

**SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND  
PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE**



**PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT**

(Length: Max. 12 pages plus cover page and annexes)

<b>Country (ies):</b> Sierra Leone	
<b>Project Title:</b> Empowering youth at risk as resources for sustaining peace and community resilience in Tonkolili and Kenema districts in Sierra Leone	
<b>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):</b> 00124562	
<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>
<b>List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc.):</b>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - Convening Agency</li> <li>2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> <li>3. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</li> </ol>	
<b>List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:</b>  <b>1. <u>Government Ministries</u></b> <u>Lead Ministry:</u> Ministry of Youth Affairs  <u>Supporting Ministries:</u> Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Health.  <b>2. <u>Local Institutions and State Entities</u></b> Tonkolili District Local Council, Kenema District Local Council, Family Support Unit (FSU) of the Sierra Leone Police, Local Police Partnership Board (LPPB), National Youth Commission, All Political Parties Youth Association (APPYA) and All Political Parties Women's Association (APPWA), Office of National Security (ONS), Political Party Registration Commission (PPRC), National Council for Civic Education, National Youth Commissions, District and Chiefdom Youth Councils  <b>3. <u>NGOs / Civil Society</u></b> Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL), SLYDCL, Don Bosco Fambul, Caritas Makeni/Bo, Fambul Initiative Network (FINE), Young Men Christian Association (YMCA) and Rainbo Initiative	
<b>Expected project commencement date<sup>1</sup>:</b> 28 October 2020 <b>Project duration in months:<sup>2</sup></b> 30 Months (following this 6 month NCE) <b>Geographic zones for project implementation:</b> Kenema (Eastern Region) and Tonkolili districts (Northern Region).	
<b>Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative	

<sup>1</sup> Note: actual commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

<sup>2</sup> Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

- Youth promotion initiative
- Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions
- Cross-border or regional project

**Total PBF approved project budget\* (by recipient organization):**

**UNFAO:** \$1,750,000

**UNDP:** \$ 850,000

**UNFPA:** \$ 400,000

**TOTAL: \$ 3,000,000**

*\*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account. For payment of second and subsequent tranches the Coordinating agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed.*

Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):

Project total budget: **US\$ 3,000,000.00**

**PBF 1<sup>st</sup> tranche (70%):**

UNFAO: \$ 1,225,000

UNDP: \$ 595,000

UNFPA: \$ 280,000

**Total: \$ 2,100,000**

**PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche\*(30%):**

UNFAO: \$ 525,000

UNDP: \$ 255,000

UNFPA: \$ 120,000

**Total: \$ 900,000**

**Total tranche**

**UNFAO:** \$1,750,000

**UNDP:** \$ 850,000

**UNFPA:** \$ 400,000

**TOTAL: \$ 3,000,000**

**Brief project description and succinct explanation of how the project is time sensitive, catalytic and risk-tolerant/ innovative:**

This project aims to empower youths at risk to become resources for sustained peace, community resilience and social cohesion in the targeted districts. It will provide increased possibilities for the voices of youth to be heard and to participate in decision-making spaces; for securing their sustainable livelihoods; and increasing access to prevention and protection services, including counselling, related to gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices (including early marriages, drug, alcohol, and substance abuse).

This project will strengthen the capacities of security and civilian authorities as well as civil society organizations at the national and local levels to deal with youth-at-risk issues adhering to respect for human rights and dignity. It will promote judicial and non-judicial restorative processes for the rehabilitation and reintegration of youth at risk; and civic and peace education to improve peaceful living and the sense of civic responsibility among youth at risk. This will increase trust and confidence between them and state and local authorities and thereby improve the participation of youth at risk in decision-making processes, especially those that directly affect them. With youth at risk now considered the highest threat to peace and security in the country, the outcome of this project will directly contribute to sustaining the hard-won peace in Sierra Leone.

**Summarize the in-country project consultation and endorsement process prior to submission to PBSO, including through any PBF Steering Committee where it exists:**

An initial Assessment of Youth at Risk in Sierra Leone was conducted in October 2019 by the Government of Sierra Leone, the UN Country Team and relevant UN entities at their Headquarters, including the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) in the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) and the Crisis Bureau of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Prior to drafting the concept note in May 2020, consultations were held with the Office of the Vice President, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs, Office of National Security (ONS), National Youth Commission (NYCOM). Consultations were also held with the District and Chiefdom Youth Councils in Mile 91, Yoni Chiefdom and

Magburaka in Kolifa Ruwala Chiefdom in Tonkolili district, and Nongowa and Dama Chiefdoms in Kenema district.

Further consultations were conducted with the following Civil Society Organizations: Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL), Caritas Bo, Fambul Initiative Network (FINE), Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), Sustainable Human and Environmental Development Agency (SHADE/SL), SEND Sierra Leone Limited, Don Bosco Fambul and Sierra Leone Youth Development & Child Link (SLYDCL).

The consultations helped to assess magnitude of the phenomenon of cliques and gangs in the area, reasons of young women and men for joining cliques and gangs, challenges faced by youth at risk and existing opportunities for their reintegration into communities and families.

**Project Gender Marker score:** 2<sup>3</sup>  
30% and \$900,000 of total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE).

**Project Risk Marker score:** 2<sup>4</sup>

**Select PBF Focus Areas** which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*): 2.3<sup>5</sup>  
If applicable, **UNSDCF outcome(s)** to which the project contributes:  
*Outcome 1:* Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security; and climate resilience,  
*Outcome 2:* Transformational Governance and  
*Outcome 4:* Protection and Empowerment of the most Vulnerable  
If applicable, **Sustainable Development Goal** to which the project contributes:  
*SDG 1:* No Poverty; Zero Hunger; *SDG 5:* Gender Equality; *SDG 8:* Decent Work and Economic Growth; *SDG10:* Reduced Inequalities; and *SDG16:* Peace and Justice.

<p><b>Type of submission:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New project</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project amendment</p>	<p><b>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</b></p> <p><b>Extension of duration:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months: <b>Six (06) months (new project end date 27 April 2023)</b></p> <p><b>Change of project outcome/ scope:</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Additional PBF budget:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX</p> <p><b>Brief justification for amendment:</b></p> <p><b>Already approved project amendment justification from February 2022</b> Community profiling and beneficiary selection activities conducted following project approval in Oct. 2020 created a</p>
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<sup>3</sup> **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective  
**Score 2** for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective  
**Score 1** for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 15% of budget)

<sup>4</sup> **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes  
**Risk marker 1** = medium risk to achieving outcomes  
**Risk marker 2** = high risk to achieving outcomes

<sup>5</sup> **PBF Focus Areas** are:  
(1.1) SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;  
(2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management;  
(3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services  
(4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats)

confidence-building opportunity among target beneficiaries, local authorities and community stakeholders, which resulted in increased contacts and consultations with the project. This process of confidence building and resulting interactions was necessary for in-depth implementation planning, as it provided clearer and detailed contextual information on the target areas and needs of the target group.

As a result, the project requests a budget modification to reallocate resources to enable cost-effective implementation in response to the specific needs that have emerged as part of this process of confidence-building and target group and stakeholder consultations.

**Proposed activity changes:**

**Under Outcome 1:** *Youth (men and women) are empowered and included in decision-making processes in their communities in the target districts,* the project proposes to increase the activities dedicated to civic education as well as the capacity building activities for the District and Chiefdom Youth Councils (DYCs, CYCs) and youth groups in the two target districts (i.e.: Activity 1.1.1: and Activity 1.2.1). Additional activities under Activity 1.1.1. are required in order to enable the project to reach more youth in the target districts, through additional local youth groups, who have expressed interest in participating in civic education sessions Increased activities under Activity 1.2.1 are required to further enhance the capacities of DYCs, CYCs, and local youth groups to engage with youth-at-risk and reduce structural barriers of reintegration and participation in community decision-making. It will enable more dialogues between the youth committees and the local authorities, legislative leadership and other stakeholders to reduce the engagement gap.

**Under Outcome 2:** *National and local institutions improve their response to the needs of youth at risk, under Output 2.2: SLP, Magistrate Courts and Correctional Services in project targeted areas have strengthened capacities and youth responsive legal frameworks to monitor detention conditions and support decongestion of overcrowded facilities,* the project proposes to increase support to Activity 2.2.3 (*Review of the SLCS Act (2014) and strengthen advocacy for the enactment of the Criminal Procedure Bill and Sentencing guidelines*). This will enable required support for the review and enactment of two laws, which are a key element in protecting youth at risk against arbitrary arrest and detention over minor infractions as well as prolonged trials. The additional resources will cater for outreach activities by the Members of Parliament sitting under the Legislative Committee. The outreach sessions will specifically enable the

MPs serving under this Committee to present the new law to their constituents, especially new changes brought into the law that will strengthen the rights of youth at risk such as against arbitrary arrest and detention including for minor offences which do not warrant a detention from the onset. Additionally, increased resources will be dedicated to the production of didactic materials and other pictorial materials that will aid the understanding of the new law by the population, including people living in remote communities.

**Under Outcome 3:** *Social cohesion strengthened and youth at risk socially and economically empowered to meaningfully reintegrate into their families and communities*, following the validation of target communities and identification of beneficiary youth at risk groups (Activity 3.2.1) and the participatory needs assessment (Activity 3.1.2), it was possible to identify and agree on the community preferences for joint socio-economic initiatives (*Output 3.1: Social cohesion and peaceful coexistence promoted by supporting joint socio-economic initiatives that involve youth at risk and community members*) and the main livelihood preferences of the youth at risk groups (*Output 3.2: Youth at risk have increased capacity and are empowered to generate their livelihoods*). The prioritized communal projects center on rehabilitation/construction of community recreational and economic infrastructural facilities (Activity 3.1.3) such as community town halls (5), youth centers (4), market structure (2) and agricultural storage/processing facilities (8). regarding the main livelihood activity to be supported by the project, almost half of the youth at risk groups (8) prioritized poultry production, while 3 groups have opted for other livestock (small ruminants) and 7 for crop-related value addition. While the nature, scope and targets of activities under Output 3.2 remain unchanged, the provision of agricultural production inputs for prioritized livelihood activities (Activity 3.2.4) also requires some infrastructural elements as well for the construction of shelters for value addition equipment with storage facilities, however at a lesser cost.

FAO has previous experience implementing infrastructure activities of this nature, and is working in close collaboration with the engineering department of the Ministry of Agriculture for adaptations and modifications of facility designs. Technical planning and oversight will be done under the lead of the supervisory civil engineer recruited by FAO, with technical backstopping from the FAO HQ, while the implementing partner Caritas will support the day-to-day supervision and facilitation of community involvement, collaboration and monitoring of infrastructure works. The period of construction/rehabilitation of community and agricultural infrastructure is expected to take 3-4 months. The communities, including the youth, will be trained on

operation and management of facilities and communities will develop bylaws for use and maintenance to ensure sustainability of the supported facilities. Local government counterparts (district councils, MAF, MOYA) have been involved from the planning stage, and will continue to be involved during the rehabilitation/construction phase, local government counterparts (e.g. district councils, MAF) participate in frequent joint monitoring visits to ensure compliance with national quality standards, and will continue to monitor the use of facilities after the end of the project.

**Budget implications:**

**Under Outcomes 1 & 2:**

It is requested to reduce funds allocated to Activity 1.1.2: *Organize 2 peaceful entertainment galas (football tournament and games) across 2 project districts* (\$ 125,000), by \$ 65,000, and to reallocate these to Activity 1.1.1 (\$12,500) and 1.2.1 (\$ 12,500). The initial allocation for Activity 1.1.2 turned out to be higher than required based on information gathered during consultations with communities and other stakeholders in preliminary project planning. All the activities affected by reallocations under Outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 2.2 will be carried out by implementing partners – namely CARL and SLCS, as planned and indicated in the project document, and as such, the increased allocations will be allocated to the IPs under budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts* which is therefore increased by a total of \$208,204.

**Under Outcome 3:**

Overall, while targets remain the same, Output 3.1 will be increased by \$19,000 towards the joint community projects (Activity 3.1.3), while Output 3.2 will be reduced by this amount as the joint selection of youth at risk groups (Activity 3.2.1) and the gender assessment (Activity 3.2.2) were completed at a lesser cost than originally budgeted. To facilitate the joint community initiatives and provide the youth at risk groups with the appropriate type of inputs, equipment and facilities for their prioritized livelihood activities, the following changes between budget categories are requested:

The agricultural infrastructure elements require the contracting of construction firm(s) in line with FAO procurement guidelines, thus this necessitates a shifting of funds to increase the amount for budget category 4. *Contractual services* by \$75,000 under Output 3.1 while reducing this category by \$40,000 under Output 3.2. Under Output 3.2, budget category 2. *Supplies, Commodities, Materials* is increased by \$56,000 for the procurement and supply of various productive inputs for the various livelihood activities prioritized by the youth at risk groups, while the same budget category is reduced by an equivalent amount under Output 3.1.

Under Output 3.2, budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts* is increased by \$10,000 to strengthen the on-site support and monitoring role of the partners Caritas Bo and Makeni, while savings are made under budget categories 3. *Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)* (-\$15,000) and 7. *General Operating Costs* (-\$30,000) which are reallocated towards other activities and budget categories as described above, e.g. the rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructure.

Finally, minor additional adjustments to the project implementation set-up will be done based on savings under respective budget categories (and do involve reallocation of funds between categories or activities): The project will utilize savings on staff budget lines to engage a short-term civil engineer to assist in technical supervision and quality control of the infrastructure works under Outputs 3.1 and 3.2 (planned amount \$8,000 for consultancy), and utilize savings under the budget category 3 for equipment to procure a motorbike (estimated amount \$1,200) to facilitate movements in the field of the FAO field-based agronomist.

**Justification for No Cost Extension (NCE) of six (06) months:** The project requests for a No Cost Extension (NCE) of 06 months. The inception phase of the project, especially the time needed for proper definition, identification and screening of target areas and youth-at-risk beneficiaries, took longer than expected, and the project was therefore not able to initiate livelihood activities in the first agricultural season of 2021. The primary focus of the NCE is thus to enable a full implementation and consolidation of key project activities, especially livelihood activities in accordance with the agricultural seasonal cycle. Additional time is needed to properly accompany and follow-up on beneficiaries' livelihood and income generating activities to ensure good use and application of the inputs and trainings provided by the project. The NCE is furthermore needed to follow through on key advocacy activities, where the processes and outcomes are in the hands of actors external to the project. Finally, the NCE will as well make it possible to postpone the final evaluation for 4-5 months as it would otherwise have to be done during the harvest/post-harvest season while key agricultural activities are still in implementation, and where it would be difficult to capture the impact of those activities on improved livelihoods for the youths.

