

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND  
PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE



**PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT**

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

United Nations  
Peacebuilding

<b>Country (ies): Sri Lanka</b>	
<b>Project Title:</b> Youth Participation and Engagement for a Healthier, Equitable, Safer and United Sri Lanka	
<b>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing Project): 00125633</b>	
<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts):</b> <input checked="" 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> WHO UNDP UNV (indirect partner - technical support)	
<b>List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:</b> <b><u>Government</u></b> Ministry of Youth and Sports Ministry of Health National Youth Services Council of Sri Lanka Health Promotion Bureau of the Ministry of Health Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS)  <b><u>CSO</u></b> Federation of Youth Clubs Scouts and Girls Guides Associations Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena Seva Lanka Foundation  <b><u>Private sector</u></b> CurveUp Pvt Ltd (Youth-led training institute) Rebel Tuskers Pvt Ltd (LMS development)	
<b>Expected project commencement date<sup>1</sup>: 25 Jan 2021</b>	

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

<b>Country (ies): Sri Lanka</b>		
<b>Project duration in months:</b> 30 months <sup>2</sup> (18 months + 6 months no cost extension (received until 25 Jan 2023) + 3 months no cost extension (received until 25 April 2023) + 3 months no cost extension (new end date 25 July 2023))		
<b>Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation:</b> National Focus, targeting 9 provinces with community action plans in 10 districts (based on conflict analysis conducted in 25 districts)		
<b>Does the Project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional Project		
<b>Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): USD 1,499,998.66</b>		
WHO: \$ 570,554.28		
UNDP: \$ 929,444.37		
<b>Total: 1,499,998.65</b>		
<i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject toPBSO'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.</i>		
Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO Healthy Settings Funds - USD 20,000.00</li> <li>• NYSC in-kind contributions - Allocation of the Battangala Training Centre as the Leadership Training and Knowledge Management hub along with the necessary logistical resources</li> <li>• Providing the implementation support from the district and divisional youth development officers by including the proposed Project in their duty list.</li> </ul>		
<b>PBF 1<sup>st</sup> tranche (70%):</b>	<b>PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche* (30%):</b>	<b>PBF 3<sup>rd</sup> tranche* ( _%):</b>
WHO: \$ 399,388.00	WHO: \$ 171,166.28	XXXX: \$ XXXXXX
UNDP: \$ 650,611.06	UNDP: \$ 278,833.31	XXXX: \$ XXXXXX
Total: \$ 1,049,999.06	Total: \$ 449,999.60	XXXX: \$ XXXXXX
		Total:
<b>Two-three sentences with a brief project description and succinct explanation of how the project is time-sensitive, catalytic, and risk-tolerant/ innovative:</b>		
The project titled "Youth Participation and Engagement for a Healthier, Equitable, Safer and United Sri Lanka" is implemented to improve access for young aspiring leaders to meaningfully engage in promoting social cohesion, preventing conflict, and supporting development while enhancing their political and civic participation. It is designed to enhance recognition of the social, economic, and political roles of young women and men in society and help them build trust in the state and non-state development mechanisms.		

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

**Country (ies): Sri Lanka**

**Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs): (from the original project document)**

The project aims to improve access to opportunities for young aspiring leaders to meaningfully engage in promoting social cohesion and development that will enhance their political and civic representation and thereby address the issues of trust and lack of recognition they receive as leaders in their own communities. The youth parliamentary platform in this regard will act as a springboard for their entry to leadership roles in the society and in the process help them to gradually start building trust in the existing political institutional mechanisms. Accordingly, youth parliamentarians elected will be provided with the opportunity through a comprehensive capacity building programme to work both with their peers as well the government and civil society actors particularly from politically vulnerable areas of conflict and social marginalization in the country. In the process, it will provide them with the necessary resources to address conflict drivers identified in their communities with wider community engagement and participation to establish 'healthy settings' in them.

A 'healthy setting' is 'a place or social context in which people engage in daily activities in which environmental, organizational, and personal factors interact to affect health and wellbeing'. The project employs this unique approach as a vehicle for guiding young leaders to identify how they can contribute to more inclusive development processes that promote social cohesion and prevent conflict and violence in the society. As such, by employing a healthy settings approach, the project will enable young people to identify ways in which they can constructively influence their day to day surroundings, including personal factors that affect community wellbeing. They will participate and lead the development and implementation of community-based action plans for promoting a healthy setting in their own communities which will pave way for achieving their own leadership aspirations while enhancing community wellbeing.

The project also promotes volunteerism as entry points for young people and help them to determine their own priorities, set their own agendas and engage with youth or other actors pursuing their aspirations whilst helping others in the society.

Accordingly, youth parliamentarians will engage in community action collaboratively with volunteer peer groups. The latter will act as the brokers of engagement, at community level to ensure that their interests are reflected. The project will strengthen young people in local groups through promotion of volunteerism while nurturing their greater electoral and political participation.

**Summarize the in-country project consultation and endorsement process prior to submission to PBSO, including through any PBF Steering Committee where it exists, including whether civil society and target communities were consulted and how:**

At the initial stages of project conceptualization, the project team analyzed the data gathered through a survey on Youth Perception on Online Hate Speech and Peacebuilding with over 1,500 young people from all 9 provinces. This survey was carried out as part of the YPI proposal in 2019. The survey indicated over 76% of respondents believed that youth participation in peacebuilding is extremely important. Furthermore, the survey finds that 56% of respondents have a strong perception that volunteerism has a positive impact on peacebuilding. Discussions with Volunteers Involving Organizations (VIOs) and especially youth-led organizations who are represented in the Youth, Peace and Security Coalition (YPS) indicated the importance of a network to continue to engage in YPS localizing work through the youth parliamentarians. Members of YPS Coalition further emphasized the need of young people to take part in policy and dialogue that impact them and that a platform to talk about issues and collectively participate in community development initiatives will result in a sense of ownership among youth.

Since concept development, a summary of the project document including the theory of change and the outcomes and outputs with the rationale were shared with the key stakeholders and technical experts including the National Youth Services Council of Sri Lanka (NYSC), Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs and Family Health Bureau of Ministry of Health. The project also consulted the Federation of Youth Clubs a youth led initiative at the community level with over 9000 youth clubs across the country these partners will support not only concept development but implementation as well.

The discussions held so far have helped to reframe the project approach and the deliverables.

Initially, one of the aims was to design and enroll young youth parliamentarians and youth leaders to a new program on professional and personal development. However, upon having discussions with the NYSC it was understood that the project can work closely with the NYSC to strengthen the scope of an already existing program for youth leadership development which has been implemented nationally. As such, the proposed programme will be developed to supplement the Personal Development Plan (PDP) program at NYSC for youth parliamentarians and will be structured towards educating youth leaders on taking a more holistic approach to community engagements. It will have a strong component on conflict prevention and social cohesion and will also be done both online and offline to address issues of accessibility. It includes refresher programmes as well as knowledge exchange programmes all of which will further enhance the current programme There is also potential to include the programme as part of a NYSC initiative to create a Leadership Academy for young aspiring leaders.

The civil society dialogues so far conducted has enabled to identify another new target group for the intervention. It was revealed that while it is important to work with the elected youth parliamentarians it is also important to identify and strengthen potential of those who were not elected. This was also deemed as a good way to practice 'Do No Harm' and be conflict sensitive when working with diverse youth groups in the country who may otherwise feel marginalized by the project.

Furthermore, recommendations are incorporated from provincial actions plans developed under the project "Promoting the Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process in Sri Lanka" by UNFPA, UNV and UNWOMEN

In addition, WHO, UNDP and UNV conducted a series of internal dialogues together with the Peace and Development Specialist attached to the RCO and the UNDP Gender Specialist who contributed to

the design of the project particularly when strengthening its conflict and gender focus. The project was also reviewed, and input was provided by regional technical experts from the UN Agencies.

Since concept development, a summary of the project document including the theory of change and the outcomes and outputs with the rationale was shared with the key stakeholders and technical experts, including the National Youth Services Council of Sri Lanka (NYSC), Ministry of Youth and Sports, and Family Health Bureau of Ministry of Health. The Project also consulted the Federation of Youth Clubs, a youth-led initiative at the community level with over 9000 youth clubs across the country. Further, the Project also consulted the Parliamentary Secretariat and the Youth Caucus for strengthening outreach of the parliament of Sri Lanka within youth networks in Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Youth Affairs for a potential collaboration to develop the national youth policy more meaningfully in line with the obligations of the state towards advancing the needs and aspirations of youth.

The conducted civil society dialogues have enabled us to identify another new target group for the proposed intervention. It was revealed that while it is vital to work with the elected youth parliamentarians, it is also important to identify and strengthen the potential of those who were not elected. This was also deemed as a good way to practice 'Do No Harm' and conflict sensitivity when working with diverse youth groups in the country who may otherwise feel marginalized by the Project.

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<b>Country (ies): Sri Lanka</b>	
<b>Project Gender Marker score: 2<sup>3</sup></b> Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment:  30% (\$449,999)	
<b>Project Risk Marker score: 1<sup>4</sup></b>	
<b>Select PBF Focus Areas</b> which best summarizes the focus of the Project ( <i>select ONLY one</i> ): 2.3 <sup>5</sup>  If applicable, <b>UNDAF outcome(s)</b> to which the Project contributes: Driver 2: Strengthened innovative public institutions and engagement towards a lasting peace. Driver 3: Human security and socio-economic resilience  If applicable, <b>Sustainable Development Goal</b> to which the Project contributes: 3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels  If applicable, <b>National Strategic Goal</b> to which the Project contributes: Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour National Policy Framework (NPF)_ key policy on Youth Affairs_ Harnessing the Power of Youth. ( <i>Strategy: Identifying the aspirations and develop a viable and effective programme enabling youth to reach full potential. Activities: Increase the participation of youth in political decision making</i> )	
<b>Type of submission:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Project</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Project amendment</b>	<b>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</b>  <b>Extension of duration:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): 3 months (till 25 July 2023)</b> <b>Change of project outcome/ scope:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Additional PBF budget:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX

<sup>3</sup> **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

**Score 2** for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate at least 30% of the total project budget to GEWE

**Score 1** for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 30% of the total budget for GEWE)

<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)

Country (ies): Sri Lanka

**Brief justification for amendment:**

As highlighted in the previous request for a no-cost extension, one of the primary reasons for the NCE request is to support the Government of Sri Lanka to update the National Youth Policy (NYP) and the National Youth Act (NYA) as an amended project intervention in response to recent developments (i.e. the proposal to revisit the youth parliament act and the newly proposed youth policy) as such interventions will have a more sustainable and targeted impact. Another and final three-month no-cost extension is requested to enable the project to conduct meaningful consultations with targeted youth across all 25 districts in Sri Lanka as well as to hold ministerial level consultations to inform the development of the National Youth Policy. These consultations are critical to ensure the effective integration of youth perspectives and aspirations into the policy as the primary stakeholders; to promote ownership and buy-in among youth and policymakers for policy implementation; as well as identify gaps within current frameworks to youth civic engagement and ensure the final policy is tailored to the emerging needs and circumstances of youth in the post-Aragalya period.

