged to move on to government administration posts, NGO and IGO positions, and other influential community leadership roles. Third, the project will directly enhance the capacity of national government statisticians, interviewers, and administrators to identify and analyze gender discrimination risk factors by involving these actors in the design and implementation of the gender and conflict-related research questions, survey administration, and data analysis, this including a focus on gender practices and their possible impact on issues of peace and security.

Finally, the GSPS will directly support the Kyrgyz government's NAP1325 and the National Strategy for Achieving Gender Equality, 2012-2020, by generating and disseminating information for the public and stakeholders, especially government and civil society, about urgent threats to women and girls in local conflicts and women's potential to create more peaceful communities,¹⁴ as well as by providing direct support to the working groups assigned to develop these strategies on integration of

¹³ Report of the Secretary-General on Women's Participation in Peacebuilding, Tracking Progress: 7-Point Action Plan, point 4 (A/65/354-S/2010/466).

¹⁴ Kyrgyz Republic, National Action Plan (2013) on UNSC Res. 1325, Objective 4.2. Currently there is a discussion ongoing on extending the current NAP 1325 by one year.

the findings into both the NAP 1325 and the NAP on Gender Equality. The information generated by the study would feed directly into the development of the National Strategy implementation plan for 2016-2018, which would consequently be able to identify and directly address the most pressing acute dangers regarding a roll-back on progress made towards gender equality.

iii. Coherence with and contribution to other PBF projects in the country

This proposal complements well the existing PBF-funded projects in Kyrgyzstan and fully bolsters the realization of the three priority outcomes outlined by the 2013 **Peacebuilding Priorities Plan** described above. The project draws upon and synergistically supports the early results of UN Women's PRF-funded project "*Building a Constituency for Peace*," which is building knowledge of and respect for gender equality and rule of law, as well as capacity for income-generating skills, among youth in many conflict-prone areas around the Kyrgyz Republic in order to establish a solid generational foundation for peaceful and secular communities and, ultimately, the stability of the nation. The GSPS would gauge the perceptions of youth and their family members nationwide in order to **understand shifting gender practices and factors possibly contributing to positive outcomes, including healthy and equality-based gender relations and rejection of radicalization and exploitation of women and girls**, as well as risk factors contributing to tendencies towards extremism and inequality between women and men. A solid understanding of these influences and risk factors will allow UN Women, along with its implementing partners and other actors engaged in gender equality and peace promotion education initiatives, to **more effectively monitor the impact of its programming and design future initiatives that concisely address the knowledge gaps and combat negative influences**.

The GSPS also **builds upon and feeds into the UNFPA-implemented PBF project "*Multi-sectoral Cooperation for Inter-ethnic Peace Building in Kyrgyzstan*,"** which engages religious leaders, local self-government, and other community actors in order to promote peaceful human development and prevent conflict at a local and national level. The GSPS will **analyze the role of these community entities and their impact on the attitudes and actions of community members**, particularly young women and men who are disenchanted with traditional institutions and at risk of exploitation by criminal actors, including extremist groups. Better understanding the relationship between these actors will not only help UNFPA adjust its implementation strategy for maximally effective peace-promoting results, but will also allow a wide range of other peacebuilding actors, such as civil society, other members of the UNCT, other international agencies, and religious leaders to **design and implement programs better tailored to address gendered aspects of peacebuilding challenges** identified by the study.

Further, the project would **bolster IOM's current development and counter-trafficking program activities in Kyrgyzstan**. IOM's work in the country focuses largely on assisting victims of conflict and trafficking, including the provision of safe accommodation, income-generating support, medical assistance, and vocational training. The GSPS will shed light and provide critical analysis on conflict factors contributing to, and resulting from, human trafficking trends, thereby advancing understanding of migration issues and their related risks. IOM would use the findings of the study to program future counter-trafficking and development initiatives in order to contribute to overall peacebuilding efforts in the country.

Members of the submitting agencies' extensive network of over 50 NGO partners will also benefit from the results of the study for their own peacebuilding programming.

II. Objectives of PBF support and proposed implementation

Given the limitation in timeframe of the IRF, GPRS will produce data and make it available to a range of stakeholders, including international development actors, Government and civil society. While UN Women and other UN APP will use this evidence as the basis for finalizing and implementing its current country programme, Government cannot be expected *within the timeframe of the IRF* to implement strategies derived from this evidence. However, UN Women in its country programme focusses on this follow-up action through 2017, and in particular on building state capacity to do so, as will UNFPA and IOM.

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

Primary Project Outcome: Policy making and programming pursued by state institutions, the UNCT, development partners and civil society ensures gender equality promotion and inclusive peacebuilding based on evidence. The GSPS will generate a substantial, reliable evidence base on the nature of gender roles present-day Kyrgyzstan, this including in relation to forms of gender discrimination and community-level trends that pose risks to women's empowerment and prevent women's full and meaningful participation in conflict resolution, the GSPS will create the conditions for significantly more effective and targeted interventions by government, UN agencies and other international organizations participating in ongoing peacebuilding efforts, NGOs, and other civil society representatives. This study would provide concrete, quantitative indicators on a range of gender equality indicators, for example, proportion of women who have experienced gender discrimination in specific government and non-governmental institutions, and the proportion of women who exercise decision-making power in the home. Other information that will be collected may cover related issues of special interest to state partners such as that of attendance of madrassas by girls and boys of school-age. The GSPS would also provide contextual attitudinal and knowledge data relating to available data, for example, individual experience of gender-based violence as defined by core statistical indicators on violence against women.¹⁴ Through creating a clear and highly public understanding of where the most compelling threats to gender equality lie, the findings of the GSPS will simultaneously explain the modalities of these potential conflict triggers, exert pressure on government and civil society to effectively address these problem areas, and allow for informed, evidence-based policymaking. They will also enable the UNCT, including the implementing RUNOs, to assess the effectiveness of their ongoing peacebuilding projects and make adjustments in future strategic planning and project design in order to directly address the threats and risks identified by the GSPS for lasting peace and gender equality. The results of this study will inform the development of the upcoming UNDAF for the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as the Country Program Action Plans for UNFPA, UNDP, and others.