The justification for the NCE is elaborated below, outlining key outcomes and activities for which it is required:

**OUTCOME 1: Youth at risk (women and men) are empowered and included in decision-making processes in their communities in the target districts**

It is anticipated that all activities under the three outputs under this outcome will be fully delivered by the original end date of the project (27 October 22). However, as activities under this outcome are geared towards igniting behavioral changes among the youth-at-risk beneficiaries through various trainings and establishment of leadership and support structures – centering on civic education, youth leadership, and gender-based violence – it is recognized that behavior change is a longer term process. At this stage of the implementation, many positive behavioral changes are observed among the beneficiaries, while at the same time it is evident that they remain vulnerable to both internal conflicts and manipulation by outsiders. The NCE will contribute to a consolidation of the initiated processes by allowing the project team and local youth structures to remain engaged in monitoring and mentoring of the beneficiaries.

**OUTCOME 2: National and local institutions improve their response to the needs of youth at risk**

*Output 2.2: SLP, Magistrate Courts and Correctional Services in project targeted areas have strengthened capacities and youth responsive legal frameworks to monitor detention conditions and support decongestion of overcrowded facilities.*

This activity will require engagement of the local policing partnership boards (LPPBs) and their structures across the 2 districts. The project will require additional time to ensure all partners are identified and are able to contribute to the planning, implementation and monitoring of this activity. This activity is central in ensuring that institutional facilities like the SLP, SLCS, LPPBs and other structures are empowered with the requisite skills to support youth at risk transiting through their institution.

*Activity 2.2.3: Review of the SLCS Act (2014) and strengthen advocacy for the enactment of the Criminal Procedure Bill and Sentencing guidelines*

The project has made progress toward the enactment of the amended Criminal Procedure Act of 1965. So far, the draft legislation has been presented to the Attorney-General and is now with the 1st Parliamentary Draftsman for final revision and proof-reading. The Legislative Committee of Parliament has been convened by the Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL) and attended a 2-day retreat to discuss content of the CPA review before the submission of the legislation Parliament for discussion and passing. The retreat enabled the CPA Review Committee Chair, Honourable Nicolas Browne-Marke to present content of the amendments and the spirit behind the revisions. This will be followed by Cabinet vetting, Parliament submission, printing and engagement by Parliament on the substance. The

project will support media campaigns to popularize the reviewed act among constituencies to mobilize public buy-in and pressure for its passing. Although significant steps have been made in terms of advocacy activities supported by the project at this point, key steps of the process remain that are beyond the control of the project and may be unpredictable, such as parliamentary processes, cabinet approvals, etc. The Ministry of Justice has expressed confidence that these will be done in good time, however, since this is a key strategic result for the project, the project team remains cautious and opts for a NCE to allow for proper follow through on these processes. Emphasis will further be placed on side interventions such as working with close partners to ensure passage of the revised act.

**OUTCOME 3: Social cohesion strengthened and youth at risk socially and economically empowered to meaningfully reintegrate into their families and communities.**

***Output 3.2: Youth at risk have increased capacity and are empowered to generate their livelihoods.***

*Activity 3.2.3: Develop training modules, and train the youth at risk on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), agricultural machine operation, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Agribusiness development and financial management, Harvest and post-harvest management and value addition of selected value chains (crops, livestock, fisheries, and poultry)*

*Activity 3.2.4: Provide agricultural production inputs and provide value addition equipment*

The project is currently implementing livelihood activities, as prioritized by the beneficiaries, in accordance with the agricultural seasonal cycle.

Note that during the agricultural season of 2021, the project was still in its inception phase and key activities such as baseline assessment and beneficiary selection were on-going. Hence, it was not possible to embark on agricultural activities at the time. Furthermore, the successful implementation of livelihood activities hinges on the sequencing of project activities overall and ‘priming’ the beneficiaries through behavioral change, leadership, conflict mediation and social cohesion activities, which serve as a foundation for the livelihood component. Considering the nature of the target group – beneficiaries who are *not* established and experienced farming groups – the project team thus acknowledges the advantage of having been able to observe and coach beneficiaries for some time to assess their commitment and dynamics before the delivery of high-value agricultural inputs which can easily be misused/misappropriated.

Crop production activities: The project has supported 15 out of 18 beneficiary groups in cultivation of maize, rice, cassava, potatoes and beans during the current cropping season of 2022 (March-June). The project is promoting some improved short-term varieties which can be harvested after app. 3-6 months. After harvesting it will be necessary to train beneficiaries on post-harvest management aspects and the subsequent use of harvested crops in value-addition activities; such as the production of poultry feed from maize production.

Livestock activities: The project is currently in the process of constructing shelters for poultry and ruminants. Observing the current onset of heavy rains, the project is not able to complete the stocking until after the rains, as assembly, quarantine and delivery of animals in poor weather conditions may result in higher mortality rates. Hence, this can only be completed from September onwards. Note that for sustainability, especially for the poultry production activities, the maize cultivation for a local feed production is essential, hence livestock activities have been aligned with crop production activities.

*Activity 3.2.6: Create linkages and attach youth at risk to Farmer Base Organizations (FBO) and transform them into Youth Agri-Enterprises through the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry*

Business management: The project is in the process of structuring the beneficiary groups as small agri-businesses, linking production, value addition and marketing activities, and gearing their livelihood activities towards income generation. Marketing and business activities cannot commence fully before the full package of inputs have been received by the beneficiaries and have harvested crops for processing/value addition – in accordance with the agricultural calendar as outlined above. Hence, the project needs additional months after harvest and stocking to be able to accompany the beneficiaries in the marketing of their various products, linking them to buyers and private sector actors and providing coaching to ensure successful and sustainable running of their various business activities.

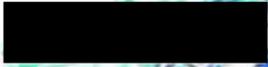
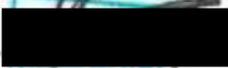
Recognizing that the target beneficiaries have limited experience in agriculture and business management prior to joining the project, the NCE is crucial to ensure a general consolidation and follow-up on the youth groups after the final delivery of key activities, in order to ensure a peaceful cooperation among the beneficiaries and proper and productive use of inputs and assets supplied.

**Budget implications for No Cost Extension:**

To accommodate the additional implementation period, an adjustment of the budget is requested by FAO, while UNDP and UNFPA does not require any revision.

	<p>The adjustment concerns reallocation of funds between budget categories and does not affect implementation approaches or targets.</p> <p>Savings made under budget category 1. <i>Staff and other personnel</i> (-\$34,000), under 3. <i>Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)</i> (-\$12,000) and under 6. <i>Transfers and Grants to Counterparts</i> (-\$7,000) are reallocated to increase the budget categories for 5. <i>Travel</i> (+\$18,000) and 7. <i>General Operating and Other Costs</i> (+\$37,000). The increases on these budget lines accommodate operations and monitoring through the additional 6 months implementation period, observing the high need for close field supervision and coaching of beneficiaries' livelihood activities to ensure appropriate use of inputs/assets and sustainability of their activities, maintaining a high level of involvement of government counterparts in field level monitoring, and taking into consideration the general increase in such cost due to the sharp increase in fuel prices and other commodities in the country.</p> <p>Under Output 3.2, additional funds are reallocated to budget category 4. <i>Contractual Services</i> (+42,000) from budget category 2. <i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i> (-\$44,000) for the construction of livestock shelters for the 11 groups who opted for poultry production and rearing of small ruminants, respectively. Due to some additional design recommendations from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Youth, as well as the above mentioned increase in costs for also construction materials and services, the cost for shelter construction is higher than originally anticipated. Meanwhile, savings are projected under budget category 2 for other livestock related inputs for these groups. Remaining savings (+\$2,000) under budget category 2 are reallocated to budget category 7.</p> <p>The allocated budget for the final evaluation has been increased by \$10,000 to \$50,000 to enable a thorough quantitative and qualitative assessment of the project under the lead of an international consultant. Note that the cost for final evaluation is under budget category 7. <i>General Operating and Other Costs</i>, and the increased budget for the final evaluation is reflected in the total increase of \$37,000 (see above).</p> <p><i>Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or in TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.</i></p>
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**PROJECT SIGNATURES:**

<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)</b></p> <p>Name of Representative: <i>Saeed Abubakar Bancile</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: <i>FAO Country Representative</i></p> <p>Name of Agency: <i>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal: <i>03/10/2022</i></p> 	<p><b>Representative of National Authorities</b></p> <p>Name of Government Counterpart: <i>Hon. Mohamed Orman Bangura</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: <i>Minister of Youth Affairs, Republic of Sierra Leone</i></p> <p>Name of Agency: <i>Ministry of Youth Affairs (MOYA)</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal: <i>29/9/22</i></p> 
<p>Name of Representative: <i>Pa Lamin Boyal</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: <i>UNDP Resident Representative</i></p> <p>Name of Agency: <i>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal: <i>04/10/2022</i></p> 	<p>Name of Representative: <i>Nadia Rasheed</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: <i>UNFPA Country Representative</i></p> <p>Name of Agency: <i>United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal: <i>05/10/22</i></p> 
<p><b>Head of UN Country Team</b></p> <p>Name of Representative: <i>Babatunde Ahonsi</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: <i>UN Resident Coordinator, Sierra Leone</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal: <i>04/10/22</i></p> 	<p><b>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</b></p> <p>Name of Representative: <i>Elizabeth Sperhar</i></p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Support Office</p> <p>Date &amp; Seal:</p>

## I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support

The increased presence of ‘cliques and gangs’ that attract vulnerable young women and men has become a source of insecurity for communities countrywide and an increased challenge to the hard-won peace in post-war Sierra Leone. Presence of youth at risk and former combatants organized in cliques and gangs has been recorded since the end of civil war, particularly during electoral events, when youth and ex-combatants, organized in cliques and gangs, are employed as political parties’ “security taskforce” to intimidate political rivals and voters and disrupt political rallies and the electoral process.

During 2007 elections, fighting between supporters of rival parties took place across the country, leading then Sierra Leone People’s Party (SLPP) President Tejan Kabbah to declare a state of emergency. Incidents of violence between youth groups occurred across the country also in 2012 and 2018 general elections. In 2015, news of fatal gang-related stabbings and public discussion of increased crime and violence led the then Attorney General and Minister of Justice to describe gang activities as ‘domestic terrorism’, demanding immediate attention by the security sector. In response, the police adopted a heavy hand strategy and offered rewards for information on gang leaders. In 2017, the then Minister of Defence hinted that the death penalty<sup>6</sup> could be implemented to stop the rising incidents of gang violence in the country.

During the 2018 elections, attempts to replace the parties’ “security taskforces” with state security agents<sup>7</sup> to protect candidates were partially successful and political violence committed by cliques and gangs was less in Freetown. But there were more incidents of violence outside Freetown, especially in the so-called “swing areas” in the countryside, including in Tonkolili and Kenema districts.

The involvement of the cliques and gangs in violent crimes—frequently using intoxicants (drugs and alcohol)—prompted the Office of National Security (ONS) in 2019 to consider cliques and gangs as a national security threat. According to information provided by ONS, there are over 2,500 cliques and gangs across Sierra Leone, which are organized in different type of structures with varying level of capacity, influence, and network. A GoSL-UN assessment of youth at risk<sup>8</sup> found that certain groups possess “a clear chain of command, exert territorial control and are able to project their influence,” while other gangs are highly fragmented or localized.

Cliques and gangs tend to operate out of ghettos, cemeteries, markets, unfinished buildings, as well as liquor and ‘attaya’ bases (local bars selling strongly brewed green tea/concoction) in urban settings. In rural settings, they operate in communities, near marketplaces and any economic activity they can benefit from. Circulation of firearms is still limited in Sierra Leone, though it is increasing, particularly handmade weapons. Use of light weapons, such as knives and machetes, is more frequent. Activities of some gangs are linked to international illegal networks engaged in trafficking drugs, human beings, timber and wildlife.

Correctional facilities constitute the dominant source of recruitment and operating cells for cliques and gangs in Sierra Leone. Over 90% of the prison population are youth who are convicted over minor offences. These interact with career criminals due to poor inmate classification system. The Attorney General’s August 2018 report notes that, of the 4,434 inmates, only 1,941 had been convicted (about 43%). The protracted periods of remand have resulted in overcrowded centers with difficulties for the Correctional Service to maintain controls or rehabilitate inmates adequately. Gangs are filling the gaps and are transforming young boys and girls, who are in correctional facilities for petty crimes, into their foot soldiers. This is compounded by the fact that minors are often placed in adult correctional centres as both juvenile correctional centres are at capacity.

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<sup>6</sup> Death penalty is in place in Sierra Leone, but there has been a moratorium on the execution of sentences.

<sup>7</sup> With funding from PBF and support from SRSB Chambas, UNDP organised a study tour in Ghana to explore how Ghana managed to replace the informal “security taskforce” with state security. Ghana experience was partially replicated in 2018 elections in Sierra Leone.

<sup>8</sup> UN-Government of Sierra Leone, Oct. 2019, Report of the joint assessment mission on Youth at risk in Sierra Leone.

Communities and schools are also reported to be infiltrated by gang members for recruitment. While some communities have initiated activities to counter this challenge through the utilization of vigilante groups, their inability to properly coordinate with the primary security service providers like the Police raises questions on their approach, as sometimes their intervention turn into mob justice, which undermines peace in the community. The lack of or rather inadequate psychosocial or drug rehabilitation programmes across the country also foment high recidivism among youth.

The UN-GoSL assessment of youth at risk<sup>9</sup> in Sierra Leone found a number of *push factors* that draw youth to gangs/cliques. High unemployment and pervasive poverty constitute the dominant motivating factors. A sense of belonging to a group and negative stereotypes of masculinity have also been indicated as other motivating factors. Given the lack of economic opportunities, association with groups is often perceived as a source of income. Economic and livelihoods opportunities for youth remain limited with an estimated 800,000 youth between the ages of 15 and 35 “actively seeking employment.”<sup>10</sup> The lack of institutional trust is exacerbated by “frustrations with state institutions, particularly police, judiciary and local security forces”.<sup>11</sup> These factors are followed by the legacy of the civil war. Former combatants who were not fully demobilized and socio-economically reintegrated tend to organize themselves into organized gangs, drawing upon old military command structures. While priority was given towards disarming and demobilizing members of armed groups, their reintegration was limited in scope due to the short time frame for reintegration at the end of the civil war. Moreover, individuals recruited as child soldiers did not receive the necessary psychosocial, educational and skill training support, which would have ensured their successful transition to civilian life.