The reasons for the need for another extension are (1) difficulties in securing Youth Caucus engagement and ministerial engagement on account of conflicting priorities and duties owing to the heightened anticipation of the local government elections in February 2023. Elections were scheduled to be held in March 2023, were then postponed to 25 April 2023 and has now been postponed yet again with no new date announced. The lack of clarity on the election timelines have led to increased political uncertainty with many parties seeking court intervention. The key stakeholders that were to be engaged by the project were also engaged in the preparation for the local elections which presented difficulties in holding consultations and making progress on policy development. (2) Out of the three months extension that was previously obtained, one month was affected by government servants being on leave (due to multiple public holidays in April) and difficulties in conducting consultations at the grassroots level as a result. Reduced staff availability and minimum operations within the Ministry posed delays to several initiatives which required ministry-level approval. Furthermore, a leadership change at NYSC contributed to a halt in the process.

There has been significant and **renewed Government interest in supporting the development of a national youth policy development to enhance youth civic and political engagement** as evidenced by the President's acknowledgment of the significance of this intervention in line with his 2048 Agenda envisioned by the Presidential Secretariat. One of the primary reasons for the NCE is

**Country (ies): Sri Lanka**

to leverage the renewed interest from the Government to develop a more inclusive and nationally representative National Youth Policy that will promote the empowerment and holistic development of the youth of the country. Recognising the significant progress made by the project thus far in empowering young people to become agents of change in their communities, the project is ideally positioned to support the policy development process leveraging the lessons learned as well as key partnerships developed by the project to advance youth development. Furthermore, the project has secured the non-binding commitment from the politicians and ministerial politicians to carry forward this policy development process. Engagement was secured from the newly appointed **Youth Caucus in the Parliament** to support the policy development process as the policy will provide a crucial framework to support the work of the Caucus in advancing the needs and interests of young people and will support enhanced networks and collaboration between the Caucus and youth, youth organizations and CSOs. Additionally, ministerial-level support from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Mass Media, Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government, Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms, Ministry of Labor and Foreign Employment – Department of Manpower, Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment, Ministry of Technology, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Defense has been obtained. Consultations with key Ministries has been held by the Project and there will be a process of developing a ministerial-level assessment that will feed into the development of the youth policy document. The project will continue to tap into renewed traction from Government partners to support a more inclusive policy development process whereby a series of focus group discussions across all 25 districts reaching out to over 2500 young people across different ethnicities, sectors, socio-economic groups, and religions etc has been scheduled for the requested NCE period. These consultations will ultimately help to make the policy more inclusive by ensuring that all young people, irrespective of their socio-economic background and life circumstances, will have an equal opportunity to engage in socio-economic and political development.

The proposed timeline for the upcoming project initiatives are as follows:

- 9 Community Action Plans were selected for implementation across 5 provinces. Out of which, 6 CAPs are currently in the process of being implemented at the district level. The partner CSOs will work collaboratively with the trainees in the nine provinces to support the development and implementation of the community action plans. The project TAG will review and select the action



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plans for implementation and support monitoring and evaluation efforts; monitoring visits to 03 CAPs have been completed and 03 other monitoring visits are scheduled for May.

- 25 districts level consultations on the NYP and NYA: April - June 2023
- National level consultations with key stakeholders and project partners - May - June 2023
- Support to revise the youth parliament act, develop the national youth policy and support youth caucus to roll out its outreach program through the YCLI platform working with the newly established Parliamentary Caucus for Youth in the Parliament of Sri Lanka and the Minister of Youth Affairs. - June 2023
- Establish the National Training and Learning Management center by June 2023.

Agency	Total	Total Utilization	Utilization %
WHO	570,554.28	373,753.28	66%
UNDP	929,443.00	856,020.45	92%

With regard to the project budget, the current inflationary pressures have affected the agreed cost estimates. However, the dollar gain is expected to compensate for the difference and as such, the project team will not be requesting for a budget revision.

Some of the key achievements to date (April 2023) are:

- 571 youth leaders (exceeding the targeted 540 individuals) across a wide range of young leaders' networks (including youth parliamentarians (YP), Federation of Youth Clubs, university students) have strengthened their capacity for collective community engagement to promote peace and social cohesion. Participants completed ten foundational modules including Healthy Settings Approach, Gender Equity and Empowerment, and Community Needs Assessment (CNAs).
- 290 youth participants have completed the second phase of training on developing and implementing their community action plans addressing needs identified in the CNAs, including addressing the mental health challenges posed by the ongoing socio-economic crisis. The second phase of training included civic duties, good governance, conflict resolution, project management, prototyping and design

**Country (ies): Sri Lanka**

thinking concepts. Participant feedback on the training programme was very positive with 80% of participants stating that their behaviour was positively impacted by the training, and 93% participants indicating that they have received adequate advice on how to ensure the sustainability of project impacts.

- All 571 youth participants have completed their Personal Development Plans (PDPs) which provides a structured approach to monitor progress and receive feedback for improvement.
- Following sensitization, 311 CNAs were completed, and 70 participants are currently conducting CNAs with the support of CSO partners. A joint working group with advisory members, civil society and volunteers was established to support the process. CNAs explored community stressors across 8 thematic areas including Nutrition, Sanitation, Health, Employment among others.
- Nearly 64 proposals for community actions plans have been received and 9 selected proposals have received grants to implement the projects at the community level.
- The monitoring visits to assess the community action plans revealed increased motivation and capacities among YCLI participants to engage with stakeholders to address beneficiary needs on the ground. Beneficiaries have been actively engaged throughout the process to promote community ownership and sustainability of the interventions. CAPs have addressed key emerging community needs such as issues relating to water supply, school infrastructure and improving market access for entrepreneurs among other initiatives.
- ToT programme was conducted whereby 30 participants, including 25 officials who function as trainers and youth officers for NYSC and 5 youth leaders from YCLI, increased their knowledge and skills to engage as trainers of YCLI. The felicitation event of the training was attended by the Hon. Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs and the newly appointed chairman of the National Youth Services Council (NYSC).
- 14 locations across the 9 provinces have been identified for the establishment of Community volunteer centres (CVCs) to facilitate connections between project participants, project partner CSOs (Sarvodaya and Sevalanka), and state counterparts to support successful project implementation.

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Additionally, the Community Volunteer Coordinators mapped 353 community-based organisations, and grassroots NGO and governmental organisations involved in youth activism for partnerships.

- Work to develop the youth policy is currently ongoing. Professor Chandrasiri and Dr Ramani, two reputed economists in the country who worked in multiple organizations including World Bank, ILO, etc, have been recruited to facilitate the entire process. Ministerial-level support from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Mass Media, Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government, Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms, Ministry of Labor and Foreign Employment – Department of Manpower, Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment, Ministry of Technology, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Defense and the newly appointed Youth Caucus in the Parliament has been obtained. The initial consultation with the ministries was successfully held in early April.
- The Learning Management System (LMS) which was initiated as part of the YPI project is in the finalising stage. Currently, the supplier that was recruited to develop the LMS platform is working closely with the National Youth Services Council to migrate the developed content into the LMS platform of NYSC.

*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.*

## PROJECT SIGNATURES:

<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>6</sup></b></p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Dr. Akiba Seneviratne</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p><i>Signature:</i>  <i>Name of Agency:</i> <b>World Health Organization Sri Lanka</b>  <i>Date &amp; Seal:</i> 17 May 2023</p>	<p><b>Representative of National Authorities</b></p> <p><i>Name of Government Counterpart:</i> Pasindu Guneratne</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p><i>Signature:</i>  <i>Title:</i> <b>Chairman/Director General of Sri Lanka Youth Council (NYSC)</b>  <i>Date &amp; Seal:</i> <b>National Youth Services Council          No.65, High Level Road,          Maharagama</b></p>
<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)</b></p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> MS. Azusa Kubota</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Malin Herwig on behalf of</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i>  <i>Name of Agency:</i> <b>United Nations Development Programme – Sri Lanka</b>  <i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 22-May-2023</p>	<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)</b></p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Shalina Miah</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>DocuSigned by:</small></p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>ASLP ZL10EBALUE...</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Azusa Kubota</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i>  <i>Name of Agency:</i> <b>United Nations Volunteers</b>  <i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 25-May-2023</p>
<p><b>Head of UN Country Team</b></p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Christian Skoog</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p><i>Signature</i>  <i>Title:</i> <b>UN Resident Coordinator</b>  <i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 24 May 2023</p>	<p><b>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</b></p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> <b>Elizabeth Spehar</b></p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> <p><i>Signature</i>  <i>Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support</i>  <i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>

## I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support (4 pages max)

- a) A brief summary of **conflict analysis findings** as they relate to this project, focusing on the driving factors of tensions/conflict that the project aims to address and an analysis of the main actors/ stakeholders that have an impact on or are impacted by the driving factors, which the project will aim to engage. This analysis must be gender- and age-responsive.

Young people between the ages of 15 and 29 represent approximately 23% of the Sri Lankan population with an almost equal gender distribution between males and females. While youth are considered the most dynamic force in a country's development and future, youth in Sri Lanka have received greater attention worldwide mainly due to their participation in three violent insurrections; two youth-led insurgencies in the South in 1971 and 1989, and the civil war in North and East during 1983-2009. A decade since the end of the armed conflict, a study conducted by British Council and the University of Peradeniya in March 2019, indicated that majority of young people had not heard about official government initiatives to promote national unity; such as the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC), Office for National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR), or the National Policy in Reconciliation. Among those who were aware of these mechanisms many had not viewed these mechanisms as delivering their respective mandates and viewed that they failed to address the true needs for social cohesion at the grassroots<sup>6</sup>. The UNSCR 2250, encourages governments to include young people in their institutions and mechanisms to prevent violent conflict and to support the work already being performed by youth in peace and security.

Based on the conventional indices, social well-being of the youth population in general has improved over the years. According to the 2016 Commonwealth Youth Development Index<sup>7</sup> Sri Lanka was ranked 31 out of 183 countries for youth development and became one of the highest-ranked commonwealth countries for youth development.

Despite these positive gains youth in the country continue to face significant challenges particularly in terms of their enhanced and meaningful political participation<sup>8</sup>. One of the critical challenges to overcome is the lack of common understanding of existing problems of youth among other youth representing different, ethnic, religious, gender and classes in the society. As such, they are particularly disengaged from the problems of the marginalized groups, and lacks knowledge about the role of youth in civic and political spheres and decision making in the society. For an example, they lack motivation to influence decision making through active engagements, and young women do not perceive politics as a viable career for them despite their education gains.

Amidst these circumstances, a 75% of the respondents of a youth health survey indicated that their political participation in the country has been limited only to their vote.<sup>9</sup> The survey also indicated that over the years youth participation in a number of national youth institutions, such as the National Youth Services Council and the Youth Corps as well as their active participation in the civil society has significantly declined as opposed to the relatively very strong civic participation observed in the 1970s and the 1980s. According to the 2014 National Human Development Report for Sri Lanka (NHDR), although 71.5% of youth in Sri Lanka exercise their right to vote, only a small fraction is directly engaged in politics through activism within political parties and trade unions. Furthermore, the fact that the remaining 17.7% do not either exercise their voting rights and/or participate in any political activity due to lack of trust in the existing mechanisms and lack of access to opportunities is yet another cause for concern. According to a United Nations Population Fund survey carried out in 2015<sup>10</sup>, only 1.7% of the young respondents indicated adequate political knowledge to meaningfully engage in political activism or civic engagements in the country.