Theory of change: If key state and non-state actors command firstly: an informed understanding of risk factors to gender equality and conflict affecting women and girls; secondly: the capacity to understand shifting societal perceptions of gender relations; and thirdly the increasing tension between the latter and Constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, then they will be able to design and implement effective interventions for ensuring Constitutional rights for women and men, because effective policy making requires a sound evidence base which will be provided by the KAP.

Division of responsibilities: In implementing the GSPS, each of the three partner agencies will exercise primary responsibility for one of three overarching spheres of activity, with support from the other two agencies as necessary and detailed below. UN Women, as the lead agency, will oversee the qualitative research component, particularly the identification, training, and supervision of the qualitative research design team; the training and supervision of qualitative research teams across the country as they collect data; and the supervision of the qualitative data analysis. UN Women is also responsible for the integration of the qualitative and quantitative data into the final study results to be presented to the public. UNFPA will manage and monitor the quantitative research component, including the design and administration of the KAP survey, implemented by NSC, and the quantitative data input, cleaning, and analysis. IOM will provide substantive expertise for the training of research teams on victim-sensitive interviewing techniques, confidentiality, and secure data storage and management.

UN Women, IOM, UNFPA and their respective Implementing Partners will commit to ensuring anonymity of informants, the protection of data collected, and a presentation of results eliminating any opportunity for identification of individual informants. This in no way will be at the cost of a transparent collection of data and its verifiability up to publication of data.

Output 1: In the context of threats to gender equality and peace, opportunities and strategies for equal participation of women and girls in community level processes are clearly identified by a KAP study that provides evidence for more gender responsive policy and programming.

¹⁴ The nine core statistical indicators were developed in 2009 to help states conceive of data collection efforts to assess the prevalence and severity of violence against women on their territory. Eight of these indicators were included in the 2012 Demographic and Health Study (the ninth, regarding female genital mutilation, was not assessed), which provides the statistics on VAW in Kyrgyzstan discussed above. See NATIONAL STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, *supra* note 4.

Overview: Through the implementation and dissemination of the Gender in Society Perceptions Study, state agencies, national NGOs, international organizations, including the UNCT, and civil society will gain vital, *quantified* understanding of the mechanisms underlying urgent gender inequality issues, including violence against women and girls, trafficking of women abroad, and exploitation of women in labor migration. This comes after numerous Media reports about women being trafficked to war zones where they are exploited sexually and used as surrogate mothers, upon return these women are used as radical agents to destabilize the situation in the country. Moreover, the research to be conducted within the proposed project will help demonstrate interrelatedness of the above mentioned issues with societal trends such as the breakdown of the traditional family structure, financial distress at a household level, and the rise of fringe social and religious groups. Furthermore, the study's *qualitative* component, designed and facilitated by university partners in the Kyrgyz Republic with proven research faculties, will provide context and depth to the quantitative indicators in order to more fully explain entrenched and changing gender practices as well as the identified risks for gender discrimination and the methodologies through which these risks can be mitigated. Together, this combined strategy for elucidating current challenges to inclusive conflict resolution efforts will create an evidence base for the government and other organizations to create more effective, gender-mainstreamed policies and programming for gender equality, counter-trafficking and lasting peace in Kyrgyzstan.

Activities: UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM consult government and non-governmental partners, including other international agencies, to develop appropriate research questions for basis of GSPS; quantitative and qualitative research is carried out (see below Outputs 2 and 3); UN Women integrates quantitative and qualitative findings into final report; UN Women writes policy briefers based on GSPS findings dealing with specific policy topics for wide dissemination; UN Women translates final report and policy briefers into Russian and Kyrgyz; UN Women facilitates in public GSPS presentation event with wide participation from government, international agencies, civil society, and academia; UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM integrate findings into strategic planning and programming from 2016; UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM meet with UNCT and discuss how GSPS findings shall be integrated into the next UNDAF for the Kyrgyz Republic; UN Women organizes a series of workshops for state actors and international organizations aimed at integrating the GSPS findings into future policies, including the NAPI325 (currently under consideration for extension), the 2016-2018 Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for Gender Equality, and ongoing legislative review relating to gender-based violence and gender equality.

Output 2: National institutional capacity in gender-sensitive data collection and analysis is strengthened.