Whereas induction into a gang/cliقة may sometimes appear voluntary, harassment, physical threats, and the fear of retaliation are the underpinning drivers. As for *pull factors*, youth may also be enticed to join cliques and gangs due to a need for protection.<sup>12</sup> While the majority of the members of gangs and cliques are boys and men, there is also a limited number of girls and young women that get involved in gangs’ activities. The UN-GoSL assessment of youth at risk found that experience of women and girls as members of cliques and gangs can also be different from their male counterparts. Some girls join Cliques and Gangs under the illusion that they would be protected; however, upon induction, they may be forced into sex work to generate income for their gang-lords. Qualitative data from the above-mentioned report found engaging in sex work is associated with stigma within the gangs/cliقة and in the wider communities, in addition to self-stigma. This self-stigma may lead to eroded self-worth that becomes a trap that keeps girls in gangs/cliques. This is compounded by violent retribution when they attempt to leave. Based on some estimations, there are about 240,000 sex workers in the country, and the number is growing each year.<sup>13</sup> Child marriage and adolescent pregnancy may also contribute to girls entering unhealthy relationships and forms of exploitations.<sup>14</sup>

All these factors are compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. The growing economic stress due to the contraction of the economy and constraints on movement and social interactions are increasing stress on the population and particularly on youth and are engendering violence. Both the number of violent incidents and the fatalities from them recorded as of July 2020 far exceeds the total in all of 2019. In terms of fatalities, it is four times larger. This includes the incident that occurred on 29 April at the male section of the Correctional Center in Freetown, where prisoners set fire to sections of the facility. Reportedly, members of rival gangs took advantage of the chaos and intervention of the

<sup>9</sup> UN-Government of Sierra Leone, Oct. 2019, Report of the joint assessment mission on Youth at risk in Sierra Leone.

<sup>10</sup> Sierra Leone: Tackling youth unemployment, UNDP Website. Available at : <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/ourstories/Tackling-youth-unemployment.html>

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> “Sex workers: Population size estimate - Number, 2016”. [www.aidsinfoonline.org](http://www.aidsinfoonline.org). UNAIDS. Archived from the original on 4 June 2019.

<sup>14</sup> Based on United Nations Children’s Fund, The State of the World’s Children 2017: Children in a digital world, UNICEF, New York, 2017, child marriage is a major issue affecting youth in Sierra Leone: 12.5% of girls are married by the age of 15 and 38.9% of girls are married by the age of 18 (among 20–24-year-olds). Sierra Leone is ranked as the country with the 18<sup>th</sup> highest rate of child marriage in the world.

security forces and killed each other during the incident<sup>15</sup>. It is estimated that 31 people were killed in the incident. On 1 May, a long-standing community tension between the Paramount Chief of Iron Ore rich Lunsar town and youth escalated into violence and disgruntled youths, carrying machetes, killed the security guard of the paramount chief’s house; on 6 May, a riot occurred in the Tombo fishing village in Freetown over COVID-19 social distancing restrictions, killing two people and destroying buildings including a local hospital and the Family Support Unit of the Police; and on 18 July 2020 in Makeni town, the main opposition stronghold, youth mobilized to prevent the removal of a backup generator by the Ministry of Energy, engaged in a confrontation with the Police and Military, resulting in 7 people dead and many others wounded.

These incidents prompted the President to address the nation on 8 May and accuse leaders of the opposition of sponsoring violence by mobilizing the youths “*aiming at making the state ungovernable*”. The political and social tension is not likely to abate in post-COVID Sierra Leone, where significant economic stress is anticipated; also, in view of the new electoral cycle starting in 2021 with the political parties’ conventions and political campaigns. Unless deliberate peacebuilding and socioeconomic interventions targeting youth, especially those in gangs are implemented, sustaining the peace gains in post-COVID Sierra Leone is in jeopardy.

**Key issues raised during the consultations with District and Chiefdom Youth Councils and national CSOs.**

Due to mobilization constraints related to the measures adopted by the Government to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus disease, the specific assessment of the target areas was limited in terms of number of participants. It was also not possible to undertake a quantitative analysis of the extent of the phenomenon of cliques and gangs in the target districts. However, it was possible to gather qualitative data on main issues related to cliques and gangs as well as the commitment from local stakeholders to support the implementation of the project. All stakeholders agreed that the phenomenon of cliques and gangs is widespread in their districts and chiefdom and that was mainly due to the following reasons:

- a) Mile 91 and Magburaka Town in Tonkonlili district: presence of high rate of Marijuana planting and trading, as the only source of livelihoods. Presence of youths released from the Mafanta Correctional Center, located three miles off Magburaka town and hosting about 500 inmates. Inmates were transferred from Pademba Correctional Center, in Freetown, to Mafanta, after the latter was renovated with the support from UNDP and International Bureau of Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) at the end of 2019. Some of the inmates lost contact with their family members, located in other parts of the country not easily accessible from Mafanta. Upon release, these inmates lack money and support to return to their places of origin, they opt to settle in Mile 91, engaging in the Marijuana planting and trading business with the support of gang leaders. Youths are also gaining their livelihoods from riding motorbikes (so called “Okada riders”) to provide transport services to residents in the area. The Okada riders have very peculiar links with the cliques and gangs, as they operate at the margin of the gangs, providing services to them, including transport of Marijuana for illegal trading and providing information on potential raids by the police.
- b) Nongowa and Dama areas in Kenema District: High rate of youths migrating from rural communities to settle in and around Kenema town to engage in illegal mining as well as trading of drugs and alcohol, commercial sex work for young girls due to the presence of miners.

The following cliques and gangs have been reported as operating in the two districts, some of them have links at national level, while others are locally based:

	<b>Kenema District</b>
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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.thesierraleonetelegraph.com/freetown-correctional-centre-publishes-report-into-pademba-road-prison-riot/>

<p><b>Tokonlili Districts</b></p> <p>a) Friend of the Dead – national</p> <p>b) Black Street – national</p> <p>c) Gaza guys - national</p> <p>d) Soja team – national</p> <p>e) Back Tallars - local</p> <p>f) Boarder Line – local</p> <p>g) Back Street Boys - local</p>	<p>a) Gaza State – national</p> <p>b) Blue Black Colabo - local</p> <p>c) So So Green - local</p> <p>d) Black guys - national</p> <p>e) Red Flag – national</p> <p>f) Black and White – national</p> <p>g) Champion Squard – national</p> <p>h) Wise Young Women - local</p>
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Stakeholders also elaborated on the main factors that move youth to join cliques and gangs in the two districts, as follows:

- i) Lack of policies to address minor infractions that could avoid the detention of youth in overcrowded prisons and generation of a vicious cycle of recruitment into cliques and gangs;
- ii) Lack of reintegration policies and alternative livelihoods for youth at risk to break the hold gangs and cliques have on youth at risk.
- iii) Early exposure to violence, particularly for girls, victims of gender-based violence (GBV), as well as use of drugs and alcohol and dysfunctional families or absence of family support;
- iv) Lack of a drug policy that cover the new drugs used by youth, such as Tramadol;
- v) Perception of youth to be marginalized and self-isolation into the ghettos and Attaya base;
- vi) Lack of skills, technical and civic education that could allow youth to participate in the political and economic life in their communities; and
- vii) Limited capacity within the families and institutions (security sector, local government) to deal with youth at risk.

Stakeholders indicated that District Youth Councils and Chiefdom Youth Councils can facilitate the identification of cliques and gang’s members and their participation in the project. They also indicated that Local Police Partnership Boards<sup>16</sup> are present in the selected areas and can help to reach out to the youth at risk and facilitate their participation in their meetings and support the dialogue with Police, security institutions and local authorities.

The UN-GoSL assessment on youth at risk provides the only available analysis about youth at risk and, particularly, on reasons for youth to join cliques and gangs. Data from the Office of National Security (ONS) focuses on the impact of their behaviors and even that is approximate. As youth at risk tend to move between geographical areas and, also, between legality and illegality, it has been challenging to obtain data on their exact number and affiliation to specific groups. At the inception stage of the project, with the support of a consultant and the PDA, a detailed conflict and Do No Harm analyses will be carried out in the selected areas, which will also help to construct the baseline of the integrated result framework of the M&E plan<sup>17</sup>

### **Why is it important to act now, and what are the opportunities?**

- Sierra Leone’s peace remains fragile nearly two decades after the end of the civil war, particularly after the polarizing 2018 elections marked by localized violence. Three years since the elections tensions and incidents of violence continue to escalate. Consequently, the country has dropped 18 places in the Global Peace Index 2019. During the period of 29 April to 30 July 2020 alone, there

<sup>16</sup> Local Police Partnership Boards (LPPBs) are multi-stakeholder mechanisms and are established in each police division by the Sierra Leone Police as part of the community policing strategy, aiming at increasing cooperation between the Police and the local communities, including on conflict resolution aspects. The LPPBs draw on the participation of a range of locally based community service organizations, representative of local business associations, youth and women representatives, religious leaders, teachers and local and traditional authorities.

<sup>17</sup> The consultant will be selected from available experts who have peacebuilding and M&E/programme management expertise. The project will build on the same process conducted for the PBF/SLE/D-2: *Mitigating localized resource-based conflicts and increasing community resilience, to optimize selection and recruitment processes*

have been several incidents of violence across the country that led to the loss of about 43 lives and destruction of property. It is believed that cliques and gangs played central roles by engaging in fighting with the Police and among each other, as it was the case in the riot at the Pademba Correctional Center.

- The increasing violence is further fueled by COVID-19 mitigation measures that has exacerbated economic hardship, particularly the alarming levels of food insecurity<sup>18</sup>. Sierra Leone is among the 15 worst performing countries at global level on food security<sup>19</sup>. Restrictive measures have posed additional socio-economic pressure on homeless idle youth, who used to live in the streets and make their living by illegal trading and other activities in the streets.
- As a result of the measures taken to control the pandemic, illegal markets have decreased and cliques and gangs are competing among themselves for a shrinking criminal market, leading to rising inter-gangs fighting. Gangs are expanding their areas of influence and decentralizing their activities outside the main towns to capture new markets for extortion and drug selling. The global demand for recreational drug has decreased and cliques and gangs are “reorienting” their activities to the internal market and other type of crime. Some communities have requested the Government to remove the night curfew to allow them to police their neighborhoods.
- The ONS director for planning and intelligence noted that youth engaged in cliques and gangs have become more aggressive in their activities, as demonstrated by the rising rate of crime and drug abuse. ONS continues to consider cliques and gangs as one of the main national security threats. A coordinated security response between Police, Military and ONS has been recently established. At the same time the Local Police Partnership Board, which has proved to be an effective community policing mechanism, is being revitalized.<sup>20</sup>
- On 6 June, President Bio, in his speech at the inauguration of the renovated Psychiatric Teaching Hospital complex, which is the only one in the country with a capacity of 200 beds, recognized that it is expected that mental health problems will increase as a result of the impact of COVID-19. He stressed the need to invest more in addressing mental health in the country. It is worth noting that young people’s drug abuse is one of the main causes of mental illnesses in Sierra Leone.
- The Minister of Youth Affairs has explicitly committed to champion the review of the Sentencing Guidelines and Criminal Procedures to avoid imprisoning youth for minor crimes. This will also help young women that are frequently detained for “subsistence crimes”, such as stealing, or getting into sex works to sustain their family, and sometimes due to lack of debt repayment. It will be important to table the legislation in Parliament before the start of the next electoral cycle.
- A key opportunity identified during the consultations for the development of this proposal with local stakeholders was a strong commitment of all District and Chiefdom Youth Councils and local authorities to partner in the implementation of the project. This included expressing their support to contact and engage the youth at risk, supporting the selection criteria for youth’s participation in the project, including a clear will to demobilize cliques and gangs and reintegrate former members in the communities and into engaging in legal economically viable activities. Local authorities buy-in for proposed activities has also been expressed, including the possibility of mentoring youth at risk to facilitate their participation in local decision-making mechanisms and supporting their involvement in livelihood activities.

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<sup>18</sup> According to a FAO’s global information and early warning system (GIEWS) report, the number of people estimated to be in need of food assistance is expected to increase to 1.3 million, during the lean period from June to August 2020. The report also indicates that prices of staple food continued to increase in early 2020, due to COVID-19 measures, among other factors.

<sup>19</sup> Institute for Economics & Peace. COVID-19 and Peace, Sydney, June 2020.

<sup>20</sup> ONS director of Planning and Intelligence, Radio Democracy interview on 18 May 2020

- The recent creation of the National Council for Civic Education (NaCCED) offers opportunities to increase knowledge on civic education and rule of law. The NaCCED is the custodian of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) process. It is responsible for deepening democracy and good governance, promoting national cohesion and sustainable development through civic education and development communication, civic engagement, community mobilization and knowledge management. It is supervised by a Steering Committee, which includes representatives of the four political parties represented in Parliament, civil society organizations, women associations and experts in education. The establishment of the Council demonstrates Government's determination to address challenges faced by youth at risks, especially as it relates to their manipulation by unscrupulous political actors.
- Political dialogue meetings with political parties and development partners have been maintained by the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) in an effort to establish a process of dialogue between the governing and opposition parties and thereby decrease political animosity and inter-party violence, which regularly involves youth at risk.
- At the highest level of the Office of the President there is an initiative to 'de-risk and demobilize youth at risk' through job creation, including offering alternative livelihood opportunities in the green economy. The Government has committed startup funds in the 2020 national budget for this initiative. This project complements the Government's effort and it will benefit from the high-level political will and tangible commitment.

### **Alignment with existing Governmental and UN strategic frameworks**

#### *Alignment with national development plans:*

- The project is aligned with the Government of Sierra Leone's Medium-Term National Development Plan (2019-2023), Cluster 6 on youth employment and Cluster 4.6 on building public trust in State Institutions.

#### *Alignment with UN Frameworks*

- The project is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), particularly on Outcome 1 on Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security and climate resilience; Outcome 2 on Transformational Governance; and Outcome 4 on Protection and Empowerment of the most Vulnerable.

#### *Alignment with national policies on Youth*

- The project is aligned with the NaCCED programme on civic education for youth. The National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED), is a newly constituted government department tasked with strengthening democratic culture, with a view to enhancing cohesion, peace and responsible citizenship. In its first year of existence the NaCCED has engaged youth in conflict situation in Tombo (western rural area) using dialogue to pass on civic knowledge and peaceful co-existence. The project will engage the NaCCED as a key interlocutor for mobilizing youth at risk for their participation in the project not only as beneficiaries but as key contributing partners to the success of the initiative.
- The project is also aligned to the draft National Youth Policy (NYP), which is under review by the Ministry of Youth Affairs. The current draft proposes the promotion of employment and decent jobs for youth, youth sensitive policies, engagement of youth in agriculture, and youth participation, among other pillars. The project further aligns with the NYP in enabling Sierra Leonean youth of all categories to develop their full potential and self-esteem while institutionalizing youth participation at all local and regional levels in decision making processes.

*Alignment with Government's development policies on economy revitalization and youth economic empowerment*

- The Government has prioritized the diversification and development of the agriculture sector in its national development plan and COVID-19 recovery plan to expand youth livelihoods, increase food security and decrease import of agriculture products. Development partners in the country have provided support to the expansion and modernization of agriculture, providing incentives for young people to engage in the agriculture sector.

*Alignment with national policy reform agenda that could have a direct impact on youth at risk*

- The project is aligned with the draft Amended 1965 Criminal Procedure Act (CPA). The Government has placed the passage of the CPA Bill as one of the priorities of its agenda. The support of this project will help to carry out the process for the finalization of the bill. This legislation will help to also finalize the Sentencing Regulations which have been drafted and are awaiting the enactment of the CPA. These new pieces of legislation are making provision for alternative sentencing including the introduction of community work, suspended sentences and parole. These will contribute to the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders who are, in majority, youths.