To encourage the youth participation in politics Sri Lankan government has introduced a policy which mandate all parties contesting for local government institutions to include 40% of youth candidates (age between 18-35 years) in their

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<sup>6</sup> British Council. *Next Generation Sri Lanka. 2019*. Colombo: British Council & Sarvodaya Institute of Higher Learning.

<sup>7</sup> Commonwealth Secretariat (2016), *Global Youth Development Index and Report 2016*, Commonwealth Secretariat, London, [https://doi.org/10.14217/global\\_youth-2016-en](https://doi.org/10.14217/global_youth-2016-en).

<sup>8</sup> UNDP (2014). *Sri Lanka National Human Development Report: Youth and Development*. Colombo, United Nations Development Programme Sri Lanka.

<sup>9</sup> Family Health Bureau (2014). *National Youth Health Survey 2012-13*. Colombo, Family Health Bureau.

<sup>10</sup> UNFPA, 2015 report

nomination list. If, any party or independent group fails to fulfill this requirement, their nomination list is subject to cancellation. However, since this policy is not applicable to provincial and national level elections, it is difficult for youth to get a chance to contest in these elections. On the other hand, though all parties and independent groups may include 40% of the young candidates, most of them are unable to get selected as members of local government entities due to proportional electoral system. Therefore, considerable proportion of youth does not participate in decision-making process even at local government level. To increase youth representation in politics, the Presidential Commission on Youth (1990) has recommended a separate electoral register for youth (18- 30 years) for provincial council elections, obligatory 40 percent of the youth (below 30 years) nomination for the provincial council elections and at least 40 percent of the membership of the local government bodies to be below 30 years. Since most of them are not implemented, youth representation in decision making process is less in Sri Lanka.

Young women, in particular, face many challenges that prevent them from political participation and taking up leadership roles in the society. Even at the national level, representation of women in political institutions in Sri Lanka has been minimal. The overall representation of women in Parliament after the 2020 General Elections is at 5.33% and this has not surpassed 10% in the history of Sri Lanka. In provincial councils, which were established as to decentralize the power local bodies in 1988, women's representation has never exceeded 6% and women's representation hovering between 1.0% and 2.0%<sup>11</sup>. These statistics also reveal little about the representation of minority; Tamil, Muslim and other minority women are barely represented. For instance, there were only three Muslim women in local government in 2014 of around 90 women<sup>12</sup>. This is despite the favorable human development indicators for women, the constitutional guarantee of equality, policy statements making a commitment to equal representation, international commitments under the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and sustained activism and advocacy on this issue by civil society organizations as well the National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Women's Rights. Furthermore, of the small number of women represented in political institutions in Sri Lanka, the great majority of them come from political families and from the Sinhala community. A study conducted by the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Empowerment and UNDP in 2009 elicited many challenges faced by women in political participation<sup>13</sup>. At a personal level, where fewer women than men self-select themselves for a career in politics due to socio-cultural, economic and psychological barriers. The evidence can be seen from social media with regard to female candidates' shows bad sexist attitudes, degrading language on their sexuality and personal life. Given this ruthless context, it is more challenging for women who represent ethnic minority groups to survive in the mainstream male dominant political system. At the level of political parties, where they are mostly ignored as candidates for elections, and at the level of the electorate, when voters have to elect candidates. A youth survey in 2014 indicated that 71% of the participating youth respondents claimed that they would invariably vote for a male candidate even though, 74% agreed that more women should be in politics. To make matters worse, a large section of young men remains ignorant of these challenges faced by women in leadership roles. However, female political representation in the post-conflict and emergency situations is essential because conflict dismantles certain social structures and thus, challenges the gendered thinking in the public sphere<sup>14</sup>.

Therefore, there is a dire need to re-establish women's representation in the current social, political and economic sphere that meaningfully integrates women into community development and policy process. For example, the proportion of Female Headed Households (FHHs) in Sri Lanka has been consistently increasing since the 1970s. According to the Household, Income and Expenditure Survey (2012/2013), out of 5.2 million households in Sri Lanka, 1.2 million households or 22.6 % of the households is women-headed. These women's groups have been facing issues such as the need for livelihood assistance, lack of accountability for acts of sexual and gender-based violence and violation of the right to access to property. More recently, the COVID 19 pandemic saw a significant increase of GBV globally as well as in Sri Lanka. Hence, women representatives would be more capable of understanding and support for those who affected by

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<sup>11</sup> Kodikara, Chulani (2009) *The Struggle for Equal Representation of Women in Sri Lanka: A Stock Taking Report*, Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the UNDP, 2009

<sup>12</sup> Kodikara, Chulani (2014) *A Quota for Women in Local Government in Sri Lanka: Questions of Equality, Modernity and Political Leverage*, ICES Working Paper Series No. 5, International Centre for Ethnic Studies, 2014

<sup>13</sup> *The Struggle for Equal Political Representation of Women in Sri Lanka, A Stocktaking Report for the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Empowerment and the United Nations Development Programme* (2009)

<sup>14</sup> Philips M. (2015). *The Necessity Of Increasing Women's Political Representation In Sri Lanka*, Colombo Telegraph Retrieved from <https://www.colombotelegraph.com/index.php/the-necessity-of-increasing-womens-political-representation-in-sri-lanka/>

conflicts and emergencies raise these marginalized community issues to the mainstream social and political dialogue for better prospect of equity and social cohesion.

As observed in the HDR 2014 Young people can be a significant and valuable asset which is still not fully and consistently explored in peace and development practice in Sri Lanka. There is the potential to position youth at the forefront of solutions that work not only for themselves, but that also enrich the communities and societies around them. Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security explicitly recognizes the need for youth participation in decision-making and peace initiatives, protecting youth in armed conflict, preventing violent extremism, building partnerships, and supporting disengagement and reintegration. It urges the Member States to “facilitate an inclusive and enabling environment” for youth actors to contribute to “sustainable peace in all societies”. In this context, at a time when the Sri Lankan youth are increasingly getting disoriented in the current institutional mechanisms, it is critically important to engage them through meaningful ways in order to prevent them from being attracted by destructive ideologies and action perpetrated by different actors

Despite the need to encourage increased youth participation, concerns by some practitioners and policymakers regarding youth vis-a-vis their role in politics and conflict are apparent. As such, there are fears based on experience on youth-led insurrections that there can be relapses where youth will resort to <sup>15</sup> as witnessed in the past. The past youth movements have been due to many reasons, in 1970s youth highlighted issues such as social injustice and inequality. More recently, youth engagement in extremism and the widespread hate speech on social media has added to the role of youth in conflict and emergency situations.

Conversely, there is also a wide recognition that as “future leaders,” youth have a strong role to play in national unity and development in the country. Of late, the country has witnessed increasing evidence that demonstrates that Sri Lanka’s youth are largely peaceful agents and assets. As an example, over 660,000 young men and women from Sri Lanka were engaged in the consultation on the post-2015 development agenda through the “MY World” Survey. Likewise, out of 8.6 million people volunteering in Sri Lanka, 40% are youth, and they clearly believe that volunteering contributes greatly to the development of the country<sup>16</sup>. Surveys suggest that youth want more access to learning opportunities on civil and political responsibilities and engagements, empowerment programs for them to be recognized and influential in political and civic engagements<sup>17</sup>.

Volunteerism has an important role in this landscape, as a people-centred approach to development, based on voluntary participation in support of others. Volunteering seeks to solve problems through “interpersonal engagement and action, human relationships, and participatory decision-making in local communities”.<sup>18</sup> Volunteerism has the capacity to transform bystanders and observers, including among the younger population, into active agents of change. Under the right conditions, it can create the structures, networks and platforms for the involvement of various groups. This is especially significant for young people, since volunteering will usually be their first experience of civic action and engagement.

It is observed that the lack of meaningful engagement of youth in both civic and political spaces in the country is largely influenced by their lack of trust in the institutional mechanisms in the place<sup>19</sup>. The 1971 and 1989 violent youth resurrections and the eruption of ethnic violence can be largely attributed to the politics and governance issues and the lack of trust in the representation of youth issues that continue to dissuade youth from meaningfully participating in the development processes<sup>20</sup>. The 2013 National Youth Survey highlighted that 37% of the respondents stated that escalating corruption levels prevents their civic and political engagement. 27% of the youth identified politicization, 8% violence and 10% as lack of freedom of speech as other major contributors.

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<sup>15</sup> Referencing for example to the youth insurrections that led to conflict in 1971 and in 1988 to 1989

<sup>16</sup> UNV; Sri Lankan Youth: Volunteering to Make a Difference; Colombo, 2014.

<sup>17</sup> UNDP (2014). Sri Lanka National Human Development Report: Youth and Development. Colombo, United Nations Development Programme Sri Lanka.

<sup>18</sup> [http://unv-swvr2018.org/files/51692\\_UNV\\_SWVR\\_2018\\_WEB.pdf](http://unv-swvr2018.org/files/51692_UNV_SWVR_2018_WEB.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Damayanthi, M. K. N., et al. (2013). Youth in Development: Sri Lanka. Colombo, Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute.

<sup>20</sup> Sri Lanka Presidential Commission on Youth (1990). Report of the Presidential Commission on Youth. Colombo, Government Publications Bureau

The role and perceptions of youth towards social cohesion have also entered a new period with increased social media engagements together with the gradual spread of extremist ideologies leading to several outbreaks of violence. The April attacks were the first terror attacks in Sri Lanka in a decade. A generation of young people previously not exposed to such violence saw the attacks and their aftermath responded through new avenues such as social media. Easter attacks and the incidents that led up to it indicated that minority youth groups as well as those in the majority, were being increasingly polarized based on their religious differences. This was partly because they do not have a proper institutional mechanism to build trust between them and also vocalize their concerns. The attacks showed that extremism is not something that could be reduced to mere push factors such as socio-economic deprivation. It indicated that it was more on pull factors, such as recognition, attitudes etc. Hence, enabling environment for youth to actively take part in the development process, be recognized for the ethnic and religious difference will help to address some of these pull factors. Therefore, it is critically important to address this issue more systematically by creating pathways for aspiring young leaders to engage in mutually beneficial interventions that promote social cohesion whilst ensuring individual and community wellbeing.