Overview: By training and empowering National Statistical Committee (NSC) staff and supervisors for administering the KAP survey component of the GSPS, as well as involving the Department on Ethnic and Religious Policies under the President (Department) in the research design, the project will both benefit from the NSC's national credibility as well as build institutional capacity to render these bodies more effective in addressing gender inequality and violence through expanded understanding of, and experience in, gender-sensitive research methods and analysis, including the collection of anonymous data and protection of data. Through participation in the project, the NSC will be poised to design and execute gender-sensitive and statistically valid research plans for understanding critically important shifts in societal perceptions regarding gender inequality and community institutions. This future data collection and dissemination will inform ongoing responsive, effective, and gender-mainstreamed policymaking and programming by the Department, other state institutions, international agencies, and national NGOs for equality, peace, and security.

Activities: UNFPA, with input from UN Women, IOM, National Statistical Committee, and the Department develops sound, inclusive Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice (KAP) questionnaire, which is validated by national and international experts; UNFPA designs sample and KAP implementation plan; UN Women and IOM review draft KAP questionnaire and implementation plan for compliance with gender mainstreaming principles and ethical concerns relating to victim sensitivity and confidentiality; UNFPA, with facilitation and support from IOM, develops training module for NSC staff to carry out the KAP survey; UNFPA trains NSC staff administering the KAP survey in practical interviewing techniques on sensitive topics, as well as gender-aware interviewing, victim confidentiality, and *Do-No-Harm* principles; UNFPA tests practical and theoretical knowledge of

trained KAP survey teams for quality assurance; NSC, supervised by UNFPA, field tests KAP survey; NSC makes revisions to survey and research plan as necessary; NSC, supervised by UNFPA, carries out KAP research in each region of the country in compliance with data protection and confidentiality standards; NSC, supervised and facilitated by UNFPA, inputs and analyzes KAP data, which is then passed to UN Women for integration into the larger GSPS; UNFPA, NSC, and the Department participate in presentation of GSPS findings and final report to public audience.

Output 3: Capacity for gender-sensitive conflict research and analysis in several committed state research institutions (including universities) in the Kyrgyz Republic is strengthened.

A Research Working Group (RWG) comprising professors and students from local universities and analysts from state research institutions with a track record of high-level qualitative research, will be capacitated to help design and oversee the implementation of the GSPS' qualitative aspects, thus building capacity for similar future efforts. University researchers represent an important, but so far neglected, actor in local peacebuilding efforts that should be engaged to consolidate national capacity on data collection and analysis. Members of the RWG, who will be carefully selected based on experience and commitment level, will receive extensive and substantive theoretical and practical training in research methods for gender-mainstreamed and confidential data collection, secure data storage and *Do-No-Harm* principles. Representatives of the four potential partner universities have already been consulted and expressed strong support and enthusiasm for participating in the research. By designing the research plan and methodology and analyzing the data collected by trained qualitative researchers in each region, the members of the RWG will gain hands-on experience in gender-sensitive qualitative study design and implementation. The benefit of this approach is that these students and professors will be well positioned to further disseminate knowledge on shifting gender practices and adopt a gender-mainstreamed approach to future research efforts. Students are likely to assume important positions in society as they build their careers subsequent to graduation. Furthermore, through their ownership over and full integration into the research design and validation process, institutional knowledge in these educational centers will be bolstered and passed on to future students. Similarly, analytical skills and commitment to academic integrity will be built. However, as the RWG cannot be expected to field a sufficiently large number of individuals meeting the criteria, the group will be complemented by select individuals with the required background, some of whom are drawn from the civil society networks of UN Women, UNFPA and IOM.

Activities: UN Women establishes formal RWG, comprised of qualified and committed professors specializing in qualitative research and some students with basic research background; UN Women trains researchers in gender-sensitive research methods, victim confidentiality, secure data storage, and *Do-No-Harm* principles; UN Women leads consultations with UNFPA, IOM, and other government and non-governmental actors to develop preliminary research questions on threats to gender equality and participation including exploitation and violence against women and girls, gender roles and their relationship to factors such as migration and economic dependence, and women's participation in community institutions and local self-government; UN Women passes initial research questions to RWG, which conducts initial research on these topics and develops core qualitative research plan for the GSPS; UN Women, with assistance from IOM, facilitates five bi-weekly research sessions in which RWG presents findings and discusses qualitative research methodology for the GSPS; UN Women, with participation and input from partner NGOs and RWG, identifies and establishes research teams to collect qualitative data in each region; UN Women, with input from IOM, develops training module for qualitative research teams; UN Women trains qualitative research teams in interviewing techniques, gender-sensitive research methods, victim confidentiality, and *Do-No-Harm* principles; Qualitative research teams, supervised and facilitated by UN Women, carry out research in each province; RWG monitors qualitative data collection, aggregates and analyzes data from field qualitative research teams on a rolling basis; RWG finalizes qualitative data analysis and passes to UN Women; UN Women integrates final qualitative findings with quantitative KAP data into final GSPS report and summary policy briefers; UN Women facilitates RWG participation in final public presentation and dissemination of GSPS findings.

Geographic scope: The GSPS will cover every province of Kyrgyzstan. Trainings of qualitative and quantitative researcher teams will take place in Bishkek (teams covering Bishkek, Chul, Issyk-Kul, and Talas) and Osh (teams covering Batken, Jalal-Abad, Naryn, Osh province, and Osh city); the NSC will carry out survey administration in each administrative region of the country through its field

offices; the qualitative research team will carry out research in each administrative region with support and assistance from partner NGOs; GPS findings will be widely distributed at a presentation event in Bishkek and through partner NGOs in other provinces.

b) **Budget:** Provide the envisaged project budget, using the two tables below: (1) activity by activity budget and (2) UN Categories budget. Provide any additional remarks on the scale of the budget and value-for-money, referring to the Value for Money checklist.