*Alignment with national relevant policies on women and girls*

- As a result of the current COVID-19 measures, violence against women and girls has been on the rise. Young people under the influence of drugs and alcohol are reported to be among the main perpetrators of such violence. The social mobilization pillar of the COVID-19 response has tailored messages to prevent sexual and gender-based violence. Women and children organizations have activated a national coordination effort against violence against women and children. This complements efforts already made by the First Lady and Minister of Gender and Children's Affairs with the support of UNFPA, including on a male involvement strategy to prevent gender-based violence.
- In March 2020, Sierra Leone overturned a 2010 directive which was barring pregnant girls from attending school. An inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral coordination platform has been established in the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education, supported by UNFPA, to seek solutions for the reintegration of the girls in schools. This will be an opportunity for girls that had to resort to external protection from gang leaders to reintegrate into their families and return to school.
- The project proposal is aligned with and will contribute to progressing the government's commitment to advancing women's participation in decision making process. Since 2008 the Parliament of Sierra Leone adopted UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security as part of the National Agenda.

## **II. Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy**

### **Brief description of the project content**

Experience worldwide have indicated that demobilization and reintegration of members of violent gangs is based on a process of empowerment that includes education, economic inclusion and political participation. This project aims to support youth at risk in Tonkolili and Kenema districts to reintegrate in their community and families, and at the same time, advocate for institutional reforms that address the core question of recruitment of youth into cliques and gangs. The project will seek not only to mitigate the gang and cliques' activities and their impact on youth at risk in the target areas, it will seek to address factors that drive youth to join gangs and cliques. Particular attention will be given to women and girls to improve their self-esteem as well as educate men and boys on the lifelong impact of gender-based violence on girls and women and how boys and men can champion the prevention of GBV. Youth empowerment and inclusion will be promoted through civic education, livelihoods generation, and political participation in decision-making spaces.

## Project Theory of Change

- IF** youth at risk are empowered through civic education and counselling on prevention/treatment of substance abuse and are included in decision-making processes in their communities...
- IF** capacities of district and youth councils and local youth groups are strengthened to promote youth leadership and influence on national and local policies and programmes affecting youths...
- IF** youth at risk (women and men) and communities have better awareness on the rights of girls and women and the impact of SGBV on their wellbeing...
- IF** the correctional service, family support unit and local police partnership boards have enhanced capacity to adopt youth sensitive approach in monitoring human rights abuses...
- IF** the courts and correctional services have the capacity and policy space to promote prison decongestion and the separation of youth who commit minor offenses from hard-core criminals...
- IF** livelihood and socioeconomic opportunities are increased for youth at risk, with improved capacity and resources to engage in resilience farming and agri-based enterprises...

**THEN** the incentives for youth at risk to join gangs and cliques will reduce significantly. This will mitigate the exploitation of youth at risk for political gains and of young women for sex work and SGBV; and the voices of youth in decision-making will become stronger; thereby contributing to sustaining the peace and social cohesion in Sierra Leone.

**BECAUSE** the un-mitigating power of cliques and gangs is recognized as threat to national security and peace. It is a major force behind sexual exploitation of girls with the number of sex workers now exceeding 200,000. Poverty, the lack of economic opportunities and the exclusion and marginalization of youth are found to be the major push factors towards cliques and gangs.

## Project Results Framework (See Annex B)

Based upon participatory consultations with project stakeholders, including the Office of the Vice President (VPO), government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), District Youth Councils and Chiefdom Youth Councils, National Council of Civic Education, Political Parties Registration Commission, Civil Society Organizations, traditional leaders and community members, women and youth representatives, the project will contribute to three outcomes by achieving seven outputs as elaborated here. The core activities under each output are also outlined.

Interventions will take into account international best practices and lessons learned from the implementation of Community Violence Reduction (CVR) projects, aimed at preventing the recruitment of at-risk youth, increasing community resilience and supporting the resocialization of former clique and gang members in the society (Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) 2.30 on Community Violence Reduction).

**Outcome 1: Youth (men and women) are empowered and included in decision-making processes in their communities in the target districts.**

The project will achieve this Outcome through the following outputs:

***Output 1.1: Civic education and counselling are promoted to enable the reintegration of youth at risk into families and communities and their participation in decision-making processes.***

Civic education activities will be conducted in partnership with NaCCED and will have a two-fold objective: a) youth at risk will have better understanding of their rights, responsibilities and possibilities to participate as citizens; b) youth at risk will develop leadership skills and abilities to engage with authorities, including local and traditional authorities and security agents in a non-violent manner. The

project will work with NaCCED, DYCs and CYCs to pilot the civic education curriculum (non-formal education) previously developed and endorsed by GoSL. The methodology to be employed will include: -training workshops; -information exchange sessions on community decision-making structure; - exercises on how to access the local institutions and authorities; -entertainment and football gala with built-in civic themes that increase camaraderie, cohesion and community identity. Political Party Registration Commission (PPRC) and main political parties that are members of NaCCED and National Youth Commission (NAYCOM) will also contribute to the civic education process with sessions on leadership and political participation.

While entertainment and football galas are critical tools for promoting friendship, peace, and social cohesion, engagement with communities and reassessment of the local market revealed that the allocated amount (\$125,000) was significantly high (approximately twice the cost) for Activity 1.1.2. Following consultations with MoYA and other stakeholders and considering the comparative advantage and value addition to other project activities like civic education, youth leadership empowerment, and support for rule of law activities, the project proposes a 52% reduction (\$65,000) from Activity 1.1.2 for reallocation to other activities (1.1.1.; 1.2.1.; and 2.2.3.). Under Output 1.1, a re-allocation of \$12,500 is proposed to Activity 1.1.1 to support more civic education for youth at risk and other youth groups in the two target districts. The civic education activities under Output 1.1 will as planned be carried out by NACCED as an implementing partners, while the project partner MoYA will take the lead in implementing the gala activities, both under budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts*, which is increased by \$130,000.

The project will also work with the local structures of the Department of Mental Health of the Ministry of Health (MoH) to make an assessment of the psychological status of the youth engaged in the project and refer them for counselling services on prevention/treatment of drug/alcohol addiction. The local structures of the MoH have been recently upgraded and equipped with social workers, as part of the risk communication and social mobilization component of the COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts. The project will, therefore, build on the MoH existing structures and services at district level, supporting the mobility of social workers to the targeted communities. Social workers will also carry out counselling sessions with families of youth at risk and community members to increase social and family acceptance of youth, while supporting youths to reduce/prevent the abuse of substance. Combination of civic education and counselling activities will support the reintegration and empowerment process of youth, while reconstruct bonds with their families and communities.

***Output 1.2: Capacity of District and Chiefdom Youth Councils (DYC and CYC) and local youth groups in the targeted districts strengthened to promote youth leadership and influence district and local decision-making processes that affect youth at risk***

The project intends to support the DYC, CYC and local youth groups to improve their capacity to serve their constituencies, including youth at risk. This will increase the representation capacity of the Councils and local youth groups, which, in turn, will help to dismantle structural barriers that prevent the reintegration and participation of youth at risk into community activities and decision-making processes. DYC and CYC and local youth groups will facilitate inclusion of youth at risk in their membership to foster their reintegration through peer-to-peer support. DYC, CYC, and local youth groups will also promote dialogue forums between local authorities - including local councils, Police, ONS, local representatives of government ministry, department and agencies, political parties' leadership, PPRC and Human Rights Commission, paramount chiefs, village committees, among others - and youth at risk on critical issues that affect and engage youth at risk.

Capacity building activities will take place through training workshops, mentoring and engagement strategies. With the support of the PDA, skills development workshops will be organized to increase capacity of DYC, CYC, youth groups and youth at risk in conflict transformation and risk mapping exercises in their communities to identify structural barriers that could affect and prevent reintegration

of youth at risk. Results of mapping and analysis will then be discussed at the dialogue forums between youth at risk and local authorities.

Under this Output, the project proposes an increased allocation by \$12,500 to enable the implementation of more capacity building and mentoring activities for NYCs and CYCs, and local youth groups for improved decision making in issues affecting youth at risk. The proposed increment will be derived from resource reduced from Activity 1.1.2. The additional resources will also support more dialogues with local authorities and legislative leaders in the two districts. These activities under Output 1.2 will as planned be carried out by NAYCOM as an implementing partner under budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts*, which is increased by \$30,284.

***Output 1.3: Increased awareness among key stakeholders and youth at risk in targeted communities on women and girls' rights, with increased male involvement to reduce GBV***

Under this output the project will work with Fambul Initiative Network for Equality to increase awareness among youth at risk and the wider community on the importance of ending GBV and other harmful practices. The dialogues will lead to the establishment of a memorandum of understanding between youth at risks and community leaders that will outline the community's commitment to ending GBV in the community.

Under this output a network of Male Advocacy Peer Educators (MAPES) will be established in the target districts. These will be supported to serve as role models to young boys to champion non-violence and the protection of women and girls from SGBV. The MAPES will also promote the participation of men in promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH); and lead the establishment and operation of 'husbands' and 'boys' clubs. These will meet twice a month to discuss issues related to GBV and progress made in their communities for SGBV reduction. Youth Clubs (targeting men and boys age 15-24) will be established in targeted communities. The clubs will meet twice a month to participate in discussions related to SRH and GBV prevention and response. Facilitators will utilize the national life skills manual and invite healthcare workers and social workers to give talks. Finally, under this output IEC materials will be produced which provide information on gender-based violence and referral pathways to the wider community, specifically targeting women and girls; promote family planning and sexual reproductive health rights targeting women and girls. This will amplify the messaging of GBV and Sexual reproductive health rights work carried out by UNFPA in recent years in both Kenema and Tonkolili. Through the Ending Child Marriage and Girls Access to Education and Services projects UNFPA have worked with adolescent girls in both districts through the safe space model and within community learning centres to increase girls understanding of the sexual reproductive health rights and to link them to social welfare, health and GBV response services.

***Outcome 2: National and local institutions improve their response to the needs of youth at risk***

***Output 2.1: Capacity of local institutions—Correctional Services, Family Support Unit (FSUs) of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), and Local Police Partnership Boards (LPPBs)—is enhanced in human rights, rule of law, negotiation and youth-sensitive approaches to improve their engagement with youth at risk.***

The output will contribute to enabling supply side of justice and governance structures with improved procedures, policies, and platforms to engage with youth at risk in targeted communities. In relation to youth at risk in correctional facilities, the project will support the implementation of the Earning Scheme policy to ensure youth incarcerated are involved in meaningful activities geared toward their reintegration. In order to do that the project will support: a) training of correctional industry managers, b) mapping the skills of youth at risk, currently in prisons, to place them in the right industries, c) provision of training to youth at risks.

Representatives from the Correctional Services, Paramount Chiefs Council (PCC), the Family Support Units (FSUs) of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP) and the Local Policing Partnership Boards (LPPBs) in the project chiefdoms will be targeted with youth at risk responsive skills, including human rights, rule of law, and negotiations that will enable positive engagement and peaceful resolution of community issues involving youth at risk. The intervention will also provide safe spaces for youth at risk and officials of targeted institutions to dialogue and jointly address issues including the reintegration of youth at risk who have gone through the reformation processes in the correctional centres.

***Output 2.2: SLP, Magistrate Courts and Correctional Services in project targeted areas have strengthened capacities and youth responsive legal frameworks to monitor detention conditions and support decongestion of overcrowded facilities.***

To achieve this output the following activities will be implemented: a) support the monitoring of overcrowded facilities to ensure that minimum standards for incarceration are respected by the correctional centres located at the targeted districts. With 20 facilities across the country, the Correctional centres in the main towns are overcrowded, with overcrowding levels reaching 500% in some centres. Over 80 officers have been trained on the UN Standard Minimum Rules for The Treatment of Inmates (Mandela Rules) and on monitoring the application of the said standards. The application of standards in detention facilities will be beneficial to youth at risk as this will reduce the risk of recidivism once these youths are released from detention. The following are the core activities:

a) Prison courts in the correctional facilities in the project districts will be supported with a view to fast-tracking case handling and ensuring minor offences involving youth at risk are quickly processed and concluded. This will help bring down the numbers of prisoners in those facilities. Two correctional facilities will be involved because of the high number of inmates on pre-trial (Tonkolili, Kenema). It is anticipated that at least 250 cases will be concluded within the lifespan of the project with at least 65% case conclusion rate across the centres;

b) review the Sierra Leone Correctional Service Act of 2014 (SLCSA) to ensure that the Act takes into account concrete reforms aimed at rehabilitating and reintegrating youth at risk in their communities, as an alternative measure to incarceration. For example, the new Act will set the stage for the involvement of youth in reformation programs, their involvement in the earning scheme and support toward psychosocial counselling and treatment for drug and substance abuse;

c) continuous advocacy for the passage of the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) which has been already drafted with the inclusion of provisions on alternatives to sentencing and additional myriad of provisions that will enable judicial personnel to impose suspended sentences among others. These provisions will contribute to ensuring that youth at risk are treated within the confines of the law and are not unnecessarily incarcerated with hardcore criminals with the potential of being enlisted into gangs and cliques while in prison.

Under the proposed modifications, the project aims to allocate an additional \$40,000 to this Output, reallocated from Activity 1.1.2. This will support the enactment of two laws that are being reviewed (SLCS Act 2014 and CPA 1965). As a result of the partnership and coordination established with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), it has been decided to also review the draft Sentencing Regulations for submission in Parliament. Both the draft Sentencing Regulations and the CPA would be submitted together in Parliament for passage into law. Following consultations with the Legislative Committee it has been decided to present the drafted version of the CPA to their constituents together with a media portion to ensure heightened public awareness by the time the legislation is submitted to Parliament. This will facilitate the passage of concerned legislation without further obstacles, particularly of the CPA, which has been pending since 2005. The additional funds will support the popularization of the draft and reviewed CPA to 20 constituencies, including the development of didactic materials such as leaflets with pictures and text to explain what has been improved in the new legislation, while jingles and radio sessions will be aired in most rural areas reaching less literate community residents on key

sections of the CPA. The popularization will broaden the scope of awareness on the importance of the legislation and ensure that the members of the Legislative Committee of Parliament are fully on board before the revised CPA is submitted in Parliament for passage. Supporting MPs to engage more with their communities is a starting point for buy-in by the public and will also enable the CPA Committee to make a case in Parliament for the passage of the legislation. This is a central piece to the project in protecting youth at risk against arbitrary arrest and detention and prolonged trials as well as recruitment into cliques and gangs while in prison. The budget increase will thus enable the popularization of the legislation by the parliamentarians of the Legislative Committee, a component which was not initially included but has now been added to make sure the parliamentarians can present the exciting changes in the CPA to their constituents. As activities under this Output will be carried out by implementing partner CARL, budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts* is increased by \$40,000.