COVID-19 has presented a unique set of challenges as well as opportunities to engage youth in meaningful ways in the country's development process. The pandemic has significantly affected the socio-economic landscape of the country and its population. Existing ethnic, religious and socio-economic disparities widened through distancing and lockdowns. UN social media monitoring indicates approximately 10% of all popular COVID 19 related content as hate speech or misinformation/stigmatization<sup>21</sup>. As the generation that is internet savvy, young people are perceived as both the creators and spreaders of this information. Tension further escalated regarding funeral rights with the cremation only policy and military presence in the response reviving memories of war. The social isolation and uncertainties regarding continued and stable income affected young people disproportionately<sup>22</sup>. The impact COVID19 has on youth employment is yet to be determined. Globally, 17% of young people lost their jobs due to COVID 19 and 42% reported a reduction in their income<sup>23</sup>. Furthermore, youth with limited access to opportunities both in the rural and estate sector in particular, are largely affected by rising income inequality in Sri Lanka. Further, the disruption of support systems such as peer support that young people rely heavily on, has led to challenges of psychological and social wellbeing<sup>24</sup>. The prevailing uncertainties and daily stresses arising from these hardships impact the potential of youth to emerge as leaders for their communities. The goal of the WHO COVID-19 response strategy has been to control the pandemic and to build a cohesive society towards responding positively to a 'better' new normal. Amidst the COVID 19 crisis out of 8.6 million people volunteering, 31% are youth. This indicates how young people have risen to the challenge in bringing communities together and building resilience by mobilizing local resources amidst widespread uncertainty regarding the socio-economic impact.

As "future leaders," youth have a significant role to play in rebuilding a just and peaceful society. The Youth Parliament of Sri Lanka is such a mechanism established in 2010, for politically aspired young leaders to meaningfully engage, contribute to national unity and issues affecting youth at the national and regional level and place them at the heart of decision making. Out of the 360 youth parliamentarians in the newly elected youth parliament of Sri Lanka, 334 are representatives at the divisional level and are elected from their communities through a democratic process and voted in by fellow young people from their communities. The remaining 26 young parliamentarians are representatives of the universities and elected among university students. As such, the youth parliament has national representation from the divisional level. The youth who seek a seat in the youth parliament do so to enhance their leadership skills, gain experience in the political sphere and in the process represent fellow young people and their interests at the national level. Further, most of them have already been playing a leadership role in their communities that enable them to secure adequate votes. As such to achieve this project's aim of empowering young leaders to address inequalities and divisions in their communities and bring young people together to develop their communities using a whole of society approach, the Youth Parliamentarians are a uniquely suited target group. Working with the youth parliament also provides the opportunity of exercising their policy development mandate to develop policies by young people – for young people in a way that address

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<sup>21</sup> Based on the monthly social media monitoring carried out by the UNRCO

<sup>22</sup> UN Youth survey reference

<sup>23</sup> Youth and COVID-19 survey report

<sup>24</sup> Youth and covid-19 impacts on jobs, education, rights and mental well-being Survey Report 2020, [https://www.youthforum.org/sites/default/files/publication-pdfs/Youth-and-COVID-19-Survey-Report\\_English.pdf](https://www.youthforum.org/sites/default/files/publication-pdfs/Youth-and-COVID-19-Survey-Report_English.pdf)



issues that divide them and build trust in the political process as a conflict prevention mechanism. As this process requires working collectively with other youth and marginalized groups in a community, the project will also support the “Federation of Youth Clubs” an independent civil society coalition of over 100,000 young people, who are volunteers across 9,000 clubs and specific groups representing young people who are living with disabilities, mental health issues and coming from minority communities. However, the Youth Parliament has limited vested influential decision making or policy lobbying roles and connection to the national parliament. With less than 10% out of 225 parliamentarians under 40, meaningfully engaging next-generation leaders, through dialogue and volunteering can have a significant impact on peace and stability, especially in this post-COVID context. Emergencies such as COVID 19 like in conflict, and crisis situations exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and inequalities<sup>25</sup>. In spite of the adversity, challenges and notwithstanding the human suffering they create, emergency situations are openings to transform services and to “build back better”<sup>26</sup>. These are opportunities that should not be missed.

In this regard, WHO’s “Healthy Settings approach”, bolstered with volunteering, provides an innovative entry to navigate the constraints in the political environment and COVID19. It’s an opportunity to build on the trust and access of the health youth sector and engage young leaders and volunteers in promoting peacebuilding and social cohesion. This approach creates and improves specific measures in physical and social environments by targeting 5 specific areas of health promotion<sup>27</sup>: building policies, creating supportive environments, strengthening community action, personal skill development, reorient services to support youth inclusion and planning for the future. It reaches beyond the medical and incorporates the social determinants of health like the equitable expansion of community resources, education, employment, mobility, evidence-based policy development, safe spaces for dialogue, youth leadership/ coordination, psychosocial wellbeing, sustainable environments and community empowerment for conflict prevention. Social relationships developed through shared voluntary action, noting that such relationships forge bonds of solidarity, enhance trust, expand people’s support base and lessen their vulnerability to shocks and stresses. Volunteering opens channels to other stakeholders, connecting community members to wider support networks. Resilience is strongest when people are embedded in a web of diverse networks, relationships and connections that enable capacities and coping mechanisms that are unavailable to people acting alone. “Healthy settings” is a holistic, multi-sectoral approach that enables communities reach their maximum potential. Hence, it demonstrates the potential for sustainable peacebuilding efforts within challenging socio-economic and political context of Sri Lanka.

- a) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**<sup>28</sup>, how it ensures **national ownership**. If this project is designed in a PRF country, describe how the main objective advances a relevant strategic objective identified through the Eligibility Process

The newly elected government’s policy framework ‘Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour’ reiterates the importance of enhancing the potential of the youth population. As such, it speaks to the issue of youth political participation and ensuring space for realizing their political, social and economic aspirations<sup>29</sup>. Further to the government’s National Policy Framework<sup>30</sup>, democratic governance has been identified as a vehicle to build national unity and reconciliation among ethnic groups. The project, in light of these government objectives, rests heavily on creating an innovative pathway for aspiring young leaders to exploit opportunities in this regard through promotion of healthy settings for social cohesion and development. Further to the government’s policy framework the duties and responsibilities vested with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs in the Gazette Extraordinary No 2187/27 clearly indicates the ministry’s responsibilities lies with developing methods and approaches to increase youth engagement and skills development in different spheres including the political sphere with the intention of “ Creating an ebullient, dynamic youth community imbued with a balanced

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<sup>25</sup> UN, Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the Socio-economic Impacts of COVID-19 (2020).

<sup>26</sup> World Health Organization (WHO). Building back better: sustainable mental health care after emergencies. WHO: Geneva, 2013.

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/previous/ottawa/en/index1.html>

<sup>28</sup> Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan on 1325, a National Youth Policy etc.

<sup>29</sup> GoSL (2020). National Policy Framework: Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour. Colombo, Ministry of Finance

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/790200/FinalDovVer02+English.pdf/3873cb76-8413-47dd-9691-bd80439d5a10>

personality, creating a generation of healthy children and youth”<sup>31</sup>. The National Strategy for Adolescents and Youth Health<sup>32</sup> by the Ministry of Health, recognizes health and well-being of youth as an important and necessary investment to achieve global economic, social and environmentally sustainable development by 2030. Enhance life expectancy of people qualitatively by preventing communicable and non-communicable diseases and build health service aimed at maintaining country with minimum infant and maternal mortality rate. Build health services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of people by prevention violence but promotion of healthy living.

In November 2015, the Secretary-General declared Sri Lanka eligible to receive financial support from the PBF’s longer term Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF). The longer-term financial support was primarily targeted at successful execution of the Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP), which sets out the key peacebuilding priorities to advance reconciliation and durable peace in Sri Lanka in a post-war context. The PPP has been informed by an independent peacebuilding context analysis and extensive consultations with development stakeholders. In 2017 Sri Lanka Peacebuilding Board approved three key interventions under the PPP which included; rebuilding livelihoods, empowerment of women and youth and finally psycho-social support to communities affected by the war. Hence, it has been designed as a result driven plan framed with gender and youth mainstreamed throughout. In 2020, as the PPP reaches its full cycle, UN together with the Government of Sri Lanka will be reviewing its continuity under the current contextual dynamics which will be supported by a common country analysis. Furthermore, the proposed project is directly in line with the universal periodic review (UPR) recommendation supported by Sri Lanka to “Intensify measures to advance women’s rights, including vocational training of youth and measures relating to access to justice, and legislative reform, as well as implementation of gender responsiveness at all levels of governance and policymaking”.

Youth volunteerism both directly contributes to peace and security in the short-term, while addressing drivers of conflict and building foundations for peaceful and inclusive societies. However, meaningful youth participation for peace and security as intended by Resolution 2250 requires the creation of an enabling environment. National Volunteering Policy in Sri Lanka provide provisions to ensure volunteering is well supported beyond formal, organization-based opportunities by increasing resources for people who volunteer informally, including through interactive spaces for knowledge, training and information, online and on-site informal platforms to seek ideas and guidance from others, and tools and networks that enable volunteers to reflect and learn from their experiences and provide a sense of solidarity, even for those acting alone. Furthermore, the National Volunteering Secretariat provides new forms of engagement, coordination and cooperation that preserve the spirit of informal volunteering within diverse communities around the country.

- b) A brief explanation of how the project fills any strategic gaps and complements any other relevant interventions, PBF funded or otherwise. Also provide a brief **summary of existing interventions** in the proposal’s sector by filling out the table below.

‘Healthy settings’ is an approach that can address prolonged conflict issues deeply entrenched in society. It addresses; evidence-based policy, psychological well-being, multi-sectoral collaboration, safe spaces for dialogue and partnerships issues. In a challenging political environment this innovative idea is expected to enhance government buy-in for a whole of society and government approach for peacebuilding through health. The project bridges gaps in health and state politics. COVID-19 has already created issues that affect strained social relations and stability. Engaging youth, to create healthy communities will help them to be accepted as leaders and enhance community resilience in challenging and fragile environments.

The project speaks to partnerships and dialogues for non-recurrence of war and violence under the Peacebuilding Priority Plan supported by the PBF-PRF and the Joint Programme for Peace. It will support inter and intra-party dialogues for

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<sup>31</sup> GoSL (2020). The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka: Extraordinary. [2187/27](#). Colombo, Presidential Secretariat.

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.yowunpiyasa.lk/images/Guidelines/sp/SP.pdf>

addressing critical post-war issues which exacerbate during a pandemic context. The healthy settings approach will provide space for engagement to overcome political barriers to peacebuilding.

The project also complements with WHO Sri Lanka's ongoing healthy settings initiatives in 3 districts supported by the Ministry of Health and Directors of Provincial Health Services. The current programmes rely heavily on the health sector as the focus of the programme implementation. However, in addressing issues such as growing noncommunicable disease (NCD) rates, road traffic accidents, mental health and psychosocial issues especially due to conflict related experiences and growing incidents of violence and self-harm, the need to work directly with young people bringing them to the center of the initiative has become evident. In this regard, WHO with the support of UNDP's Hackadev initiative brought in a youth group from Jaffna to support increasing physical activity and healthy eating among young people within their district. The enthusiasm, value addition and youth mobilization support provided by this group greatly spoke to the need of further and more substantive youth engagement in taking the settings approach forward. The proposed initiative strives to address this need.