Table 2: Project Activity Budget

Outcome/ Output number	Output name	Output budget by RUNO	UN budget category	Any remarks
Outcome 1: Effectiveness of gender equality promotion and inclusive peacebuilding efforts by government institutions, international agencies including the UNCT, and partner NGOs is strengthened.				
Output 1.1	Identification of threats to gender equality and peace	UN Women USD 341,797		
Output 1.2	National institution capacity building	UNFPA USD 248,400		
Output 1.3	Gender-sensitive research capacity building among universities and researchers	IOM USD 40,803 UN Women USD 70,000		
Total				

Table 3: Project budget by UN categories

PBF PROJECT BUDGET (in USD)				
CATEGORIES	Amount Recipient Agency UN Women	Amount Recipient Agency UNFPA	Amount Recipient Agency IOM	TOTAL
1. Staff and other personnel	-		23,634	23,634
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials				
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	1,800			1,800
4. Contractual services	24,100	15,000	14,500	53,600
5. Travel	5,400	10,000		15,400
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	277,425	200,000		477,425
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	9,777	7,150		16,927
Sub-Total Project Costs	318,502	232,150	38,134	588,786
8. Indirect Support Costs	22,295	16,251	2,669	41,215
TOTAL	340,797	248,401	40,803	630,001

c) Capacity of RUNOs and implementing partners:

UN Women's mandate on promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, in addition to its extensive experience and engagement in promoting gender-inclusive peace and equality in Kyrgyzstan, provides the fundamental foundation for the present proposal. The agency possesses **broad experience on gender promoting aspects of peacebuilding efforts** following the June 2010 events, including the ongoing implementation of PBF-funded project "*Building a Constituency for Peace*" in 25 municipalities across the country. Furthermore, the organization **maintains an excellent network of active and committed NGO partners in every province** of the nation who have expressed their enthusiastic support for, and willingness to help facilitate, the GSPS in order to better design and implement their organizational activities to strengthen gender equality and prevent exploitation and radicalization of women and girls across the country.

UNFPA's "Data for Development" organizational mission provides for **strengthening national capacity in data production and analysis** in order to **inform decision-making and policy formulation around population dynamics**, with focus on maternal health, sexual and reproductive health, and gender-based violence, including sexual violence. This mandate and experience make the UNFPA ideally suited for the pursuit of evidence on perceptions and practice surrounding gender roles. As the partner in the GSPS in charge of the quantitative data aspects, the UNFPA brings a long-term **and outstanding partnership with the National Statistical Committee, a wealth of expertise in the collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated statistics, and management capacity** for data-informed and comprehensive multisectoral efforts to address gender-based violence.

IOM's strategy focuses on **advancing understanding of migration issues and upholding the human dignity and well-being of migrants** through research on social and economic development and national capacity-building. The agency provides expertise for analyzing the impact of economic pull factors and migration on gender inequality and exploitation, and addressing the possible risks associated with the GSPS. In particular, IOM possesses **extensive experience in trafficked victim protection measures and confidential collection and processing of data**, having assisted in the rehabilitation and reintegration of over 1,800 trafficking victims in the country. IOM will also provide

critical analysis of the research questions and instruments to ensure compliance with a *Do-No-Harm* approach and statistical validity.

The National Statistical Committee brings over a decade of experience in collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated statistics in the Kyrgyz Republic. The NSC recently implemented the household survey component of the USAID-financed 2012 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and possesses the human and institutional resources in every province of the country, including an established sampling framework, to carry out the KAP component of the GSPS.

The universities and state research institutions to be involved in the GSPS host established research units. Select professors analysts with strong research backgrounds from several entities have already been identified and would, together with suitable students, comprise a working group with strong technical research abilities and a range of relevant substantive expertise.

Table 4.1: Overview of RUNO 1 funding in the country				
	RUNO 1: UN Women	Key Source of Funding	Annual Regular Budget in \$	Annual emergency budget (e.g. CAP)
Previous calendar year	\$ 1,100,000	UN Women core resources, EC, Austria, Poland	\$ 700,000	N/A
Current calendar year	\$ 1,600,000	UN Women core resources, PBSO, EC, Norway	\$ 750,000	N/A
Table 4.2: Overview of RUNO 2 funding in the country				
	RUNO 2: UNFPA	Key Source of Funding	Annual Regular Budget in \$	Annual emergency budget (e.g. CAP)
Previous calendar year	Regular resources	UNFPA External donors	\$800,000	N/A
	UBRAF	Pulled funding by UNAIDS co-sponsors	\$32,000	
	Global RH commodity Security Program	Global Trust Fund	\$93,000	
Current calendar year	Regular resources	UNFPA External donors	\$800,000	N/A
	UBRAF	Pulled funding by UNAIDS co-sponsors	\$32,000	
	Global RH commodity Security Program	Global Trust Fund	\$93,000	
	PBF	UN PBF	\$650,000	
Table 4.3: Overview of RUNO 3 funding in the country				
	RUNO 3: IOM	Key Source of Funding	Annual Regular Budget in \$	Annual emergency budget (e.g. CAP)
Previous calendar year	Regular resources	IOM External donors	\$1,442,194	N/A
Current calendar year	Regular resources	IOM External donors	\$1,014,752	N/A

III. Management and coordination

a) Project management

UN Women will oversee the overall effective implementation of the project and will review regular and formal progress reports from UNFPA and IOM. As detailed above, each of the three implementing RUNOs will hold primary responsibility for one of the three Project Outputs according to each organization's capacity, resources, and experience in past peacebuilding efforts. The implementing RUNOs will share a clear understanding of which concrete and specific tasks are to be executed and by whom. Past cooperation efforts between the agencies, as well as strong personal working relationships and communication channels, will ensure seamless, efficient coordination on the project's defined activities.