**Outcome 3: Social cohesion strengthened and youth at risk socially and economically empowered to meaningfully reintegrate into their families and communities.**

***Output 3.1: Social cohesion, and peaceful coexistence promoted by supporting joint socio-economic initiatives that involve youth at risk and community members***

In consultation with the communities, the project will support community-based-labour-intensive activities aimed at strengthening social cohesion in communities where youth at risk will be reintegrated. Depending on existing infrastructures in target chiefdoms, activities such as improvement of recreational and economic community infrastructures - like play fields, markets places, agricultural storage facilities, community town hall, community water sources/ borehole - will be supported in the four (4) chiefdoms of Yoni and Kolifa Ruwala in Tonkolili district and Nongowa and Dama in Kenema district. Contracting services blended with cash for work model will be employed to foster social interaction between youth at risk, community members and other youth groups, while providing opportunities to youth at risk to contribute to their communities. DYC and CYC, in partnership with Caritas Bo and Makeni, will support youth at risk to engage in these social cohesion activities.

Following the general baseline assessment and identification of target communities and youth at risk beneficiaries, the project conducted a participatory needs assessment (Activity 3.1.2) with the final 18 target communities and youth at risk groups across the two districts. The assessment facilitated the prioritization and selection of joint socio-economic initiatives at community level (Output 3.1). Communities prioritized town halls (05), community/youth centres (04), storage/processing facilities (08) and market structure (01) which will be rehabilitated/constructed by the project (Activity 3.1.3). The community projects will be tendered in line with FAO's procurement regulations and registered local construction companies from within the target areas will be especially encouraged to bid. Involvement of local community members and youth a skilled and unskilled labour will be central to agreement with the selector contractor(s), ensuring adequate compensation and promotion of technical skills. The interaction and cooperation between the youth at risk and community members is furthermore strengthened through joint planning and preparatory activities, and through a community monitoring committee will be established and trained to oversee the implementation of community projects. Communities including the youth will be trained on operation and maintenance and facilitated to develop bylaws and mechanisms for facility use and management to ensure sustainability of the supported facilities. Overall technical oversight will be done by the FAO supervisory engineer, while the implementing partners Caritas Bo and Caritas Makeni will engage technical field staff to support day to day technical supervision, liaison between contractors and communities, and facilitation of community involvement and monitoring in the projects.

Output 3.2 is requested to be increased by \$19,000 towards the joint community projects and the rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructure (Activity 3.1.3). These initiatives entail infrastructural elements which require a shifting of funds (\$75,000) to increase budget category 4. *Contractual Services* for the contracting of construction firm(s). The additional amount for Contractual

Services has been reallocated mostly from budget category 2. *Supplies, Commodities, Materials* (-\$56,000) as well as from savings under Output 3.2 as elaborated below.

Utilizing savings under budget category 1, the project will recruit a short-term civil engineer (\$8000 for consultancy costs) to support with final preparation of Bill of Quantities and technical supervision of infrastructure works.

**Output 3.2: Youth at risk have increased capacity and are empowered to generate their livelihoods**

Under this output, youth at risk will be trained to acquire skills in innovative on-farm and off-farm practices and technologies, and they will be facilitated to access markets. The project will encourage youth at risk to enrol into their preferred livelihood activity, this will include sustainable food production through sustainable farming practices, agroforestry, fisheries, or livestock production, including operation of farm machineries, and offering transport services to link farmers to market. The project will offer training on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Agricultural machine operation, Agribusiness development and financial management, post-harvest management, preservation, and value addition of selected value chains (crops, livestock, fisheries, and poultry). Particular attention will be given to the economic empowerment and inclusion of young women.

The project will provide agricultural production inputs suitable for agroecological zones of the selected chiefdoms (e.g seeds, tools and other relevant farm implements). Furthermore, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and with the support of the Ministry of Youth Affairs, the project plans to attach youth at risk to Farmer Base Organizations (FBO), or Junior Farmer Field Schools (JFF) and Youth Agri-Enterprises for mentorship and training to become agri-preneurs.

Demobilized trained youth at risk with successful farming or business records will be linked to private sector through private public partnership networking sessions, and during government organized annual agricultural produce fairs where youth at risk will be sponsored to operate booths and display or sell their products. Additionally, young farmers will be facilitated to participate in knowledge sharing and learning events e.g. innovation pitch nights, and national “Young Farmer” competition events. Selection criteria for beneficiaries of agricultural inputs and market linkage transport facility will be developed with the support of DYC and CYC. The selection criteria will follow Do No Harm principles and recognize the level of disengagement of youth at risk from harmful practices as a key factor for owning assets. Youth at risk who have successfully attained the business training skills with bankable business proposals will be recommended to participate in the various agribusiness initiatives nationwide.

The participatory needs assessment (Activity 3.1.2) conducted in the target communities as well facilitated the prioritization and selection of agricultural livelihood activities for the 18 youth at risk groups. 08 out of 18 youth groups prioritized poultry production as their agricultural livelihood, 07 groups prioritized crop-based value chains (cassava, rice, groundnut) and 03 groups opted for livestock rearing (small ruminants). To provide the youth at risk groups with the appropriate type of inputs, equipment and facilities for their prioritized livelihood activities, the following shifting between budget categories is requested: 2. *Supplies, Commodities, Materials* is increased by \$56,000, 3. *Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)* is decreased by -\$15,000, 4. *Contractual Services* is decreased by -\$40,000, and 7. *General Operating Cost* is decreased by -\$30,000. The amount for budget category 6. *Transfers and Grants to Counterparts* is increased by \$10,000 to include support to 04 crop-producing youth at risk groups in the partnership agreements with Caritas Bo and Caritas Makeni respectively and strengthen the on-site supervision of monitoring of the groups.

As less expenditure was incurred for the selection of youth at risk groups (Activity 3.2.1, -\$10,000) and the gender assessment (Activity 3.2.2, -\$9,000), a total of \$19,000 is requested to be reallocated from Output 3.2 to Output 3.1 towards the joint community initiatives and rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructure (Activity 3.1.3).

Utilizing savings under budget category 3, the project will procure a motorbike (expected costs \$900) for the Field-Based Agronomist to facilitate his/her movements in the field between communities.

## **Project Implementation Strategy and project beneficiaries**

The project will primarily target youth at risk who operate at the margins of cliques and gangs, engaged in some mixed legal and illegal activities and who are the service providers of the more consolidated gangs. This includes groups such as: - the “*Friends of the dead*”, who live and operate in cemeteries where they sell their services at burial events, but also make their livelihoods by stealing from the tombs and committing minor crimes; - Motorbike riders and informal traders, who have experienced periods of detention and have been in contact with gang leaders while in prison.<sup>21</sup> This includes women and girls frequently detained on the ground of ‘economic hardship’ as they lack the capacity to re-pay their debts<sup>22</sup>; - youth loitering around Attaya bases, who are frequently targeted by political leaders to be engaged as “security task forces or marshals”; - pregnant girls and sex workers, victims of abuse from gangs’ leaders and members; among other.

As explained above (pag. 9), at the inception stage, with the support of the PDA and a consultant, it will be undertaken a detailed conflict and Do No Harm analyses as well as an assessment of the presence of cliques and gangs and specific needs of youth at risks. The DYC and CYC will be engaged in the assessment, as they have contacts with youth at risks and their families. Collaboration of family members to reach out to youth at risk will be also sought. Local Police Partnership Boards (LPBBs) and community members will also be instrumental to provide information on activities of cliques and gangs and centers of exploitations of women and girls. The project will adopt the same methodology that was successfully piloted in the PBF/SLE/D-2 “*Mitigating Localized Resource-based Conflicts and Increasing Community Resilience in Pujehun and Moyamba districts of Sierra Leone*”, currently under implementation, which was based on mixed methods, including fieldwork - supported by field assistants/enumerators previously trained on qualitative and quantitative data collection - and secondary research, based on desk review of exiting documents as well as key informants interviews.

Local authorities and LPBBs, motorbike rider and trade associations, family members, together with DYC and CYC and CSOs collaborating in the project (which include youth associations and Don Bosco - who has a recognized expertise on rescuing youth at risk) will be the primary entry points for the project and main contacts with the youth at risk. The Minister of Youth Affairs will ensure the support of the state institutions to this important project, particularly avoiding that security institutions and correctional service create any barrier that could disincentivize youth at risk from disengaging from cliques and gangs. They will, however, monitor the process and will report at the Chiefdom Security Committee and District Security Committee (CHISEC and DISEC) meetings to analyze success of the project and identify further support required to mitigate the power and influence of cliques and gangs over youth who want to disengage. Community members will also play an important role and, building upon the skills acquired as part of the capacity building process, not only will support in the identification and disengagement of youth at risk from cliques and gangs, but also will constantly mentor and maintain dialogue with youth at risk, avoiding any stigmatization, particularly of the girls and women. The Male Advocate and Peer Educators, Boys Youth Clubs and Husband Schools promoted by FINE (a CSOs that has wider expertise particularly in Tonkolili district) will be instrumental in this endeavor. The PPRC, local political parties’ associations and political leaders will also play a role in reaching out to youth at risk and promote their participation and inclusion in project activities. PPRC will oversee activities of political parties in the area and report on any attempt of political leaders to re-engage youth in their “security task forces”.

The project will also employ horizontal and vertical implementation strategies to address the disengagement and reintegration of youth at risk. Vertical interventions will be employed through

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<sup>21</sup> Motorbike riders and informal traders are frequently engaged to transport drugs and re-cycle stolen goods by gang members (Focus group discussion during the youth at risk assessment).

<sup>22</sup> UN-Government assessment on youth at risk, focus group discussion with informal traders and motorbike riders.

advocacy and technical support to promote policy reforms to minimize youth co-option into cliques and gangs via their recruitment while in correctional facilities. This will involve supporting the Sierra Leone Correctional Service (SLCS) to develop internal policy or issue directives on the separation of youth at risk from adult inmates identified as hardcore criminals or gang leaders who are incarcerated. This will also build on existing work done on policies aimed at increasing use of non-custodial sentences for minor offences. Further, work will be directed at supporting enhanced capacities of correction officers and the corrections institutions of Mafanta Correctional Center (one of the 5 facilities targeted as it is host to a huge number of youthfully convicted inmates) and to ensure limited exposure of youth in custody to criminal indoctrination. These interventions have the potential to strengthen the reforms the SLCS has been embarked on including the development of an earning scheme policy to ensure proper rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates, the development of correctional rules to enable flexibility in the classification of inmates and their engagement through skills development and income generating activities...etc. In addition, the project will contribute to strengthen social cohesion by supporting the trust-building process between youth at risk and local authorities and institutions, such as the Police, ONS, FSU, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), DYC and CYC, local youth and women associations, and local branches of political parties, among others. All these institutions and association are represented in the LPPBs and capacity building will be specifically provided to them to develop skills to engage with youth at risk, listen to their concerns and ensure their inclusion in community activities.

Horizontal interventions are oriented to support youth at risk in their demobilization from cliques and gangs and reintegration processes. The project will liaise with local authorities, DYC and CYC, local political stakeholders and district offices of the PPRC and Human Rights Commission, LPBBs, Chiefdom Security Committees and District Security Committees as well as ‘Okada’ Riders Associations and Trader Associations, who have links with and knowledge of the cliques and gangs operating in the areas. Through skills, economic empowerment and livelihood support, the project will restore the confidence of youth at risk and facilitate their reintegration into the community. Youth at risk who successfully started positive life will be role models and motivate other youth to follow suit.

The project aims at targeting the following number of direct beneficiaries under each of the outputs. However, some of the activities will impact on a bigger number of people, who will directly benefit from the intervention of the project, such as the family members, community members, other youth groups, political parties, etc. Number of beneficiaries have been estimated based on the information gathered during the consultation process, however, the figure will be reviewed at the inception phase during the baseline assessment. Beneficiaries of outcome 1 will be the same of outcome 3.

Output (# & Description)	Expected Number of Beneficiaries	
	Male	Female
<b>Output 1.1:</b> <i>Civic education and counselling are promoted to enable the reintegration of youth at risk into families and communities and their participation in decision-making processes.</i>	250	50
<b>Output 1.2:</b> <i>Capacity of District and Chiefdom Youth Councils (DYC and CYC) and local youth groups in the targeted districts strengthened to promote youth leadership and influence district and local decision-making processes that affect youth at risk</i>	100	50
<b>Output 1.3:</b> <i>Increased awareness among key stakeholders and youth at risk in targeted communities on women and girls’ rights, with increased male involvement to reduce GBV</i>	250	50

<b>Output 2.1:</b> <i>Capacity of local institutions, Correctional Services, Family Support Unit (FSUs) of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), and Local Police Partnership Boards (LPPBs), is enhanced in human rights, rule of law, negotiation and youth-sensitive approaches to improve their engagement with youth at risk.</i>	100 officers and 80 inmates	50 officers and 10 inmates
<b>Output 2.2:</b> <i>SLP, Magistrate Courts and Correctional Services in project targeted areas have strengthened capacities and youth responsive legal frameworks to monitor detention conditions and support decongestion of overcrowded facilities</i>	300 (including 230 cases estimated to be addressed by prison courts)	20 (including 20 cases estimated to be addressed by prison courts)
<b>Output 3.1:</b> <i>Social cohesion, and peaceful coexistence promoted by supporting joint socio-economic initiatives that involve youth at risk and community members</i>	250	50
<b>Output 3.2:</b> <i>Youth at risk have increased capacity and are empowered to generate their livelihoods</i>	250	50

### **Justification for the selected areas:**

The selection of the districts and chiefdoms has been conducted in partnership with the Minister of Youth Affairs, taking into account results of the UN-Government youth at risk assessment<sup>23</sup> as well as conditions for the implementation of a pilot project of this nature.

While Freetown has the biggest number of cliques and gangs, their operations are more sophisticated and violent than the ones of the cliques and gangs operating in the districts. Youth at risk in Freetown are more dispersed and, in many cases, have lost their links with their families and places of origin, which make their reintegration more difficult and expensive for a pilot project compared to the reintegration of youth at risk in the districts and chiefdoms, where they live closer to their families and communities. Fighting between cliques and gangs for the control of the territory in Freetown are also more common than in the provinces. Likewise, the political interests at stake are higher in Freetown than in the provinces, and youth at risk are frequently loitering around the headquarters (HQs) of political parties, engaging in street battles and seeking to be rewarded by party members (this has been less frequent, since the last incidents in January this year and due to the COVID-19 restrictions). Based on the above considerations, it was decided to implement the current project in two districts, selected on the basis of: a) reported presence of cliques and gangs; b) presence of the biggest correctional center of the country, which was renovated by UNDP, with the support of the US Department of State/INL, and meets conditions to pilot the Mandela Rules; c) presence of illegal activities linked to youth at risk, such as the farming of marijuana and illegal mining; d) strongholds of the two biggest political parties Kenema is the stronghold of the governing SLPP and Tonkolili of the main opposition APC; e) presence of the LPBBs and consolidated presence of the DYC and CYC; f) presence of CSOs with experience working with youth. The ONS was also consulted to validate the selection based on their data on cliques and gangs and they provided indication on the chiefdoms to be targeted.