Currently UNDP is implementing a EU funded regional PVE project which engage youth in creating awareness and positive response to hate speech and promotion of social cohesion. However, the project does not envision strengthening political participation of youth particularly at national level to engage in dialogues and debates around the positive response to counter issues affecting social cohesion. The proposed project will in this regard have a bearing where it will act as a platform for stimulating dialogue around these topics. Furthermore, UNDP recently developed a draft Action Plan for the 9th parliament to strengthen its functions which can also benefit from the proposed project particularly in regard to promoting the aspirations of the young parliamentarians. In this regard output 04 of the action plan specifically speaks to enhancing parliamentary engagement with the civil society through youth engagement. As such, the project in its attempt to influence parliamentary debates on promoting health settings and social cohesion will be able to channel the outcomes between the youth parliamentarians and civil society engagement on the ground. Finally, UNDP's long-term project on capacitating the local government authorities (CDLG) funded by the EU in the conflict affected regions will benefit from this intervention particularly when engaging youth. Promotion of healthy settings within the identified locations in the conflict affected regions will complement the work of the local government authorities in the respective locations through the CDLG project while the youth parliamentarians and other youth leadership will be able to work closely with the authorities as part of their capacitation and skills development process.

Currently WHO and UNDP under the PBF – PRF reconciliation project are engaged in psychosocial support provision for conflict affected communities through community-based health care professionals and capacitating the civil society organizations to provide similar support. The impact of conflict on people's health and wellbeing is evident in these instances. These programmes focused on developing individual capacity and wellbeing towards preventing conflict by building resilient communities. However, the interventions showcase that for people to get the optimum benefit of the capacity development it's important to have a systematic difference with a whole of society approach. Such approaches require policy level advocacy and input that is capable of addressing social determinants of youth wellbeing. The proposed programmes brings in the systems element that build on the ongoing PBF PRF initiatives to develop you-led policies. Furthermore, the Youth and Gender Promotion Initiative of UNFPA and UNV is supporting CSO led projects aimed at promoting women and youth engagement in peacebuilding. This project directly links with Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) coalition for district level volunteer engagement. Building on this, the proposed programme aims to bring in the youth to the state system for political participation and policy development through civil society collaboration to address youth wellbeing needs.

Based on the knowledge gathered from the ongoing peacebuilding efforts it has been identified that the potential of health as a peacebuilding prospect has not been capitalized yet. As observed in the conflict analysis, health is a cross cutting and critically important area for converging interests of the young leaders and the communities for creating peace and social cohesion.

<b>Project name (duration)</b>	<b>Donor and budget</b>	<b>Project focus</b>	<b>Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal</b>
<p><b>Strengthening Mental Health and Psycho-social support service provision to priority communities in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts</b> (December 2016 to July 2017)</p>	<p>Part of a larger PBF – IRF, through UNDP USD 120,000</p>	<p>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for conflict affected Communities</p>	<p>Project that focuses on community-based interventions and identification of mental health burden at district level. The project focused on improving individual psychosocial wellbeing and supported coordination among different health sector departments to address proxy indicators of violence such as substance abuse. The project within a short duration, piloted initiatives that showcased the need for MHPSS interventions in the communities especially among young people. The proposed project invests heavily on developing emotional resilience, positive coping, and psychosocial wellbeing as key component of youth development</p>
<p><b>Promoting Reconciliation in Sri Lanka</b> (April 2017 - September 2020)</p>	<p>Part of a larger PBF – PRF project USD 300,000</p>	<p>Conflict-related mental health issues are addressed to reduce inequalities and promote greater state and civic engagement in reconciliation processes</p>	<p>the project built on PBF-IRF initiatives and focused on immediate community level support for conflict affected communities. The project also supported Provincial and Regional partners to put in place strategies to strengthen coordination that aim to enhance capacities for individual care in the longer term. The proposed project utilizes the health system and the programmes within a whole of society forum to empower youth who were not an explicit focus of this programme.</p>
<p><b>Comprehensive Analysis of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services in Sri Lanka</b> (August 2018 - 31 May)</p>	<p>Part of a larger EU funded project through UNDP USD 100,000</p>	<p>Mapping of community needs and MHPSS service provides in conflict affected areas.</p>	<p>In an evolving situation ground situation, the project focused on mapping MHPSS service providers and community needs to gather data to support evidence based planning and collaborative action at the community level. Many community</p>

			level needs identified were indirect psychosocial needs of young people. These will be the focus of the proposed intervention.
Jaffna Healthy city programme (June 2020 – July 2021)	BMG from Germany part of 100,000 USD	Technical support to promote health of citizens of Jaffna city in a sustainable manner using healthy settings approach	The learning from the design of the Jaffna Healthy City Programme using the healthy settings approach will complement the current proposal. Addressing psychosocial needs of school children and young people through school and work place settings are prioritized activities that are being implemented. The evidence generated and lessons learnt will inform the design of the current proposal activities.
UNDP- Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity ( Dec 2020- June 2021)	Part of a EU funded regional UNDP project. US\$ 1.5 million	Creating and enabling environment for government and the civil society through knowledge generation and capacitation to identify innovative solutions to address issues affecting social cohesion leading to violent extremism and positively respond to the spread of hate speech	Although the project has a strong focus on youth engagement and civic participation, it does not speak to the issue of youth's political participation. The proposed project aims to complement the work carried out by the EU funded project by way of supporting youth in identified violent hotspots for their meaningful political engagement in responding to issues affecting social cohesion. It also anticipates to contribute to the current program for promoting youth entrepreneurial innovation under the EU project where youth parliamentarians could get actively involved in understanding potential areas for their professional and personal development
UNDP- Capacity Development of Local Government Project ( CDLG)- 2020- 2023	EU- US\$ 11 million	The project is aimed at strengthening the capacities of the local government authorities through capacity development targeting the conflict affected areas of Sri Lanka. It entails systematic engagement of	The proposed project where youth political and civic leadership is enhanced will complement the work of the CDLG by looking at how youth leadership can be engaged in ensuring the anticipated government- citizen

		<p>134 local government authorities to improve their citizen-centric service delivery, have participatory mechanisms in place for improved engagement (including grievance mechanisms). In the process they are also capacitated to establish green-cities in targeted municipal and urban councils.</p>	<p>engagement through the project. In turn it will also pave way for the target youth group to work closely with the local government authorities which will enable their capacity building efforts particularly when executing their community action plans</p>
<p>Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process</p>	<p>Other source: UNV 300,000USD; SVF 200,000USD(conditional);  UNFPA 410,000  USD; UN Women 500,000 USD</p>	<p>The was aimed at equipping women and youth with a greater understanding of peacebuilding issues and to act as a catalyst within their communities. The project utilized a youth-centric approach, ensuring that young people were exposed to dual roles as beneficiaries and equal partners. The Youth Peace Panel (YPP) established at National level with representation from all 9 provinces, connected youth with key government institutions, policy makers, and regional/global-level networks.</p>	<p>This initiative is directly engaging specific target group of young people who aspiring to become leaders in politics or elsewhere. The project encourages their participation and provides space for meaningful engagement in governance and to create partnerships within their communities. The project enabled volunteers involving youth-led and youth focused organizations to engage in building national unity and for civil society organisations to engage more young people. It would be an opportunity for youth volunteers and as next generation leaders to contribute towards National Development Framework and of the SDGs acceleration in Sri Lanka.</p>

## II. Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy (4 pages max Plus Results Framework Annex)

- a) A brief **description of the project** focus and approach – describe the project’s overarching goal, the implementation strategy, and how it addresses the conflict causes or factors outlined in Section I (must be gender- and age- responsive).

Sri Lanka’s history of violent youth unrest in the 1970s and 1980s in Sri Lanka is a testament to how lack of representation, recognition and political space for youth in society can lead to social unrest and instability. The project aims to improve access to opportunities for young aspiring leaders to meaningfully engage in promoting social cohesion and development that will enhance their political representation and recognition in the society. In order to achieve this goal, the project will employ the ‘healthy settings’ approach introduced in 1980 by the World Health Organization as a ‘holistic and multi-disciplinary method which integrates action across risk factors’ to promote health and community wellbeing. This all-encompassing approach paves way for the project to systematically intervene on areas affecting social cohesion in vulnerable communities whilst layering preventive strategies through effective engagement of young aspiring leaders and youth volunteers who will be pioneering the effort.

The project aims to work with both elected and non-elected youth parliament members, the Federation of Youth Clubs and other youth groups representing marginalized communities at the district level. It will work closely with the National Youth Services Council which already has a capacity building program for youth leaders particularly targeting their political and civic participation.

In order to compensate the lack of female representation in the current Youth Parliament (10%), the project will work with the majority of the non-elected female youth parliamentarians, identify the barriers for their entry to political activism, and carve out space in the comprehensive capacity building program for them to strengthen their skills and demonstrate their ability perform in meaningful ways. This will be coupled with increased engagement with female students in universities, civil society and volunteer groups who will also become part of the capacity building program. The project, by providing the necessary skills and the space to demonstrate capacities, creates an environment for aspiring female leaders to be recognized in their own communities. This in turn will help them to improve their chances to become more popular among the general public and gain traction in electoral politics.

At the onset the project will focus on orienting the different youth from the youth parliament, the National Federation of Youth Clubs and youth volunteers in Universities, CSO and VIOs to the multidisciplinary settings approach which is the backbone of this unique intervention. At the initial stages itself the programme will support community needs assessments through community volunteers, which will not only support in validating the baselines but also support to bring diverse groups together, identification of community inequalities and stress factors for social cohesion. The project will support the target youth population to collectively design and implement community-based action plans to enhance civic participation and interaction and address identified conflict drivers to promote social cohesion and prevent conflict and violence in their communities. These community-based action plans will in overall support and strengthen the implementation of district development plans of the local government authorities. The community-based plans will be evaluated based on their financial viability, value for money in addition to other key selection criteria, such as problem identification and gender considerations. Youth parliamentarians elected from all 26 youth administrative districts will be given the opportunity to develop proposals for their own community-based action plans. However, only the 10 best selected proposals will be financially supported for implementation. Those who fail to secure financial support for their own proposals will be invited to work with the winning teams which in turn will pave way for their active and meaningful engagement throughout overall project implementation. These collaborative engagements will be complemented by a series of knowledge exchange visits to the different implementation sites of selected action plans. The exchange visits will enable cross-pollination of knowledge and learning which will be beneficial for the participants. Active participation and progress of each participant will be captured in a balance score card scientifically designed and personalized to evaluate individual progression.

In addition, the capacities of youth parliamentarians to a) engage in policy development and debate, b) influence national policy direction, and c) identify innovative solutions through collective action, will be strengthened. Concepts and

proposals (*on social cohesion & healthy settings*) developed will be submitted for consideration by the Cabinet of Ministers. An exchange of knowledge among young parliamentarians (including women) will be facilitated through the programme will promote the concept of ‘open parliament and civic engagement in parliamentary affairs.

All capacity building and knowledge management initiatives are channeled through NYSC training division, and will be also made available through an online Learning Management System (LMS) and incorporated as part of the knowledge management center for leadership development at NYSC. This programme will be thereafter institutionalized through the Training Division as a regular leadership training course available for all young people and a prerequisite to all incoming cohorts of youth parliamentarians.

- b) Provide a **project-level ‘theory of change’** – explain the assumptions about why you expect the project interventions to lead to changes in the conflict factors identified in the conflict analysis. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on? Note, this is not a summary statement of your project’s outcomes.