In addition, the experience of UN Women and UNFPA in managing the PBF projects described above ensures the effective establishment of coherence with other relevant peacebuilding projects, including seeking expertise among other PBF project implementing agencies. The implementing RUNOs will also regularly liaise with other international agencies and national NGOs participating in peacebuilding initiatives to seek input and expertise during the development, administration, and analysis of the GSPS.

h) Risk management:

Table 5 – Risk management matrix

Risks to the achievement of PBF outcomes	Likelihood of occurrence	Severity of risk impact	Mitigating Strategy (and Person/Unit responsible)
Reluctance of interviewees to speak about sensitive topics such as religiosity, gender roles, and economic issues	Medium	Medium	The sensitivity of the topic matter has been carefully considered in the design of the project activities, such that the risk is maximally mitigated. First, both the quantitative and qualitative research questions and instruments will be designed and validated with participation of national actors, including experienced university researchers, the National Statistical Committee, and partner NGOs in every region of the country, who fully understand local dynamics and sensitivities. Second, all researchers involved in the project will undergo extensive training from UN Women and IOM in gender mainstreaming principles, victim sensitivity and confidentiality, <i>Do-No-Harm</i> ethical standards, and secure data storage. Third, all data collected during the research, which will in itself be anonymous, will be managed and stored securely under the supervision of UNFPA, which has extensive experience in managing confidential data on sensitive topics.
Safety and privacy of respondents during and after data collection is compromised	Low	Medium	Both quantitative and qualitative research teams will be carefully preselected and thoroughly trained to commit to paramount importance of confidentiality and the necessary practical steps for securing a private, safe situation for surveying and interviewing. Members of the NSC and interviewers will be confirmed to fully understand those concept: data collection and storage will be monitored throughout the data collection process and thereafter. This also to ensure that respondents will be fully informed of their rights during the interview process, including the right to end the interview at any time. All data collected will not be attributable and the large sample size for each region will help to ensure that no individual respondent can be identified by triangulation.
Difficulty in finding qualified researchers to carry out the study within given timeframe	Medium	Medium	Identifying available qualified researchers in Kyrgyzstan specializing in both quantitative and qualitative methodology within the short timeline for implementation could be challenging. The partner RUNOs, led by UN Women, have responded to the very tight timeline for implementation of the GSPS, and particularly concerns relating to locating qualified personnel for developing quantitative and qualitative research tools, as well as implementing the qualitative research component in each region of Kyrgyzstan, by beginning to gather support among potential partners and exploring personnel options as early as possible. To this end, the RUNOs have already led several feedback and planning meetings with the National Statistical Committee, potential university participants, and supporting NGOs, who will assist in identifying qualified candidates for qualitative interviewing in each region as soon as possible. A detailed activity timeline has been developed and would be immediately put into action if GPI2 funding is received in order to prevent time wasted on mobilizing logistics in the early stages of the project. Should

			there be a delay in identifying researchers, the timeline allows for some additional time to complete data collection.
Instability resulting from upcoming national elections interrupts project implementation	Medium	Medium	The sensitive nature of data being collected, holds the risk of manipulation of the project's purpose in public debate by 'nationalist' forces that in recent months have used the issue of women's rights and patriarchal gender practices as a unifier for gaining credibility among a significant minority of the population. Close collaboration between project implementers and the state, as well as a transparent information campaign as to the nature of data being collected to some extent mitigates this risk. State agencies have an interest in mitigating threats of disruption especially during the (pre-)election period. As communicated to UN Women relevant state agencies have an interest in obtaining credible evidence to better inform policy making that can mitigate threats to the Constitution. In order to minimize this risk, great care will be taken <i>not</i> to focus on 'north-south' stereotypes and ethnic divisions. The wide scope of geographic coverage, while maintaining a credible sample size in different regions, will ensure that at data analysis, any potential difference in interpretation of gender practices between rural and urban, 'north and south' and among different ethnicities will become evident. R.L.NOs will discuss with state partners on how to 'package' such possibly conflictual results for public dissemination in ways minimizing any risk of this adding to tensions in the country.
Politicization of GSPS findings and/or use for repression of religious groups	Medium	Medium	Under UN Women, the implementation of the GSPS will include full participation and support from high-level government actors, including the Department on Ethnic and Religious Policies of the Office of the President, to ensure that the measures and means chosen are able to capture a nuanced, gender-aware perspective without unnecessarily politicizing the research. Religious leaders in several provinces, with whom UN Women enjoys a positive working relationship, will also be consulted to ensure that the research is structured in a way that is inquisitive without being accusative. Interviewers and research teams will be carefully trained and consulted throughout the process to ensure broad community ownership and support of the initiative to avoid alienating particular groups.

c) Monitoring & evaluation:

The implementation plan for the Gender in Society Perceptions Study contains integrated and regular quality assurance checkpoints, and envisions an overall external Lessons Learned review at the conclusion of the study. UN Women will oversee the overall M&E process according to the timeline provided in the Results Framework (Annex 2). The specific mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation are described in the table below.