<sup>23</sup> Selection of the districts for the assessment was made based on logistic possibilities, availability of support in the field (UN presence), and conflict sensitivity. The assessment was a pilot and covered the most accessible districts, where we could mobilise the DYC and CYC to perform as enumerators and conveners of the focus group discussions with youth at risk. Tonkolili district was not included in the assessment, as there were still some sensitivities related with the anti-narcotic operation conducted by the Police and its consequences. Districts were also selected in a manner to target equal number from Government and opposition strongholds. All districts are affected by the presence of cliques and gangs.

Tonkolili district is one of the biggest districts, centrally located in Sierra Leone and with one of the highest levels of poverty (70%)<sup>24</sup>, with farming and iron ore mining as the main economic activities. Since the collapse of global prices of iron ore in 2014, many of the mining companies that provided jobs for youth have either closed down or drastically downsized operations. This situation has further deteriorated with the COVID-19 impact on the global demand and export of raw materials. Illegal farming of marijuana is being reported in the district and, while no official figures exist, it is estimated that more prime farmlands are being converted to marijuana cultivation further affecting food security<sup>25</sup> in the district. In 2018, a Police crackdown on marijuana farming resulted in riots and death of a youth. Presence of cliques and gangs. Tonkolili also hosts the biggest correctional center in the country. Tonkolili is a stronghold of the main opposition APC.

Kenema is the third largest districts in the country and has experienced youth violence in recent times. After the 2018 elections, youth clashed with Police in post-elections violence that resulted in injuries to people and destruction of properties. The incidence of sexual and gender-based violence in Kenema is among the highest in the country. Kenema is also a farming district that holds potential for high levels of food production and a center of diamond and gold mining, youth are frequently engaged in illegal mining. Kenema is the stronghold of the governing SLPP.

As previously stated, at the inception stage a detailed assessment, including a conflict analysis, will be carried out to collect more detailed data on youth at risk and construct the baseline of the result framework.

### **III. Project management and coordination**

#### **Recipient Organizations and Implementing partners**

**UNFAO** is the Convening Agency and project manager. FAO has wealth of experience in providing alternative agricultural livelihoods and economic empowerment of vulnerable people especially women and youth in Sierra Leone. FAO will provide technical expertise to beneficiaries of the project, particularly in the areas of sustainable agricultural livelihoods, climate smart agriculture, farm management, among other Agri-food system to promote youth economic empowerment, food and nutrition security for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations are not compromised. This project will benefit from FAO's previous experience in Peacebuilding Fund projects related to natural resource management and women's empowerment in Sierra Leone, where youth were involved in using innovative mapping technology to demarcate community land, other FAO interventions are being implemented targeting youths in districts such as Kono where youth groups are being supported to do poultry and fish farming/aquaculture as opposed to illegal unsustainable mining. FAO has good working relationship with the Ministry of Youth Affairs, the parent ministry for the project; FAO good partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at national and subnational levels will be used to facilitate agricultural related activities, As the custodian of SDG 2, FAO has a wide range of initiatives geared towards harnessing the potential of youth to positively improve food production and food security, FAO will tap into the existing national, regional and global expertise, knowledge and successful youth in agriculture initiatives to the benefit of this project.

FAO will implement this project in partnership with Caritas Bo and Caritas Makeni. The organization was established in 1981 and since then, it has demonstrated experience in addressing youth unemployment through alternative livelihood projects. Caritas Sierra Leone remains steadfast in post war peace building initiatives but is also active in various fields such as agriculture / food security, school feeding, emergency and humanitarian relief, youth empowerment, environmental protection,

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<sup>24</sup> Sierra Leone Common Country Assessment, 2018

<sup>25</sup> Food insecurity has been in the increase in the country, which is reported to remain amongst the 15 worst performing countries for food insecurity worldwide. Food insecurity has been identified as a source of conflict in Sierra Leone, particularly after the COVID-19 pandemic.

poverty eradication and gender equality. The main reason of selecting Caritas Sierra Leone as implementing partner is that they have an in depth understanding of the target areas and they have offices located in the target areas. Additionally, FAO will work closely with the district agricultural offices, and the expertise of block extension for advancing the agricultural work in the target communities.

UNDP has maintained strong relations with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and the National Youth Commission (NYCOM) and has implemented a range of youth business development, youth employment (graduate internship) programmes, and annual production of the “State of Youth” report to inform policies on youth empowerment and employment. In the last three years, UNDP in partnership with UNFPA, supported the Government to establish and operate the National Youth Service Scheme. Both Agencies are now supporting the review of the National Youth Policy to align it with the current challenges of youth unemployment and increased engagement in violence. UNDP has worked with the SLCS to initiate reforms that are now progressively transitioning the SLCS from a punitive to a corrective institution. This has led to a reduction of congestion rates over the past 5 years. In addition, working within the justice and security sector, UNDP has supported the Judiciary and sector institutions to establish a more coordinated approach to decongesting overcrowded correctional facilities through the piloting and the strengthening of the prison courts model. UNDP is also supporting community peacebuilding and social cohesion in a number of districts including through a PBF project on peacebuilding and relations between agricultural and mining companies and youth in two districts. UNDP will build on these successes to ensure results in this project as well as the sustainability of its gains. UNDP will further use its broad development mandate to support the strengthening of public institutions such as Police and correctional facilities and support inclusive participation of youth at risk in decision-making processes, and civic education to avoid the dangers of political intimidation and manipulation.

UNFPA has worked closely with the Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs both in terms of the Psychosocial Support Pillar of the National Response to COVID-19 and through UNFPA’s work on ending child marriage. Additionally, UNFPA supported the Ministry of Gender and Children’s Affairs to *develop and launch the National Male Involvement Strategy for the Prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Sierra Leone*. UNFPA supported the establishment of a one-stop centre and the operation of a hotline for GBV survivors. UNFPA also contributed to the recruitment of Youth Corps to the National Youth Service and has vast experience in addressing gender-based violence and girls’ rights in Sierra Leone. This expertise will be jointly employed to achieve project goals.

Furthermore, UNFPA has a 10-year partnership with Fambul Initiative Network for Equality (FINE) working specifically on male involvement in ending gender-based violence. FINE is one of the leading NGOs working on male involvement in Sierra Leone. They have a track record of bringing about knowledge attitude and behavior change through their Male Advocate and Peer Educators, Boys Youth Clubs and Husband Schools. FINE has previously worked with UNFPA on the Irish Aid funded Girls Access to Education Services Project in Tonkolili and as such is well placed to build on existing work in the district. Additionally, UNFPA has worked with Rainbo Initiative since 2019 to support their work on responding to Gender Based Violence (GBV). Rainbo Initiative works on providing free quality, age appropriate response services to survivors of Sexual GBV, increasing awareness of SGBV at community and national levels, influencing National Sexual GBV Policy by Evidence-Based Advocacy and Organizational development and strengthening.

Agency	Implementing Partners	Justification
UNFAO	CARITAS Bo CARITAS Makeni	Caritas Sierra Leone was established in 1981 and since then, it has demonstrated experience in addressing youth unemployment through alternative livelihood projects. Caritas Sierra Leone remains steadfast in post war peace building initiatives but is also active in various

		fields such as agriculture / food security, emergency and humanitarian relief, youth empowerment, environmental protection, poverty eradication and gender equality. FAO is working with Caritas Bo to implement COVID 19 Response project in Bo, Kenema and Moyamba. And will include Caritas Makeni to work in Tonkolili
UNDP	Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL)	UNDP is the main development partner in the justice and security sector in Sierra Leone and together with CARL, has implemented reforms in developing bail regulations and monitoring of the implementation; working with prisoners in their transformation to a rehabilitative service. CARL has been instrumental in the monitoring of the implementation of the Mandela Rules and the prison courts.
	Don Bosco Fambul	Don Bosco Fambul in Sierra Leone is a not for profit Organisation that provides rehabilitation programs for young people that have experienced trauma, capacity building for youth, counseling and psychosocial support and reunification services to young offenders. Don Bosco Fambul is mostly situated in Freetown and partners with other NGOs on referral especially for critical cases that require sheltering and close support.
	National Council for Civic Education	NaCCED is a national institution committed to deepening democracy and good governance, and promoting national cohesion and sustainable development, through civic education and development communication, civic engagement and community mobilization and knowledge management. Membership includes....
UNFPA	Fambul Initiative Network for Equality (FINE)	Fambul Initiative Network for Equality use male involvement strategies to end gender-based violence. Their work challenges traditional gender norms and aims to challenge hegemonic masculinity in communities.
	Rainbo Initiative	Rainbo Initiative is a national NGO committed to end Sexual Gender Based Violence in Sierra Leone. Specifically, they work on providing free quality, age appropriate response services to survivors of SGBV, increasing awareness of SGBV at community and national levels, influencing National SGBV Policy by Evidence-Based Advocacy and Organizational development and strengthening.

## Project Management and Coordination

In order to ensure timely and coherent implementation of the project, a Project Board will be established comprising of UNFAO, UNDP, UNFPA, RCO, MOYA, MAF, MGCA, SLP, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The UN Agencies, together with the Resident Coordinator, will consult other development partners, particularly the European Union (EU), World Bank, AfDB, and IFAD to explore the possibility for expansion of the innovative model proposed by the project to other areas and reach more youth at risk.

The project Board will be co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and Minister of Youth Affairs and will meet on a bi-annual basis (and as required) to provide strategic direction, monitor actual delivery of project outputs and activities against the work plan, advise on risk mitigation strategy, identification of lessons learned to develop best practices, methods for dissemination project information for roll-out of tested approaches. The Country Representatives of FAO, UNDP and UNFPA will be members of the Project Board and will provide secretariat support and respond to any issues that will be raised by members of the Steering Committee. The Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) will also be member of the Project Board, and will provide technical support to the Resident Coordinator.

In order to ensure synergies between the project and other UN's strategy in the country and continuous alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), the UN Agencies will report twice a year to the UNCT on progress made on the achievement of the project outcomes and outputs. The Resident Coordinator will also report on the project progress at the UNSDCF's Joint Steering Committee.

The Resident Coordinator Office will maintain a strategic oversight of the implementation of the project, particularly monitoring the achievement of its peacebuilding objectives and will advise Agencies, Minister of Youth Affairs, and PBSO on any required modification, suspension, and/or re-direction of the project, as needed.

A Technical Committee will be established with membership comprised of the participating Ministries, Departments and Agencies, the Project Manager, project technical specialist(s) from different UN Agencies and the PDA. The Technical Committee that will meet on a quarterly basis (and as required) will provide an important forum to enhance coordination of the project activities at the technical level, monitor the implementation, address implementation challenges that might arise during the project cycle, document best practices and lessons learned.

UNFAO, the Convening UN Agency, will deploy a Project Manager, with expertise on peacebuilding and livelihoods, who will be responsible for ensuring effective coordination of the project implementation, liaising with government counterparts and implementing partners as well as facilitating technical and Project Board meetings, in addition to leading on implementation of Outcome 3. FAO will also deploy a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist to track progress of implementation of all outcomes and outputs in a timely manner. UNDP Chief Technical Specialist, who is managing all Peacebuilding Fund projects in UNDP CO, will be responsible for the coordination, implementation and technical oversight of the UNDP components of the project. A Rule of Law Specialist (ROL) will implement activities under Outcome 2, particularly in the areas of prison courts, legal framework review and Mandela rules. An expert on youth issues will be recruited and based in the field. She/he will support implementation of activities in the communities, liaise with youth at risk, DYC and CYC and other local stakeholders, provide the required mentorship to project stakeholders and ensure regular tracking of project interventions and risks, record progress in the implementation..

UNFPA will provide support with a Gender and Rights Specialist, who will mentor and strengthen capacity of implementing partners.

The Convening Agency will coordinate the submission of the joint progress and financial reports and will be responsible for the implementation of the overall project monitoring system. A specific allocation of budget has been made for the M&E tasks.

FAO, UNDP and UNFPA will work in close partnership to implement all the components of the joint programme in addition to working in partnership with their government and CSO counterparts. The Project Manager will be the head of the Technical Team, rendering specialized project management support to the intervention, ensuring successful implementation of the project outputs, providing troubleshooting support in consultation with project Partners, Heads of Agencies and the beneficiaries as required. The proposed Coordination System will ensure the cost-effective and efficient attainment of the results identified in the Project Results Framework.

### List of Staff working in the project

<b>Project personnel</b>	<b>Months</b>	<b>Project funds</b>	<b>Role and function</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Project Manager, with peacebuilding and livelihoods expertise	24	100%	This is senior international personnel who is in charge of coordination and operationalization of all project activities, liaise with Government and implementing partners in coordination with implementing agencies, secretariat of the project, ensure a peacebuilding and do no harm approach to project implementation. etc	UNFAO
National Consultant (Agronomist) Field based	10	100%	Providing trainings on good agricultural practices, Climate Resilience farming, Post-harvest management, Marketing and enterprises development.	
National Consultant, Business Development Advisor (BDA)	10	100%	Will design business incubator strategy for youth at risk and train on entrepreneurship and provide advisory services afterwards.	
M & E Specialist (Paid under the M&E budget)	18	100%	Monitoring the implementation of activities, recording progress towards indicators, reporting	
Women in Agriculture livelihoods expert	18	100%	The incumbent will support selection of viable livelihoods options and support implementation of livelihood activities in the field with special focus on women.	
<b>Project personnel</b>	<b>Months</b>	<b>Project funds</b>	<b>Role and function</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Chief Technical Specialist - Peacebuilding/P4 - (75% co-funded by UNDP own resources and PBF/SLE/D-2)	24	25%	The CTS will provide technical oversight of all activities to be implemented by UNDP and closely coordinate with the Project Manager and the Peace and Development Advisor and implementing partners	UNDP
International ROL Programme Specialist/P3 level (75% funded by US/INL funds and UNDP core funds)	24	25%	Implementation of the law reform process, liaise with relevant law department, overall programme coordination and management, provide update to HoAs, PDA	
Youth expert /NOC (national)	24	100%	Support implementation of activities in the project communities, liaise with youth at risk and local stakeholders, provide the required mentorship to	

			project stakeholders and ensure regular tracking of project interventions and risks, and record progress and report on obstacles in the implementation.	
Programme Associate	24	20%	Budget and expenditure control, financial reporting.	
<b>Staff</b>	<b>Months</b>		<b>Role and function</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Gender and Rights Specialist/P4 (co-funded by UNFPA ongoing projects)	24	20%	Provide advice on gender mainstreaming on all activities and ensure implementation of GBV related activities	UNFPA