Youth leaders undergo various professional and personal development programmes. However, they do not enable them to appreciate the interdependence of community needs to achieve a just and stable society. As such its important introduce these attributes to their learning journey so that they can engage with diverse communities meaningfully and be recognized as leaders and contributors for cohesive communities.

Lack of trust, stemming from reduced opportunities for engagement has led young people to disassociate themselves from active civic and political participation. In order to revive the trust of young people to believe that their engagement will have actual impact they need to participate in policy development processes.

When the national government provides support to youth volunteer engagement through structured programmes like the youth parliament and the federation of youth clubs together with other community volunteer groups, it brings the added value of engaging young people to actively participate and contribute to national development goals. This project aims to work with existing institutional platforms such as the Youth Parliament that has gained at least some traction among young people where they gain recognition and also able to vocalize their concerns. Moreover, it introduces these young aspiring leaders to the ‘healthy settings’ approach which will help them to learn, understand and then become part of more holistic and inclusive development processes that positively affect social cohesion and conflict prevention. It is assumed here that even though the youth parliament is a viable platform for increasing trust it can be supported to cultivate this as a main objective. Youth parliament is also able to create opportunities for youth to learn and actively participate in the development processes. Therefore, the proposed project aims to address two elements by both increasing the capacities of the youth to be uniting change agents in their communities, as well as develop the capacity of the parliamentary framework to support collective action and social cohesion.

Therefore;

***If***

*young people with leadership aspirations are equipped with knowledge and skills to collaborate and advocate with state and non-state actors to improve social cohesion using a ‘settings approach’*

***And***

*the state and non-state actors are strengthened to enhance the platforms for youth voices and advocacies in terms of social cohesion*

***Then***

*they will be able to build trust on the existing institutional mechanisms embodying a healthy, resilient and cohesive community*

**Impact:**

Youth with state and non-state actors enabled a better ‘New Normal<sup>33</sup>’ that builds a healthy, resilient, united and cohesive community

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<sup>33</sup> The “New Normal” concept refers to personal, social, behavioral and systemic changes that are required to be adopted in order to maintain a healthier and safer community in the COVID 19 era. WHO emphasizes that this can also be looked as an opportunity to create more equitable societies/settings that can develop to be better in the future. The proposed project embodies this vision. <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/covid-19/information/covid-19-new-normal>.



## Assumptions:

- Lack of opportunities availed to youth to explore their aspirations including political aspiration can lead to unrest.
- Reduced civic space and collaborations with state sector for meaningful engagement of youth to explore their creativity for communal wellbeing inevitably suppress their ability to perform their civic duties.
- Lack of political literacy and conflict sensitivity among young people to derive a whole of society approach to development has a pervasive effect on their ability to comprehend and respond to community needs on social cohesion and harmony.
- National schemes and volunteerism programmes are an important mechanism for enhancing youth experience, fostering communication and mutual understanding between people, thus ensuring sustainable peace.
- Given the current COVID 19 impact 'health' has become a unifying factor that builds credibility, reliability and safety across all communities
- Individual capacity development can be better sustained through systematic elevation that utilizes a whole of society approach to address inequalities
- Young people in Sri Lanka need be active contributors to developing communities through meaningful and multi-stakeholder engagement in order to restore faith in the political and state governance mechanisms
- Formal volunteering through organizations did increase opportunities for women's participation and leadership in their communities.

*(Note: Change may happen through various and diverse approaches, i.e. social cohesion may be fostered through dialogue or employment opportunities or joint management of infrastructure. The selection of which approach should depend on context-specific factors. What basic assumptions about how change will occur have driven your choice of programming approach?)*

- c) **Provide a narrative description of key project components** (outcomes and outputs), ensuring sufficient attention to gender, age and other key differences that should influence the project approach. In describing the project elements, be sure to indicate important considerations related to sequencing of activities.

## **Outcome 1: Next generation young leaders productively engaged with state and non-state actors to promote peace and social cohesion.**

The proposed outcome adopts the universal language of health to promote social cohesion and wider community wellbeing while engaging aspiring next generation youth leadership in Sri Lanka. This is achieved by initiating a series of interventions to establish healthy settings in geographically, socially and culturally vulnerable communities. As such it will engage 500 young aspiring leaders selected from the youth parliamentarian network, the civil society federation of youth clubs, university students, youth volunteers, and other established young leaders' networks such as Scouts and Girl Guides Associations and equip them meaningfully in this regard. Selection of participants will be facilitated at a district level with the support of District Youth Coordinator to ensure that the participants will include elected youth leaders from the community level and ensure representation from marginalized youth groups.

The first outcome of the project is achieved through very closely working with the NYSC and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, to enhance ongoing professional and personal development programmes to equip youth parliamentarians and other youth leaders. This will entail a systematic curriculum development that will be based on the 5 specific areas of health promotion in a settings approach<sup>34</sup>: building policies, creating supportive environments, strengthening community action, personal skill development, reorient services to support youth inclusion and planning for the future. As such it will incorporate elements on policy development, meaningful community collaboration, volunteer management, conflict sensitivity, psychosocial wellbeing and innovative problem solving<sup>35</sup>.

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<sup>34</sup> <https://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/previous/ottawa/en/index1.html>

<sup>35</sup> Draft intervention areas include: Building policies - Settings approach, Policy Writing, / Creating supportive environments - Social Cohesion, Conflict sensitivity, Alternative dispute resolution, / Strengthening community action - Accountability and governance, Volunteer management, Multi stakeholder collaboration / Personal skill development - Gender Equity and Women Empowerment, Communication Skills (etiquette, written communication, verbal communication, negotiation skills), Emotional Regulation - Stress management, / Reorient services to support youth inclusion - Economic Development, Civic duties / Planning for

The project aims to ensure the participation of 175 to 200 women or 35% young women leaders throughout the implementation process including through consultations, capacitation and community mobilization. The participant selection will have an embedded a quota for female participants to ensure adequate representation. The project will also have special emphasis on the capacity development of the female youth parliamentarians currently serving in the youth parliament to be role models for upcoming female leaders. The proposed training programme curriculum will entail a special focus on debunking perceptions around masculinities and gender roles that affect women leadership in community development. The project aims to ensure that all action plans selected to be supported will have a strong gender component or is led by a women leadership.

The projects geographic focus will ascertain multiethnic and multi religious nature of the society during selection process. As such at the district-based action implementation the steering committee will aim to mirror the actual district ethno-religious composition.

**Outputs 1.1 Capacity of youth parliamentarians and youth leaders enhanced to effectively engage in political and civic spaces and advocate for national unity using setting-based approach for health and wellbeing. – (ongoing)**

Activities:

1.1.1 – Conceptualize and design modules on the Healthy Settings approach to be incorporated to the NYSC Professional development curriculum targeting areas on: policy development, meaningful community collaboration, volunteer management and innovative problem solving **(completed)**

1.1.2 – Train youth parliamentarians, youth community leaders and youth volunteers through a series of participatory workshops based on the identified needs of the Personal Development Plans (PDP) **(completed)**

1.1.3. – Conduct a master trainer programme for selected youth, that will facilitate and strengthen the execution of the NYSC professional development programme, **(completed)**

1.1.4 - Develop the competence of the training participants in conducting Community Needs Assessments and preparing multisectoral action plans **(completed)**

Outputs 1.2: Youth Leaders, community and youth volunteers and civil society jointly/ collaboratively address conflict and emergency related psychosocial and relational needs in a created healthy community setting. **(ongoing)**

Activities:

1.2.1 Establish a joint working group with the civil society and youth leaders to develop and monitor the execution of the action plans in respective districts to promote healthy settings **(completed)**

1.2.2 Provide support to execute selected action plans and supported by community volunteer mobilization **(Ongoing)**

1.2.3. Establish a mentorship programme by the technical experts, current Young National Parliamentarians and peer networks that speaks to personal development plans of youth leaders, volunteers and civil society groups **(ongoing)**

**Outcome 2: Target state and non-state actors encourage youth voices and advocate on national unity and social cohesion using established platforms**

Outcome 2 of this project aims to further strengthen the need for a healthy youth population as a prerequisite for the country's future. It supports to embed within the state political system, the vital role youth themselves play to maintaining the health and wellbeing in their local community. The outcome reiterates that a healthy youth population is much more than one that is free from disease or infirmity but rather able to attain complete physical, mental and social well-being. In this regard, it is encouraging to see the comprehensive national survey carried out by the Family Health Bureau (FHB) of Ministry of Health<sup>36</sup> recognizing the need for an integrated set of policies, strategies and programs that address the needs of the adolescents and youth in a holistic manner. The National Strategic Plan on Adolescent and Youth Health (2018-

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the future – community action plans, SDGs, Healthy lifestyles – wellbeing approach

<sup>36</sup> FHB. *National Youth Health Survey 2012/2013 Sri Lanka*. Colombo: Family Health Bureau, 2013.

2025)<sup>37</sup> recommends multi-sectoral interventions implemented in a coordinated manner for youth empowerment and wellbeing.

Given the current COVID 19 scenario, health has become a unifying factor that brings people together and transcends socio political differences. As such health is uniquely placed to be a conduit to bring young people together to develop their community settings in a way that support their unity and wellbeing. As identified in the National Strategic Plan on Adolescent and Youth Health, such action requires multisectoral support and collaboration. The proposed outcome aims to address this need by developing the capacity and empowering youth for policy development that brings youth wellbeing to the forefront. The project implementation process will capacitate youth parliamentarians to drive this process in collaboration with community youth leaders, volunteers and civil society representation. The project will support community dialogue and policy debates that allows for difference of opinion to foster collective decision making and conflict resolution. While state entities such as NYSC aims to elevate policies born out of the youth parliament to the national level, the exposure and blueprint of action provided by this programme will support youth parliamentarians to draw from this experience in their future political career's policy development processes. It is the hope of the actors involved that such collaborative effort will bridge the gap between state and civil society sectors for the betterment of young people. The outcomes of this project will feed into and support the ongoing efforts of the NYSC to establish a 'Youth Political Academy' and a training and leaning management center for youth parliamentarians and aspiring young leaders.

Output 2.1: Target state and non-state institutions exposed to principles and the evidence-base relating to the importance of youth participation in national unity and social cohesion approaches. (ongoing)

Activities:

2.1.1 Conduct a series of community dialogues and consultations for identifying specific community needs and aspirations which can provide evidence for constructive policy dialogue on a healthy setting (ongoing)

2.1.2 Develop of two policy papers on healthy settings and social cohesion based on the consultation outcomes and lessons learnt in implementing the action plans (ongoing)

2.2.3 Conduct youth parliamentary debates around the developed policy papers which will aim to focus on a national debate (yet to start)

Output 2.2: Target state and non-state institutional platforms strengthened to promote youth responsible participation in developing cohesive, safe and healthy settings (ongoing)

2.2.1 Support NYSC to establish a national training and learning management center youth parliamentarians and aspiring young leaders (ongoing)

**Use Annex C to list all outcomes, outputs, and indicators.**

- d) **Project targeting** – provide a justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, expected number and type of stakeholders/beneficiaries (must be disaggregated by sex and age). Indicate whether stakeholders have been consulted in the design of this proposal. Do not repeat all outputs and activities from the Results Framework.