Table 6 – Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms

Mechanism	Timeline	Responsible Organization
University Working Group research presentation sessions (five total), in order to assess RWG effectiveness as well as track the preliminary findings	Once every 2 weeks, January 15-March 30 2015	Lead: UN Women
Review of draft research objectives (for use in design of qualitative research, and use as basis of quantitative survey design) developed by RWG for assessment and approval	mid March 2015	Lead: UN Women Supporting: UNFPA, IOM
RWG member knowledge assessment: an external consultant/local expert on gender issues research will conduct a theoretical and practical knowledge review of individual RWG members, following the gender sensitive	end March 2015	Lead: UN Women

research methods trainings, in order to gauge their level of knowledge on the topic and preparedness for undertaking qualitative research		
KAP questionnaire review: KAP survey instrument is reviewed, receives comments, and is amended as necessary	beginning May 2015	Lead: UNFPA Supporting: UN Women, IOM, RWG
Qualitative research plan review: Qualitative research plan developed by RWG is reviewed, amended as necessary, and approved.	mid May 2015	UN Women
NSC staff and interviewer knowledge assessment: external consultant/expert will conduct theoretical and practical knowledge review of individual participants in the quantitative survey from NSC and regional offices	early June (following training)	Lead: UN/PA Supporting: UN Women
Qualitative research team knowledge assessment: teams carrying out field qualitative research are tested for theoretical and practical understanding of gender sensitive research methods and <i>Do-No-Harm</i> approach	early June (following training)	Lead: UN Women
Qualitative research field testing: Qualitative research teams test research plan designed by RWG, report back daily with feedback for revisions	mid-June	Lead: UN Women
KAP questionnaire field testing: KAP survey instrument will be tested in select locations, feedback provided, and revised as necessary	mid June-end June	Lead: UNFPA (supervising NSC)
Weekly KAP team feedback loops and adjustments: at the end of each day (first two weeks) and end of each week (for duration of survey period), KAP field survey teams will complete questionnaire regarding quality and types of interviewing as well as problems encountered and suggestions for improvement. KAP surveying methods will then be adapted according to feedback, particularly in early stages.	beginning July-end of October	Lead: UNFPA; Supporting: UN Women and IOM provide input as necessary for types of issues falling within their realm of expertise
Regular qualitative research team feedback loops and adjustments: for the first two weeks of qualitative research collection, the research teams will send twice-weekly feedback reports based on set questionnaire, as well as suggestions for improvement of research plan. Research methods will then be adjusted as necessary.	end June – mid December 2015	Lead: UN Women Supporting: RWG processes feedback and incorporates into research plan as necessary
Final evaluation: an external evaluator will appraise the success of the project's implementation in a final review designed to capture the successes and shortcomings of the process and provide guidance for future projects following a similar structure. It should be noted that evaluation of the impact of the project will not be possible during the project implementation period.	mid May-end June 2016	Lead: UN Women

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

The UNDP MPTF Office serves as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the PBF and is responsible for the receipt of donor contributions, the transfer of funds to Recipient UN Organizations, the consolidation of narrative and financial reports and the submission of these to the PBSO and the PBF donors. As the Administrative Agent of the PBF, MPTF Office transfers funds to RUNOS on the basis of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between each RUNO and the MPTF Office.

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 narrative reports and financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF 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 notified by the RUNO (accompanied by the final narrative report, the final certified financial statement and the balance refund);
- 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:

- Bi-annual progress reports to be provide no later than 15 July;
- Annual and final narrative reports, to be provided no later than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year;
- Annual financial statements as of 31 December with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the PBF, to be provided no later than four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year;
- Certified final financial statements after the completion of the activities in the approved programmatic document, to be provided no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.
- Unspent Balance at the closure of the project would have to been 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>).

Annex A: Project Summary (to be submitted as a word document to MPTE-Office)



**PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project Number & Title:	Building the evidence base to facilitate responsive gender policy and programs for equality and lasting peace in Kyrgyzstan	
Recipient UN Organization:	UN Women, UNFPA, IOM	
Implementing Partner(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Statistical Committee (State Entity) ▪ Ministry of Social Development <p><i>The scope of the involvement of the following entities yet to be confirmed formally:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Centre of Analysis and Monitoring of the Religious Situation under the State Agency on Religious Affairs ▪ Academy of Management under the President (Government University) ▪ Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University (Government University) ▪ University of Central Asia ▪ American University of Central Asia ▪ NGO/contractor (to facilitate logistical implementation) 	
Location:	Kyrgyz Republic - Chui, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Osh, Batken, Jalalabad, Talas provinces	
Approved Project Budget:	US\$ 630,001	
Duration:	Planned Start Date: 15 February 2015	Planned Completion: 30 June 2016
Project Description:	<p>The Gender in Society Perceptions Study (GSPS) would engage a broad range of local actors, including governmental, academic, and non-governmental organizations who strongly support the project aims, in order to carry out a nationwide study encompassing both quantitative and qualitative indicators of gender equality, women's engagement with community institutions and justice actors, and risk factors for threats to women and girls' human rights, including economic instability and migration. Through the research process, the capacity of government institutions, students, and NGO affiliated researchers from every province of the country will be increased through specialized training in gender-sensitive research methods and <i>Do-No-Harm</i> principles. The final outcomes of the GSPS will be widely distributed among a broad range of actors and findings will be integrated into national and regional policy and programming through a series of workshops designed to link the gender-relevant data to practicable interventions.</p>	
PBF Focus Area:	Priority Area 2. Promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution	
Project Outcome:	Efforts to empower women and girls and eliminate threats to gender equality are strengthened through the clear identification of risk factors and opportunities for gender mainstreaming in community peacebuilding and capacity building among government, UN agencies, and NGOs for improved, gender-responsive interventions.	
Key Project Activities:	<p>Carry out national Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice (KAP) survey for quantitative indicators on gender relations and changing societal attitudes regarding the role of women and girls; Train university-based researchers in gender-sensitive interviewing, confidentiality, and <i>Do-No-Harm</i> principles and facilitate qualitative research led by University Working Group; Integrate findings of quantitative and qualitative research into final study drawing clear links between threats to gender equality and risk factors for gender-based violence and exploitation; Disseminate findings among partners and facilitate workshops on integrating findings into more responsive, effective policymaking and programming.</p>	

Annex B: IRF Results Framework

Country name: Kyrgyz Republic

Project Effective Dates: 1 January 2015–30 June 2016

PBF Focus Area: Priority Area 2. Promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution

IRF Theory of Change: If key state and non-state actors command firstly: an informed understanding of risk factors to gender equality and conflict affecting women and girls; secondly: the capacity to understand shifting societal perceptions of gender relations; and thirdly the increasing gulf between the latter and Constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, then they will be able to design and implement effective interventions for ensuring Constitutional rights for women and men, because effective policy making requires a sound evidence base which will be provided by the KAP.

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification	Year 1	Year 2	Milestones
Outcome 1: Policy making and programming pursued by state institutions, the UNCT, development partners, and civil society ensures gender equality promotion and inclusive peacebuilding.		<p>Outcome Indicator 1a Findings of GSPS are integrated into national strategic plans of Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p>Baseline: NAPs based on anecdotal and incomplete evidence Target: Quantitative and qualitative indicators from GSPS integrated into 2017-2019 National Action Plan on 1325 and 2016-2018 Implementation plan for National Strategy on Achieving Gender Equality</p>	UN Women participates in development of NAP1325 and National Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality 2016-2018 and incorporates GSPS findings			X Findings of GSPS are presented to wide public audience, including members of government; UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM hold workshops with government institutions to discuss how findings will be integrated into planning
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1b Findings of GSPS are integrated into UNCT and other international agency strategic plans</p> <p>Baseline: Strategic plans are not based on specific, quantified data Target: GSPS findings integrated into 2016-2018 UNDAF, UNFPA 2016-2018 CPAP, UN Women strategic plans for 2016-2018, UNDP 2016-2018 CPAP.</p>	UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM participate in strategic planning for own agencies, meet with other agencies to verify inclusion of GSPS findings			X Representatives of UNCT meet to discuss findings of GSPS and how they can be incorporated into strategic planning for agencies and how that planning can be coordinated

		<p>Outcome Indicator 1c Findings of GSPS are integrated into programming of civil society for 2017-2019</p> <p>Baseline: Civil society programming not based on quantified, systematically collected data Target: Civil society incorporate findings of GSPS into planning for 2017-2019</p>	<p>UN Women, UNFPA, and IOM receive reports from partner NGOs on organizational strategic plans and explanation of how GSPS findings are integrated</p>						X	X	<p>Civil Society representatives attend presentation of findings, discuss impact on programming and planning in smaller breakout sessions</p>
	<p>Output 1.1. In the context of threats to gender equality and peace, opportunities and strategies for equal participation of women and girls in community level processes are clearly identified by a KAP study that provides evidence for more gender responsive policy and programming.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.1.1 Quantitative research (KAP survey) objectives and plan are designed and validated</p> <p>Baseline: No quantitative research plan Target: Quantitative research objectives are created, reviewed, and amended as needed.</p>	<p>RUNOs and RWG receive and review the quantitative plan designed by the research consultant, submit comments, receive final version.</p>	X							<p>University Working Group establishes research objectives and presents to RUNOs (March 2015)</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2 KAP survey is carried out and data is analyzed</p> <p>Baseline: No data collected Target: Approximately 5,500 surveys are administered in 9 administrative regions of Kyrgyz Republic</p>	<p>KAP research teams report to UN Women on a weekly basis throughout data collection process; data is input and cleaned on a rolling basis by NSC and UNFPA</p>		X	X					<p>KAP interview teams are trained in gender-sensitive interviewing and confidential data collection and storage and tested for quality control (June 2015)</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3 Data from KAP (quantitative research component) and qualitative research are integrated into complete report and policy briefers</p> <p>Baseline: No report and policy briefers are written Target: Report and briefers on specific policy topics are written</p>	<p>UN Women ensures that report and policy briefers completed and translated by target date</p>						X	X	<p>KAP field interviewing is completed (October 2015) and data analyzed (November 2015-January 2016); Qualitative field research is completed (December 2015) and analyzed (January-February 2016)</p>