## Risk Management

<b>Risks to the achievement of PBF outcomes</b>	<b>Likelihood of occurrence (high, medium, low)</b>	<b>Severity of risk impact (high, medium, low)</b>	<b>Mitigating Strategy and Responsible Parties</b>
<b>Political and/or economic instability that affect overall security situation in the two targeted districts</b>	Medium	High	UN Agencies to work with the Minister of Youth Affairs, DYC, CYC, CSOs, PPRC, political parties' associations, transport and trade associations, and community leaders to avoid youth at risk to be manipulated and engage into violent activities. Coordination with stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms established within the project will also help to mitigate escalation of conflicts.
<b>Resistance to engage in project activities</b>	Low	High	The findings of the UN-Government youth at risk assessment indicate that the context of high unemployment and pervasive poverty across the country constitutes the largest underlying cause for the recruitment of at-risk youth into gangs and cliques. It is therefore, expected that the livelihoods component will be an incentive for youth at risk to participate in the project activities. Further, all project beneficiaries e.g. reintegrated youths, survivors of SGBV, will benefit from the civic education intervention to ensure grounding in civic responsibilities, rights, strategies for engaging decision-making authorities. Selection of beneficiaries will be carried out in a transparent and open manner, based on agreed criteria within the communities, ensuring clear linkages between the outputs/outcomes, e.g.: beneficiaries

			of livelihoods will also go through civic education process, etc.
<b>Difficulties in removing barriers that prevent the disengagement of youth from cliques and gangs</b>	Medium	High	The UN and Minister of Youth Affairs to work in partnership with all local stakeholders, particularly DYC, CYC, PPRC, political parties, local leaders, to ensure their collaboration in monitoring and preventing any barrier to the disengagement of youth from cliques and gangs. Family and community members, CSOs and security institutions will be instrumental in this task.
<b>Manipulation of youth at risk by unscrupulous political actors in view of 2021 electoral campaign and 2022 local elections</b>	Medium	High	The UN Agencies, PDA, Minister of Youth affairs will ensure the buy in of political parties at central and local level and ensure that they are fully aware of the project implementation and engage in related discussions. Political parties' associations, particularly the All Political Parties' Youth Association (APPYA), PPRC and security institutions to monitor activities of political parties in the project area.
<b>Difficulties in identifying community facilitators with the requisite capacities to engage with youth at risk</b>	High	Medium	The UN Agencies to work in partnership with DYC, CYC and local CSOs to identify talented and motivated community facilitators to support quality and timely implementation of project activities. Mentoring process will be ensured by the Agencies.
<b>Preexisting gender inequalities prevent the meaningful participation of young women and girls in the project activities.</b>	Medium	High	The UN Agencies will work with family members and women leaders to mobilize the active participation of young women and girls in project activities. Special attention will be given to remove barriers that could prevent their participation in project activities. Male Advocate and Peer Educators, Boys Youth Clubs and Husband Schools will be instrumental in this process.
<b>Natural disasters and health epidemics.</b>	High	Medium	The UN Agencies will work with government to mitigate possible impacts of disasters and health epidemics on the project. Constant dialogue will be maintained with the communities and youth at risk on measures required to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

<b>Climate variations negatively impact on agricultural activities</b>	Medium	Medium	FAO will closely assess available meteorological data and liaise with community members and youth at risk to ensure agricultural activities are aligned with changing seasonality.
<b>Frequent reshuffling in and inadequate coordination between government units and key counterpart organizations</b>	High	Medium	The UN Agencies and government will maintain constant coordination and consultation with local and government stakeholders on importance of their consistent participation, to ensure that key focal points and leadership are fully aware of the project implementation and related discussions.
<b>Adverse effect on project participants and their relations among/ between each other</b>	Medium	High	The UN Agencies and Government will ensure that “ <i>Do No Harm</i> ” principle through continuous conflict sensitive planning, monitoring and adjustment will be applied. Conflict analysis of the situation of youth at risk will be undertaken at the inception stage and knowledge to be utilized in the implementation of the activities. UN Agencies will implement the Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The project will follow the requirements of the UN Evaluation Group’s policy on monitoring, evaluation, and guidelines. The project will develop a robust monitoring framework with measurable indicators and established baselines (see project results framework) with data collected through baseline assessment undertaken within two months of the project start date.

The relevance and quality of the proposed baseline indicators and targets will be reviewed in a verification session with the participation of government Ministries Departments and Agencies and CSO counterparts at the project inception phase. All data will be disaggregated by sex and age. A baseline assessment report will be produced and shared with the PBSO for feedback and any recommendations duly considered and incorporated. Once finalized, the baseline assessment report will be shared with the government counterparts and project stakeholders (including beneficiaries), in addition to being made available online for broader dissemination.

A monitoring plan and tailored quantitative and qualitative tools will be developed for continuous monitoring of progress made toward project targets during the project implementation period. Monitoring data will be collected during the joint field visits undertaken by FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, government and CSO counterparts. The technical team of FAO, UNDP and UNFPA, together with the Ministry of Youth, Affairs and NYCOM, will undertake monthly joint monitoring visits throughout the project duration. The project’s M&E team will collectively develop monthly and quarterly monitoring reports will be presented to the technical team, and Project Board to encourage a culture of continuous learning and to track project progress. Information collected through the project monitoring system will be used to inform the production of bi-annual progress reports that will be shared with the Project Board as well as PBSO.

Beneficiaries and other project stakeholders will also be provided with a mechanism to give feedback on the project and/or to report on any abuse or malpractice through the FAO’s existing Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism (BFM) that allows FAO to directly communicate to beneficiaries through a dedicated mobile hotline. This will not only enhance transparency and promote a culture of do no harm, but will also help to early identify any barrier that might prevent beneficiaries to fully participate in all activities of the project. Any feedback received indicating that a project beneficiary is under physical threat or is subjected to intimidation, harassment, sexual abuse or psychological harm will be immediately reported through the appropriate UN channels and relevant government entities. Risk mitigation mechanism will be activated.

Mid-term perception survey will be conducted on month 18 of the project. In the 23<sup>rd</sup> month, an end-of project Independent Evaluation will be initiated in order to ascertain relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and partnership quality of the project, in line with UNEG norms and standards. A final project evaluation report will be compiled and shared with PBSO for review. The report will document actual progress made towards achieving project outcomes and outputs with clear recommendations on best practices developed that can be replicated. The final project evaluation report will be shared with key stakeholders to ensure that the intervention has a catalytic impact. About 7% of the Project Budget (US\$ 210,000) will be allocated to M&E, including for the baseline data collection and analysis and construction of the baseline and Independent Evaluation.

**Table 1: Monitoring and Evaluation**

Description	Cost (US\$)
M&E Specialist	25000
Project Monitoring, data collection and surveys, data collection analysis and creation of baseline at the inception phase, monitoring missions to the field, tracking and reporting on IRF	175000
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,000</b>
M&E Percentage of the total budget	6.6%

*The M&E budget reflected in Annex D is at 4.28% owing to the fact that i) M&E personnel cost is counted under category 1. Staff and other personnel and ii) cost related to monitoring and assessment missions are spread across category 4, 5 & 6.*

### **Project exit strategy/ sustainability**

The Project has an in-built exit clause through the inclusion of local partners and Ministry of Youth Affairs with a leading role in project implementation and its governing mechanisms, such as the project board.

#### **At local level**

Considering the relevance of the project to peace and security in the area, local stakeholders have already committed to support its implementation and sustain its achievements beyond its life. Local partners and authorities will take over responsibilities of the project and FAO/UNDP/UNFPA will remain committed to mentor the local partners to strengthen long-term implementation of the activities. The project will generate behavior change of the youth at risk and will offer the opportunity to gain their livelihoods in a legal manner. As livelihood initiatives will be developed through a participatory approach, this will directly contribute toward fostering long-term ownership of initiatives implemented, in addition to ensuring *do no harm* principles. The Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Youth Affairs will facilitate longer-term support by government, through the “youth employment in agriculture project”. Building market linkages between targeted youth at risk and farmer groups and private-sector will contribute toward sustainability of livelihood investments.

The Project board of PPRC, which includes the Chairperson of the National Electoral Commission (NEC), in a meeting with the RC, PDA, and development partners, has expressed their full support to

the implementation of the project, as electoral activities will also benefit from the mitigation of political manipulation of youth at risk. PPRC has committed to maintain a monitoring presence in the two districts to avoid re-recruitment of youth for political reasons.

Capacity building provided to local mechanisms (DYC, CYC, LPPBs, DISEC, CHISEC, etc) and acquired skills to work with youth at risk coupled with the behavior change of youth will generate a virtuous cycle that will continue after the end of the project. As the long-term sustainability of the achievements of the project is in the best interest of the families and communities themselves, this will provide an in-built sustainability mechanism. FAO/UNDP/UNFPA will also promote the institutionalization of the project and inclusion of its activities in the District Development Plans (DDP).

#### **At national Level.**

The project will provide technical and advocacy support to promote modifications to the existing law and regulatory frameworks - such as the Sentencing Guidelines and Criminal Procedure - which will impact not only in the project area, but nation-wide. This was specifically requested by the Motorbike Riders Associations to the Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs, at the focus groups discussions during the data collection exercise of the youth at risk assessment. Its achievement will, therefore, be a welcomed development for all small traders and commercial transport drivers. Adequate visibility will be provided to its achievement to ensure that judges and prosecutors will implement the reformed law. Additional funds might be sought from the RoL/INL programme of UNDP to educate Judges and prosecutors on the new procedures, generating conditions for their sustainability beyond the intervention of international partners and stressing the catalytic nature of this project.

Capacity building on the implementation of the Mandela rules will provide correctional officers with long-lasting skills.

Throughout the project cycle, catalytic financing will be explored from other donors to upscale the good practices and attract more funds to peacebuilding issues supported by the project. The EU Delegation has already been contacted and a meeting will take place soon.

UNFAO/UNDP/UNFPA will closely work with the respective communication officers to record success stories and lesson learnt. They will closely work with the Ministry of Youth Affaires to design IEC and visibility materials to support the implementation of the project activities and to also create a platform in which the project successes are well communicated to attract and obtain funding to expand on the project initiatives.

#### **Project budget**

The overall approved budget and the release of the second tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account. For payments of second tranche, the Coordinating Agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed.

#### *Request for approval to procure a vehicle:*

FAO as the convening agency will be supporting regular field missions to monitor the project across two districts, this requires additional logistics capacity at the country level, given the current condition of the aging FAO fleet, a project vehicle is required to ensure uninterrupted movement to the field. FAO has included a budget for one Toyota hardtop vehicle to be procured under this project. The asset will be managed by FAO and due process for asset transfer will be followed at the end of the project.

#### *Breakdown of FAO operation Budget (\$416,794)*

<b>Budget category per FAO Chart of account</b>	<b>Budget Category per UNDG chart of account</b>	<b>% allocation in FAO budget</b>
Training, Technical Support cost (evaluation, reporting, technical oversight/support)	Category 7. General Operating and other Costs	61.5%
General Operation cost	Category 7. General Operating and other Costs	38.5%

For details on budget, see **Annex D**.

## **Annex A.1: Project Administrative arrangements for UN Recipient Organizations**

*(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 the financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF annual 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 completed by the RUNO. A project will be considered as operationally closed upon submission of a joint final narrative report. In order for the MPTF Office to financially closed a project, each RUNO must refund unspent balance of over 250 USD, indirect cost (GMS) should not exceed 7% and submission of a certified final financial statement by the recipient organizations’ headquarters.);
- 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:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Semi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team/PDA where it does not.

#### Financial reporting and timeline

Timeline	Event
<b>30 April</b>	Annual reporting – Report <b>Q4 expenses</b> (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<b><i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i></b>	

UNEX also opens for voluntary financial reporting for UN recipient organizations the following dates

<b>31 July</b>	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
<b>31 October</b>	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to be 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.2: Project Administrative arrangements for Non-UN Recipient Organizations**

*(This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)*

### **Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient Non-United Nations Organization:**

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each recipient in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will have full responsibility for ensuring that the Activity is implemented in accordance with the signed Project Document;

In the event of a financial review, audit or evaluation recommended by PBSO, the cost of such activity should be included in the project budget;

Ensure professional management of the Activity, including performance monitoring and reporting activities in accordance with PBSO guidelines.

Ensure compliance with the Financing Agreement and relevant applicable clauses in the Fund MOU.

### **Reporting:**

Each Receipt will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Bi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

## Financial reports and timeline

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>28 February</b>	Annual reporting – Report <b>Q4 expenses</b> (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<b>30 April</b>	Report <b>Q1 expenses</b> (January to March)
<b>31 July</b>	Report <b>Q2 expenses</b> (January to June)
<b>31 October</b>	Report <b>Q3 expenses</b> (January to September)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</i>	

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the Administrative Agent, no later than three months (31 March) of the year following the completion of the activities.

### **Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property**

Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the Recipient Non-UN Recipient Organization will be determined in accordance with applicable policies and procedures defined by the PBSO.

### **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 website (<http://www.mptf.undp.org>)

### **Final Project Audit for non-UN recipient organization projects**

An independent project audit will be requested by the end of the project. The audit report needs to be attached to the final narrative project report. The cost of such activity must be included in the project budget.

### **Special Provisions regarding Financing of Terrorism**

Consistent with UN Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism, including UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and 1267 (1999) and related resolutions, the Participants are firmly committed to the international fight against terrorism, and in particular, against the financing of terrorism. Similarly, all Recipient Organizations recognize their obligation to comply with any applicable sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council. Each of the Recipient Organizations will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement are not used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime. If, during the term of this agreement, a Recipient Organization determines that there are credible allegations that funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement have been used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime it will as soon as it becomes aware of it inform the head of PBSO, the Administrative Agent and the donor(s) and, in consultation with the donors as appropriate, determine an appropriate response.

### **Non-UN recipient organization (NUNO) eligibility:**

In order to be declared eligible to receive PBF funds directly, NUNOs must be assessed as technically, financially and legally sound by the PBF and its agent, the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO). Prior to submitting a finalized project document, it is the responsibility of each NUNO to liaise with PBSO and MPTFO and provide all the necessary documents (see below) to demonstrate that all the criteria have been fulfilled and to be declared as eligible for direct PBF funds.

The NUNO must provide (in a timely fashion, ensuring PBSO and MPTFO have sufficient time to review the package) the documentation demonstrating that the NUNO:

- Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation
- Has a current valid registration as a non-profit, tax exempt organization with a social based mission in both the country where headquarter is located and in country of project implementation for the duration of the proposed grant. (**NOTE:** If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project, in order to receive subsequent funding tranches)
- Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant
- Commissions audited financial statements, available for the last two years, including the auditor opinion letter. The financial statements should include the legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the country of implementation, if applicable) as well as the activities of the country of implementation. (**NOTE:** If these are not available for the country of proposed project implementation, the CSO will also need to provide the latest two audit reports for a program or project based audit in country.) The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is part of the nationally qualified audit firms.
- Demonstrates an annual budget in the country of proposed project implementation for the previous two calendar years, which is at least twice the annualized budget sought from PBF for the project<sup>26</sup>
- Demonstrates at least 3 years of experience in the country where grant is sought
- Provides a clear explanation of the CSO's legal structure, including the specific entity which will enter into the legal agreement with the MPTF-O for the PBF grant.

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<sup>26</sup> Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of project duration months and multiplying by 12.