The project aims to capture youth with political aspirations and community leaders as primary beneficiaries. In the regard, the participants will be selected using existing state and civil society platforms. In this regard the project is working in collaboration with the National Youth Services Council (NYSC) and the Federation of Youth Clubs. Further, the project will use dedicated youth volunteer movements such as Rotaract and Girl Guides and Scouts to bring in community level leaders. These stakeholders have been consulted in designing the project and their input have been instrumental in crafting project outcomes and activities. All participants of the programme will be between the ages of 15 and 29 as per the definition for 'youth' provided by the National Youth Policy of Sri Lanka<sup>38</sup>. special consideration will be given to ensure participation of young people from minority groups present in the district and hard to reach geographical areas. With the support of youth directors in each district, participation will be ensured of people of all ethnic and religious groups residing in the area.

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<sup>37</sup> <https://www.yowunpiyasa.lk/images/Guidelines/sp/SP.pdf>

<sup>38</sup> [https://www.youthpolicy.org/national/Sri\\_Lanka\\_2014\\_National\\_Youth\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.youthpolicy.org/national/Sri_Lanka_2014_National_Youth_Policy.pdf)

At the initial stage the project will focus on introducing the novel settings approach for community development and provide the required skill building support. In this regard, as the administrative body for the Sri Lanka Youth Parliament, NYSC will support to include all 360 youth parliamentarians, 36 of whom are female to the programme. 26 of the parliamentarians are from the university system. The Federation of Youth Clubs and youth volunteer groups shall collectively bring in 270 participants at least 40% of whom will be female. Further, other civil society organizations representing minority and marginalized communities will bring in 100 youth community leaders to the programme, where at least 40% of participants will be female. At the capacity development stage, the project will have a national representation, especially since the youth parliamentarians are democratically elected to represent all the 167 divisions in the country across the 26 youth administrative districts.

However, at the community implementation phase the project will choose 10 districts across the 9 provinces to be mentored and supported. This selection will determine the geographical focus of the project and will be chosen based on the district action plans submitted by the trainees. The action plans will be evaluated taking into consideration indicators such as gender equity, female participation, multi-stakeholder collaboration, focus on divisive issues, inclusion of marginalized communities and minority groups and the potential impact and implement ability of the action plans. 25% of the selected plans will have a strong gender element or will be led by a female leader. The suitability of the location and its potential to address issues that hinder national unity will be derived from the needs assessments and analysed through the action plans. The project will not predetermine geographical locations, and will allow the project implementation process to elicit underline community issues and capacitate youth leaders to collectively address them.

### III. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

- a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list all direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local knowledge and existing capacity.

Agency	Total budget in previous calendar year	Key sources of budget (which donors etc.)	Location of in-country offices	No. of existing staff, of which in project zones	Highlight any existing expert staff of relevance to project
<b>Convening Organization: WHO Sri Lanka</b> Implementing partners: MOH NYSC UNV	<b>USD 4,000,000</b> (WHO budgets operate within a biennium plan and the current biennium is from 2020 - 2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessed Contributions from WHO</li> <li>- BMG</li> <li>- CDC Foundation</li> <li>- DFAT, Australia</li> <li>- DFID, UK</li> <li>- MPTF – JPP</li> <li>- Nippon Foundation</li> <li>- PBF – PRF</li> <li>- Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation</li> <li>- UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)</li> <li>- UNPDF</li> </ul>	Colombo	35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Professional Officer (NPO), NCD and Health Systems</li> <li>- NPO – RMNCH and Youth</li> <li>- National Consultant on Healthy Settings</li> <li>- NPO- Psychosocial Wellbeing</li> </ul>
<b>Recipient Organization: UNDP Sri Lanka</b> Implementing partners: UNV Ministry of Youth and Sports Federation of Youth Clubs NYSC	USD17,500,000	PBF – PRF PBF – GPI EU BHC Norwegian Embassy	Colombo Jaffna Kilinochchi	126	Peace and reconciliation Technical Specialist Coordinator PB
<b>Recipient Organization: UNV Sri Lanka<sup>39</sup></b> Implementing partners: Social Services Department (Ministry of Health) Scouts, UNDP	PBF USD 300,000 USD 200,000 (SVF1) USD 30,000 (SVF2) USD 13,000 (POEM and FUMT) USD 115,000 (BMZ)	PBSO UNV HQ Germany	Colombo	Country Office – 5 PBF Project - 3	Country Coordinator – Volunteer Integration, Mobilization and Management Programme Assistant – Youth Development and Peace Education

<sup>39</sup> UNV Sri Lanka's implementation and financial management for this project will be administered by UNDP.

- b) **Project management and coordination** – Indicate the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explicitly indicate how the project implementation team will ensure sufficient gender or youth expertise. Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements and ensure link with PBF Secretariat if it exists. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in **Annex A.1** and attach key staff TORs.

The project will establish a joint coordination committee which will include dedicated Focal Points from WHO, UNDP, UNV, NYSC, Civil society representative, a member from all implementing partners, and a representative from the PBF Secretariat in the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office. The Committee will be co-convened by WHO, UNDP, UNV and NYSC and will be responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring, coordination and communication, and will ensure synergies in joint implementation processors. It is expected that at least quarterly review meetings will be held to anticipate and discuss issues related to implementation, timely coordination and effective engagement with partners. The coordination committee will;

- a. Provide overall guidance and direction and agree on adjustments within provided tolerance levels;
- b. Assess the achievement of results in the context of the project results framework and its contribution to the project outcomes;
- c. Assess risks to the project, and agree on management actions and resources to address them effectively; and
- d. Identify and address operational issues of project implementation, including those that could lead to revisions of the project if required.

With the support of the PBF Secretariat, regular information sharing, and coordination sessions will be held with the project implementing partners within Sri Lanka’s Peacebuilding portfolio to ensure coherence in programming and coordination in terms of avoiding overlap with target communities etc.

WHO technical team on healthy settings, psychosocial wellbeing and youth and adolescent related programming will support the implementation of the project. UNDP will manage the project by a full time Technical Specialist on Peace Building and Reconciliation, a Project Coordinator and a UN volunteer under its Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). UNV country office will support the volunteer management and youth mobilization through its existing capacity while facilitating the recruitment of 3 dedicated UN volunteers for project implementation, as well as operational and financial management and monitoring and evaluation support. WHO, UNDP and UNV will liaise with state counterpart such as Ministry of Health, Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Youth Services Council and Civil Society Organizations. Work related to gender-responsive peacebuilding and governance, as well as operational and financial management and monitoring and evaluation will be managed by existing organizational technical and managerial capacities.

As the main civil society counterpart, the Federation of Youth Club members, will play a key role in managing the community implementation with the respective youth parliamentarians and volunteers. While the civil society counterparts will be direct beneficiaries of the capacity building initiatives, they will also work hand in hand in the community assessment and action plan development phases. The civil society also directly receive support to collaboratively implement the community action plans including the provision of direct funding support.

**Communication and messaging:**

The implementing UN agencies will work closely with NYSC and the PBF Secretariat to ensure cohesion in messaging and meaningful impact from communications. Whilst the importance of communications in Sinhala and Tamil will be emphasized, UN agencies undertake to ensure proper documentation of human-interest stories and relevant news items in partnership with relevant Government and other media channels. Socio-cultural, political and other sensitivities will be considered and guide this process.

<b>Project Team</b>	<b>Funding</b>
Technical Specialist- Reconciliation and Peacebuilding (UNDP)	PBF YPI funding (50%)
Coordinator Peacebuilding	PBF YPI funding (100%)
National Professional Officer (NPO) – NCD and Health Systems	
NPO – RMNCH and Youth	
NPO – Environmental and Occupational Health	
NPO – Mental Health	

National Consultant – Healthy Settings	PBF YPI funding (50%)
NPO- Psychosocial Wellbeing (WHO)	PBF YPI funding (50%)
Country Coordinator - (UNV)	
Programme Assistant (UNV)	
National UNVs – 4 personnel (Healthy Settings Coordination Assistant / Advocacy Coordination assistant/ Operations assistant/ Community Engagement Specialist)	PBF YPI funding (100%)

- c) **Risk management** – Identify project-specific risks and how they will be managed, including the approach to updating risks and making project adjustments. Include a Do No Harm approach and risk mitigation strategy.

Project specific risk	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)
The policy development process being impacted due to the uncertainty caused by the upcoming local government elections.	High	As a result of the ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs and other relevant stakeholders, the project has been reassured that the planned activities will receive the necessary support to complete the district-level consultations and the policy development process during the extension period. The ministry is fully aware of the constraints imposed by the time frame available to accomplish this activity, has offered to provide continuous support, and has assured that this activity will not be hindered by any changes in the political landscape, such as elections.
Timely implementing of the project while managing the public health risk and potential lockdowns due to COVID 19	High	Building safer communities that are more resilient to emergencies are an underline theme of the settings approach. This is used as an advantage by the project to create a unifying factor for the participants. Further the project has also taken measures to organize trainings based on geographical areas to minimize spreader events. The project has envisioned to develop remote capacity building material (eLearning) as a means of adopting all trainings to an evolving ground reality if required.
Youth being a crosscutting demographic for many state counterparts, especially within a healthy settings concept, the challenges of coordinating with multiple state partners to build consensus	Medium	The project intends to work closely with Ministries of Youth and Sports, Health and NYSC in response to the objective of engaging youth in a healthy settings implementation in the post COVID context.  While there are champions within Government for this proposal, the UN will engage at the highest levels to help build consensus across the full array of partners. Regular dialogue will be maintained with key institutions to maintain buy-in. DNI: the selected ministries work very closely on addressing universal needs and aspirations of young. Working with these ministries will ensure increased participation, ownership and sustainability of the project interventions.
Limited engagement by frontline officials to engage in community level dialogue initiatives	Medium	Secure approval from the respective Supervisors and also national level reporting Ministries for approval for officials to engage in the initiatives.
Unexpected structural changes within the ministries and public institutions owing to strategic decisions of the newly elected government.	High	The project will work closely with the ministries and continue to monitor any changes to circumvent any negative impact.

Lack of positive understanding among state and civil society actors.	Medium	A gap analysis will be conducted to understand the challenges and differences of opinion to identify a common platform of engagement at the community level.
Individual aspirations of the youth parliamentarians affecting the buy in for a common goal.	Medium	A series of consultations and sensitization programmes will be conducted to achieve consensus among the parliamentarians on the importance of promoting healthy settings and deriving a mutually beneficial outcome.

- d) **Monitoring and evaluation** – Describe the M&E approach for the project, including M&E expertise in the project team and main means and timing of collecting data? Include: a budget break-down for both monitoring and evaluation activities, including collection of baseline and end line data and an independent evaluation, and an approximate M&E timeline. Fund recipients are obligated to reserve at least 5-7% of the project budget for M&E activities, including sufficient funds for a quality, independent evaluation.