		and translated						
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.4 Findings from GSPS are presented and disseminated among partners and to general public</p> <p>Baseline: No findings distributed Target: 1000 copies of GSPS distributed in public presentation, presented to the media, and made available online</p>	Public presentation is facilitated and financed by UN Women; quantity of guests and their organizational affiliations are collected to verify wide participation				X	Translated reports and policy briefers are printed (May 2016); invitations are sent and participation confirmed (May 2016)
		<p>Output indicator 1.1.5 RUNOs organize and implement workshops with government and NGO partners for successful integration of GSPS into organizational strategy and future programming</p> <p>Baseline: No workshops conducted Target: 3 workshops conducted, one by each RUNO</p>	Each RUNO organizes workshop; guests and their affiliation are collected to verify that events were held and who participated				X	Quantitative (KAP survey) and qualitative data are integrated into final report and broken down into separate policy briefers for presentation to relevant government actors (April 2016)
	<p>Output 1.2 National Institutional capacity in gender-sensitive data collection and analysis is strengthened.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.2.1 National Statistical Committee (NSC) staff are trained in gender-sensitive research methodology and confidentiality</p> <p>Baseline: NSC interviewers and supervisors do not have specialized training in gender-sensitive research Target: Prior to commencing KAP survey administration, NSC interviewers and supervisors in each region receive 5-day training on gender-sensitive research methods and techniques under a <i>Do-No-Harm</i></p>	UNFPA evaluator tests NSC staff at the end of the training to ensure they meet predefined targets for theoretical and practical knowledge before KAP surveying begins			X		Training for NSC staff is developed by UNFPA with input from IOM and UN Women (March-April 2015)

		<p>approach, including theoretical and practical components and an assessment at the end for quality control</p>										
		<p>Output Indicator 1.2.2 National Statistical Committee participates in collection and analysis of KAP data</p> <p>Baseline: No KAP data is collected Target: Trained NSC staff complete KAP interviewing with approximately 5,500 individuals (exact number to be determined by research consultant for statistical validity) in predefined sample groups in all 9 administrative regions; NSC staff in Bishkek, overseen by UNFPA, input and analyze data</p>	<p>UNFPA monitors numbers of surveys and quality of data returned weekly by NSC's KAP survey teams to ensure progress and proper administration of survey</p>		X	X	X					<p>KAP questionnaire is designed, reviewed, and amended by research consultant (March-May 2015); sample is designed and selected based on existing NSC sampling framework (March-May 2015); KAP survey is field tested (June 2015); survey teams provide weekly feedback on progress (July-October 2015)</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 1.2.3 National Statistical Committee contributes to presentation of GSPS findings and integration into national strategic planning</p> <p>Baseline: NSC does not present findings on gender issues Target: NSC develops presentation, with support of UNFPA and UN Women, to participate in public unveiling of GSPS results and discussions on policy implications</p>	<p>NSC senior staff formally take part in presentation of GSPS by developing policy presentation and explaining findings</p>						X	X		<p>UNFPA and UN Women meet with NSC during data analysis stage to discuss implications of findings and strategies for presenting information to policymakers (April-May 2015)</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Capacity for gender-sensitive conflict research and analysis is strengthened in committed local</p>		<p>Output Indicator 1.3.1 Research Working Group from four national universities and state research institutions is selected, trained in gender-sensitive research methods, and facilitated in five working meetings</p>	<p>UN Women evaluator tests RWG members at end of training for predefined target levels of knowledge and ability</p>	X	X							<p>UN Women, with input from IOM, develops training module (January 2015)</p>

<p>universities, state research institutions and among field researchers identified with help of civil society.</p>	<p>Baseline: University researchers and state research institutions lack specialized training in gender-sensitive qualitative research methods (i.e. in-depth interviews, focus groups, observation method, etc.) Target: Select group of university professors, researchers and students receive 3-day training in gender- and victim-sensitive research, confidentiality, Do-Not-Harm principles, and research assessment mechanisms, including test for theoretical and practical knowledge</p>	<p>RWG and UN Women monitor weekly feedback reports from qualitative research teams to ensure progress towards target research goals and modify research plan as necessary based on feedback</p>	<p>Qualitative research plan is designed by RWG, reviewed, modified as necessary, and approved by UN Women and IOM (April-May 2015); qualitative research teams are selected with assistance from supporting NGOs in each region (April 2015); qualitative research teams are provided 5-day training in gender-sensitive research methodology (May 2015)</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>
<p>universities, state research institutions and among field researchers identified with help of civil society.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.3.2 Qualitative research component is carried out</p> <p>Baseline: No qualitative research has been conducted Target: Qualitative research teams in every region conduct pre-defined research tasks, including a predefined number of in-depth interviews in each region</p>	<p>UN Women monitors progress of UWG analysis according to pre-set timeline for periodic review</p>	<p>All qualitative data is received from field teams (December 2015)</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>
<p>universities, state research institutions and among field researchers identified with help of civil society.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.3.3 Research Working Group compiles and analyzes qualitative data for integration into overall CSPS findings</p> <p>Baseline: RWG has not analyzed any data Target: RWG collects and analyzes data received from qualitative research teams, produces analytic report to be incorporated into overall CSPS report</p>	<p>UN Women monitors progress of UWG analysis according to pre-set timeline for periodic review</p>	<p>All qualitative data is received from field teams (December 2015)</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>