## Annex B: Project Results Framework **after baseline survey exercise**

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency/ collection	of indicator milestones
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b>  Youth at risk (women and men) are empowered and included in decision-making processes in their communities in the target districts		<b>Outcome Indicator 1a:</b> % of youth at risk targeted by the project who believe that their voice is heard and they feel more respected in their communities <b>Baseline:</b> 55% (F: 49%; M: 58%) <b>Target:</b> estimate 70% (F: 60%; M: 70%)	Survey with project participants	55%
		<b>Outcome Indicator 1b:</b> number of youth at risk targeted by the project included in decision-making mechanisms at local level <b>Baseline:</b> 34% (F: 17%; M: 45%) <b>Target:</b> estimate 50% out of 100% of youth targeted by the project (F:35%; M:50%)	Membership lists and list of participants in meetings	40%
	<b>Output 1.1:</b> <i>Civic education and counselling are promoted to enable the reintegration of youth at risk into families and communities and their participation in decision-making processes.</i>  <b>List of activities under this Output:</b>  Activity 1.1.1: Provide non-formal civic education and leadership training sessions to youth at risk.  Activity 1.1.2: Two gala activities with built-in civic themes at chiefdom level in the four chiefdoms.  Activity 1.1.3 Assessment of mental health needs of youth at risks and referral for counselling services  Activity 1.1.4 Counselling sessions with youth at risk, families and communities	<b>Output Indicator 1.1.1:</b> % of youth at risk who believe that use of violence is never justified to resolve conflicts and achieve political objectives. <b>Baseline:</b> 13% (F: 10%; M: 15%) <b>Target:</b> estimate 80% (F: 80%; M: 70%)  <b>Output Indicator 1.1.2:</b> Number of youth at risk who undergo counselling and recover from substance abuse habits. <b>Baseline:</b> 0 (39% have been sensitized on the risks of drug abuse) <b>Target:</b> estimate 70% (F: 70%; M: 50%)	Survey with project participants	40%
		Reports from MoH & field monitoring	40%	

	<p><b>Output 1.2:</b> <i>Capacity of District and Chiefdom Youth Councils (DYC and CYC) and local youth groups in the targeted districts strengthened to promote youth leadership and influence district and local decision-making processes that affect youth at risk</i></p> <p><b>List of activities under this Output:</b></p> <p>Activity 1.2.1: capacity building of DYC, CYC, and local youth groups</p> <p>Activity 1.2.2 dialogue forums with youths, traditional and local leaders and legislative representative etc.</p> <p>Activity 1.2.3: training on conflict transformation and risk mapping</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 1.2.1:</b> Number of youth at risk who become members of local youth groups and participate in DYC and CYC activities  <b>Baseline:</b> 42% of youth at risk participate in DYC/CYC activities; 2 individuals are members of DYC/CYC  <b>Target:</b> 70%</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 1.2.2:</b> Dialogue forums discuss and address risk analysis with the participation of youth at risk  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Target:</b> 4 (one in each chiefdom)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 1.2.3:</b> % of youth at risk who believe that structural barriers to their reintegration are removed and feel safe to participate in communities' mechanisms and activities  <b>Baseline:</b> 59% (F: 61%; M: 58%)  <b>Target:</b> 80%</p>	<p>Field Monitoring reports, Attendance lists, Youth Council Reports</p> <p>Field Monitoring reports, Attendance lists, Minutes of meetings and agreements</p> <p>Survey with project participants</p>	<p>20%</p> <p>4</p> <p>60%</p>
	<p><b>Output 1.3:</b> <i>Increased awareness among key stakeholders and youth at risk in targeted communities on women and girls' rights, with increased male involvement to reduce GBV</i></p> <p><b>List of activities under this Output:</b></p> <p>Activity 1.3.1 Conduct Policy Dialogue and Signing of MOU relating to project activities at chiefdom level involving Paramount Chiefs, Section Chiefs, Councilors, WCM, Religious Leaders, Local Court Chairmen, District Council, CBOs, CSOs, MGCA , FSU etc.</p> <p>Activity 1.3.2 Community stakeholder engagement with community gate keepers to gain their support for the programme</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 1.3.1:</b> % of youth (male and female) involved in male youth clubs who state that GBV in all its forms (physical, economic, psychological and sexual) is unacceptable/ a violation of human rights  <b>Reformulation:</b> % of youth (male and female) involved in youth clubs who state that GBV in all its forms (physical, economic, psychological and sexual) is unacceptable/ a violation of human rights  <b>Baseline:</b> 25% (F: 17%; M: 25%)  <b>Target:</b> 70%</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 1.3.2:</b> % increased knowledge among MAPEs on GBV and, SRH  <b>Reformulation:</b> % increased knowledge among beneficiaries on GBV and, SRH  <b>Baseline:</b> 67% (F: 34%; M: 84%) have ever received information on GBV/SRH  <b>Target:</b> 40% (F: 40%; M: 40%)</p>	<p>Survey with project participants Field reports</p>	<p>50%</p> <p>40%</p>

	<p>and to build their capacity to refer survivors of GBV violence to appropriate health and justice services</p> <p>Activity 1.3.3 Identify Male Advocate and Peer educators within the community</p> <p>Activity 1.3.4 Conduct training for Male Advocate and Peer Educators</p> <p>Activity 1.3.5 Establish husband schools</p> <p>Activity 1.3.6 Establish Male youth clubs for youth at risk, both in school and out of school which will provide information on preventing SGBV and promote life skills</p> <p>Activity 1.3.7 IEC Materials-the programme will work with the Ministry of Gender and Youth Affairs to produce IEC materials on GBV referral pathways</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 1.3.3:</b> % improved perception and attitudes towards Gender and GBV  <b>Reformulation:</b> % improved perception and attitudes among beneficiaries towards Gender and GBV  <b>Baseline:</b> n/a  <b>Target:</b> 40% (F: 40%; M: 40%)</p>		<p>30% (F: 30%; M: 30%)</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 2:</b></p> <p>National and local institutions improve their response to the needs of youth at risk</p>		<p><b>Outcome Indicator 2.a:</b> # of targeted local institutions (SLCSSLP, LPPBs, Paramount Chief Councils) that adopt improved procedures to ensure youth responsive approaches to detention, reintegration, and rehabilitation.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 (2)  <b>Target:</b> All institutions involved in the project (correctional centers, LPPBs, FSUs, SLP, etc.)</p> <p><b>Outcome Indicator 2.b:</b> % of youth at risk who believe that their rights are respected  <b>Baseline:</b> 26% (F: 32%; M: 15%)  <b>Target:</b> 55% (F/M)</p>	<p>Survey with project participants  Field reports  Project documents</p>	<p>3</p> <p>50%</p>

	<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> <i>Capacity of local institutions, Correctional Services, Family Support Unit (FSUs) of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), and Local Police Partnership Boards (LPPBs), is enhanced in human rights, rule of law, negotiation and youth-sensitive approaches to improve their engagement with youth at risk.</i></p> <p><b>List of activities under this Output:</b></p> <p>Activity 2.1.1: Training of correctional centers' industry managers</p> <p>Activity 2.1.2: Mapping of youth at risk's skills and categorize the youth in the right industries</p> <p>Activity 2.1.3: Training of youth at risk in the industries and provision of equipment and tools</p> <p>Activity 2.1.4: Support life skills initiatives for youth at risk</p> <p>Activity 2.1.5: Training of local institutions including, Correctional Services, and Local Police Partnership Boards, on youth at risk responsive skills, including human rights, rule and negotiations.</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 2.1.1:</b> Targeted correctional centers implement the Earning Scheme Policy. <b>Baseline:</b> 2 <b>Target:</b> 3 correctional centers</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 2.1.2:</b> Number of youth at risk deprived of liberty with improved life skills <b>Baseline:</b> 55 (Male: 55; Female:5) <b>Target:</b> 90 (Male: 80; Female:10)</p>	<p>Field Monitoring reports, institutional record, survey with participants</p>	2
	<p><b>Output 2.2:</b> <i>SLP, Magistrate Courts and Correctional Services in project targeted areas have strengthened capacities and youth responsive legal frameworks to monitor detention conditions and</i></p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 2.2.1:</b> % of the trained junior ranking officers who implement the Mandela Rules in the treatment of youth at risk deprived of liberty. <b>Baseline:</b> 2 <b>Target:</b> 30 (M:25; F:5)</p>	<p>SLCS Reports, Field monitoring reports</p>	20

	<p><i>support decongestion of overcrowded facilities.</i></p> <p><b>List of activities under this Output:</b></p> <p>Activity 2.2.1: Support conduct of prison courts (Virtual Courts) sittings to facilitate decongestion of targeted correctional facilities, including the provision of equipment.</p> <p>Activity 2.2.2: Scale-up training on Mandela Rules to lower ranking Corrections officers in project districts</p> <p>Activity 2.2.3: Review of the SLCS Act (2014) and strengthen advocacy for the enactment of the Criminal Procedure Bill and Sentencing guidelines</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 2.2.2:</b> Number of prison courts (virtual courts) held in project areas  <b>Baseline:</b> 80 cases heard during 2 prison court sessions in 2019  <b>Target:</b> 10 (5 each per project district)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 2.2.3:</b> Number of cases resolved by the prison courts (virtual courts) in the project areas  <b>Baseline:</b> 32 cases resolved in 2019 in Kenema CC (M involved: 91%; F involved 9%)  <b>Target:</b> 250 cases with 65% case conclusions (M involved: 80%; F involved 20%)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 2.2.4:</b> Amended Correctional Act 2014 and Criminal Procedure Act  <b>Baseline:</b> CPA and Correctional Acts are currently being reviewed  <b>Target:</b> Amended Acts ready to be submitted to Attorney General and Parliament</p>	<p>CSO monitoring report, SLCS reports, project report, legal documents</p>	<p>6 (3 each per project district)</p> <p>200 cases with 50% conclusions</p> <p>Submission of both draft Acts to Parliament by December 2021/Early 2022</p>
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<p><b>OUTCOME 3:</b></p> <p>Social cohesion strengthened and youth at risk socially and economically empowered to meaningfully reintegrate into their families and communities.</p>		<p><b>Outcome Indicator 3a:</b> % of youth who report increased self-esteem and enhanced self-reliance outside of crime activities  <b>Reformulation:</b> % of youth who consider engaging in crime activities for economic purposes  <b>Baseline:</b> 84% (F: 87%; M: 83%)  <b>Target:</b> 40% (F/M)</p> <p><b>Outcome Indicator 3b:</b> % of community and family members who believe that youth at risk contribute to productive life of their communities and families through the livelihood assistance provided  <b>Baseline:</b> 47%  <b>Target:</b> 80%</p> <p><b>Outcome Indicator 3c:</b> % of community and family members who believe that levels of violence committed by gangs/cliques in the project zones has decreased  <b>Baseline:</b> 45%  <b>Target:</b> 65%</p>	<p>Progress report, Project evaluation reports and final project report</p>	<p>65%</p> <p>65%</p> <p>55%</p>
	<p><b>Output 3.1:</b> <i>Social cohesion and peaceful coexistence promoted by supporting joint socio-economic initiatives that involve youth at risk and community members</i></p> <p><b>List of activities under this Output:</b></p> <p>Activity 3.1.1 Baseline survey, and conflict analysis assessment.</p> <p>Activity 3.1.2 Joint selection of communal projects with the participation of youth at risk and community members (review of land ownership, ensure legal conditions, sign of MOUs of each project, etc)</p> <p>Activity 3.1.3 Rehabilitation/construction of</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 3.1.1</b> Number of joint socio-economic initiatives promoted for social cohesion, community reconciliation and peaceful coexistence  <b>Baseline:</b> 2  <b>Target:</b> 10</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 3.1.2</b> % of youth at risk who feel a sense of belonging to their communities  <b>Baseline:</b> 80% (F: 79%; M: 80%)  <b>Target:</b> 100%</p>	<p>Monitoring reports, CSO reporting, participants and community members surveys</p>	<p>5</p> <p>90%</p>

	selected community projects (e.g. markets places, storage facilities, community town hall, borehole etc.			
	<p><b>Output 3.2:</b> Youth at risk have increased capacity and are empowered to generate their livelihoods.</p> <p>List of activities under this Output:</p> <p>Activity 3.2.1: Identify youth at risk groups in consultation with key community stakeholders and/or government youths' structures.</p> <p>Activity 3.2.2: Undertake a comprehensive gender sensitive training need/gap assessment followed by the development of gender responsive training module</p> <p>Activity 3.2.3: Develop training modules, and train the youth at risk on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), agricultural machine operation, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Agribusiness development and financial management, Harvest and post-harvest management and value addition of selected value chains</p>	<p><b>Output Indicator 3.2.1</b> Number of youth at risk trained in innovative practices, Good Agronomic practices (GAP), technologies for Climate Smart Resilience farming and enterprise development  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Target:</b> 300 (M:250; F:50)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 3.2.2</b> Number of youth at risk groups and Joiner Farmer Filed Schools (JFFS) established, and attached to existing Farmer Base Organizations (FBO) for mentorship.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 (18 youth at risk belong to existing farm groups)  <b>Target:</b> 4 youth groups (30% female participation)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 3.2.3</b> Number of Farmer Base Organizations (FBO) and Junior Field Schools formalized into Youth Agri-Enterprises  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Target:</b> 4 FBO (30% female participation)</p> <p><b>Output Indicator 3.2.4</b> % of youths at risk who believe they will continue to use the newly acquired skills to make a living  <b>Baseline:</b> n/a (post hoc verification)  <b>Target:</b> 70%</p>	<p>Monitoring reports, Post distribution Monitoring report  Participants surveys</p>	<p>300 trained on parts of the modules</p> <p>2</p> <p>0</p> <p>35%</p>

	<p>(crops, livestock, fisheries, and poultry)</p> <p>Activity 3.2.4: Provide agricultural production inputs and provide value addition equipment</p> <p>Activity 3.2.5: Organize learning exchanges between youth at risk and private sector entities in agr business</p> <p>Activity 3.2.6: Create linkages and attach youth at risk to Farmer Base Organizations (FBO) and transform into Youth Agri-Enterprises through the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</p> <p>Activity 3.2.7: Organize private sector buyer workshops with youth at risk</p> <p>Activity 3.2.8: Establish transport facilities (motor b kes) for the movement and sale of quality produce from the farm gate to the market.</p> <p>Activity 3.2.9: Facilitate youth at risk to participate in e.g. National trade fare exhibition, pitch night, among others</p>			
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### Annex C: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
1. Have all implementing partners been identified?	x		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise?		x	TOR to be finalized asap and Vacancy Announcements to be posted
3. Have project sites been identified?	x		
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence the project?	x		
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done?	x		A youth at risk assessment was conducted in partnership with Ministry of Youth Affairs UNCT, UNDP HQ and DPO
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified?	x		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?	x		
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	x		
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?			A baseline survey will be conducted at the beginning of the project.

Annex D: Detailed and UNDG budgets (attached Excel sheet)