The project will be monitored in accordance with the Results Framework (Annex B). WHO, UNDP and UNV will establish a joint interagency steering committee which will also function as a project coordination body to be responsible for monitoring the project, with technical support from government partners and partner civil society organizations. Focus will be on process monitoring and tracking of lessons and best practices. Comparative learning will also be factored into the M&E processes.

In relation to Outcome 1, the project proposes a mixed approach in achievement of specified outputs in relation to capacity building programmers and their relative success. This will entail pre and post intervention feedback and perception surveys. In addition, a scorecard system will be introduced to assess the relative achievement of youth parliamentarians which will be beneficial for both M&E and showcasing professional growth to the youth participants. As part of this approach, the project will aim to build monitoring pathways for communities to channel their ideas, observations and concerns. In the absence of baseline data for this novel intervention, steps will be taken to do a baseline assessment at the initiation of this project.

Outcome 2 will adopt a qualitative and quantitative approach in terms of assessing the implementation of community dialogs through an inbuilt mentoring process to progress in line with the project milestones. Monitoring systems including progress reports by partners, monitoring visits, and periodic reviews with partners and stakeholders will be employed to assess the quality, timeliness and effective reach of services. This serves to refine implementation strategies; document good practices and lessons learned and adopt risk mitigating actions. Further the outcome will focus on the quality of the policy papers and parliamentary debates.

In addition, WHO in collaboration with UNDP and UNV with oversight from the RCO, will also work jointly to monitor and evaluate implementation of the project. This will include:

- i) Undertaking monitoring visits to initiatives
- ii) Preparing the Annual and midyear Reports on the project implementation to document lessons learnt and good practices.
- iii) Supporting a Final evaluation

- e) **Project exit strategy/ sustainability** – Briefly explain the project’s exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do concretely and pro-actively to try to ensure this support from the start. Consider possible partnerships with other donors or IFIs.

During discussions with national counterparts it was identified that the capacity building component of the Youth Parliamentarians to be included as part of their existing training package for professional development. Therefore, the training material and modules developed will remain with the NYSC training division as the training arm of the youth parliament. Further the project will capacitate the NYSC through a TOT programme to continue the training for upcoming parliamentarians. The district-based action plans will be designed to accommodate short term and medium terms deliverables and indicators where the project will mentor the short-term milestones within the project period. Beyond the



project, the action plans will be supported by NYSC and the civil society networks. Further existing programme within UNDP, Capacity Development of Local Government Project (CDLG) will support the action plan continuation within the local government setup, as part of this project. The dedicated leadership and knowledge managements hub envisioned by NYSC is capable of hosting this programme in supporting its continuation. The project will also support to develop the capacity of the NYSC eLearning unit to develop the materials of this project inhouse. This will capacitate NYSC to be able to support to develop distant learning material for this programme and beyond as a means of making the focal point for youth capacity development at a national level resilient and elevated to manage continues youth education during difficult circumstances. The introduction of this programme to the youth parliamentary system develops capacity of youth leaders for generations to come and enables them to collectively participate in community development and address inequalities that affect fellow young people. Further the e-learning platform and LMC makes this programme knowledge available for all aspiring youth and capacitates them for collective action that develops trust, reduces conflict and cultivates community ownership.

#### **IV. Project budget**

Provide brief additional information on projects costs, highlighting any specific choices that have underpinned the budget preparation, especially for personnel, travel or other indirect project support, to demonstrate value for money for the project. Proposed budget for all projects must include sufficient funds for an independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit. Fill out **Annex A.2** on project value for money.

Please note that in nearly all cases, the Peacebuilding Fund transfers project funds in a series of performance-based tranches. PBF's standard approach is to transfer project funds in two tranches for UN recipients and three tranches for non-UN recipients, releasing second and third tranches upon demonstration that performance benchmarks have been met. All projects include the following two standard performance benchmarks: 1) at least 75% of funds from the first tranche have been committed, and 2) all project reporting obligations have been met. In addition to these standard benchmarks and depending on the risk rating or other context-specific factors, additional benchmarks may be indicated for the release of second and third tranches.

Please specify below any context-specific factors that may be relevant for the release of second and third tranches. These may include the successful conduct of elections, passage of key legislation, the standing up of key counterpart units or offices, or other performance indicators that are necessary before project implementation may advance. Within your response, please reflect how performance-based tranches affect project sequencing considerations.

Fill out two tables in the Excel budget **Annex D**.

In the first Excel budget table in Annex D, please include the percentage towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) for every activity. Also provide a clear justification for every GEWE allocation (e.g. training will have a session on gender equality, specific efforts will be made to ensure equal representation of women etc.).

A key feature of the proposed project budget is that the outcomes and outputs are not divided among the RUNOs but shared among them for collective implementation and to bring in the strengths of each agency. Staff and other operational costs are calculated separately and not included as part of the activity budgets. UNV will play a crucial role in implementing the programme and is considered as an equal technical partner with the RUNOs. However, as per UN procedures, funding for UNV will be administered through UNDP. Therefore, the UNDP budget includes the UNV component as well. See the below table for more details.

Provision for an independent evaluation at the end of the project has been set aside from the onset. The project has taken special consideration to reduce transactional costs between RUNOs and have complemented synergies in activity / technical implementation with the task sharing for contractual services and financial implementation. Two such areas are: 1. the common monitoring, evaluation and communication portfolio and 2. the independent end of project evaluation portfolio. Both these components are within the joint oversight for both RUNOs and will be managed in implementation with the technical input from WHO, UNDP, UNV and NYSC through the project coordination team. However, in order to reduce the interagency transaction cost, the share from all RUNOs have been pooled to one agency for ease of financial management at the planning phase itself.

	Budget by RUNO		UN budget category	Remarks (e.g. types of inputs provided or budget justification)
	WHO	UNDP		
<b>Outcome 1: Next generation young leaders fully comprehend and able to execute whole of society approaches for social cohesion and development</b>				
Outcome 1.1 Capacity of youth parliamentarians and youth leaders enhanced to effectively engage in political space and advocate for national unity using setting-based approach for health and wellbeing.	\$299,048.75	\$338,306.13  (UNV component - \$126,491.19)	Supplies, material Contractual services Travel Transfer to counterparts	<p>The project views this component as foundational to the project implementation and sustainability plan. As one of the initial activities in the timeline, this assistant will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support the development of 20 conflict and gender sensitive modules embedded in the healthy settings concept.</li> <li>● Capacitate 750 young persons on the training</li> <li>● Facilitate Master trainer programme for NYSC training division</li> <li>● Enable the trainees to conduct a multisectoral needs assessments and develop action plans for their communities.</li> </ul> <p>As this project aims to introduce a novel yet crucial concept of settings approach for engagement of diverse communities and fostering trust and cohesion, the project team felt the need to design the programme in a way that is hands on and would cultivate behavioural change to ensure do no harm. Further, the project component also invests in converting the material to eLearning modality for sustainability and efficiency for refresher trainings. Due to the ongoing public health emergency and the need conduct hands on capacity development, the project has invested on small group (district based), residential (to avoid back and forth travel and risk exposure) in facilities that can enable physical distancing measures. NYSC has agreed to make their training facilities available for this programme. However, the project invests in cost sharing with NYSC on this and also with the support of Youth Development officers ensure equity in participation of groups from marginalized groups and hard to reach communities by providing transport and accommodation within the training at no cost to the youth. This will bring in youth from diverse communities and backgrounds and through the collective participation and engagement in community assessment will cultivate an understanding of each other, societal needs and build trust on policy processors. NYSC to support in providing training facilities and the support of district youth officers and support in accessing subnational level platforms that would support in developing comprehensive action plans. The project also viewed that transferring all material to eLearning to be a worthy investment and hope to implement it by capacitating the NYSC eLearning unit by improving their capacity on developing participatory online training. It was envisioned that such investment will also benefit future trainings that will be supported by NYSC.</p>
Outcome 1.2 Youth Leaders, community and youth volunteers and civil society jointly/ collaboratively address post conflict psychosocial and relational needs in a	\$125,000.00	\$271,918.60  (UNV component - \$144,000.00)	Contractual services Transfer to counterparts	<p>Sequentially, the outcome focuses on supporting the implementation of 10 district action plans developed through multi-stakeholder coordination. The action plans will be selected based on their ability to address social divisive factors, foster equity and women's participation, multi stakeholder collaboration and value for money. The financial support will be managed through state civil society partnership (50%-50%). The project will directly support and monitor implementation through 10 youth UN volunteers available at the community level. In addition to supporting coordination and implementation they will also support in monitoring and evaluation at the community level and support in collating quantitative indicator inputs as well as capture qualitative impact. Through these subnational coordinators the project will support</p>

created healthy community setting.				the districts to establish joint working groups with stakeholders and partners and support the required logistics.
<b>Outcome 2: Target state and non-state actors encourage youth voices and advocacies on national unity and social cohesion using established platforms.</b>				
Outcome 2.1 Target state and non-state institutions exposed to principles and the evidence-base relating to the importance of youth participation in national unity and social cohesion approaches.	\$2,702.41	\$2,702.41	Contractual services Transfer to counterparts	Some activities planned through this outcome, have been jointly financed through activities for outcome 1. Mainly these activities include supporting community consultations by providing the necessary tools and the logistics support and the capacity development the conceptualization of policies that support social cohesion using a settings approach. These capacity building and stakeholder engagements initiative have been financially captured within output 1.1 and 1.2 respectively to economical use of resources, facilities and logistics available to the project. Further this ensures a do no harm approach while being mindful of the public health impact during a pandemic. Finances have been allocated in this output for youth parliamentary deliberations and sessions. Which the project will hold following all safely guidelines as followed by the national parliament. NYSC has come on board to support the necessary logistics to make this possible and will cost share with the allocation of USD 2500 for the parliamentary session facilitation while the project will support the logistics and facilities for the youth parliamentarians.
Outcome 2.2 Target state and non-state institutional platforms strengthened to promote youth responsible participation in peace and social cohesion.		\$38,107.23	Supplies, material Equipment	This component will mainly support the national training and learning management center that will host this programme for future leaders and will support in equipping the center with the necessary technological facilities to ensure that this project can even be carried out remotely. NYSC has come on board to support with the necessary logistics and infrastructure support and the project will support the knowledge management and technological input.
<b>Additional Costs</b>				
Management and Operations (staff, travel, supplies, equipment, contractual services) 16% of total fund	\$86,477.14	\$151,605.23 (UNV component - \$86,477.14)		The staff and other operations costs are calculated at 16% of the programme budget. All staff of this programme will be local and will also encourage the National UNV modality as a means of empowering youth for volunteerism while ensuring that they gain the due recognition, credibility and support to engage with this programme substantially.
M&E + Communications team for overall project		66,000.00 (UNV component - \$36,000.00)		The project will invest in an overall monitoring and evaluation (M&E) strategy that includes a communication angle that will capture qualitative impact and human-interest stories. This will be initiated from the beginning itself as a way of documenting this pilot initiative as this is the first time a healthy settings approach is used for social cohesion among youth. Both RUNOs and UNV have pooled equal funding for this activity, however, to reduce transactional cost and to facilitate efficient financial management UNDP will manage the service provision process. the implementation and technical guidance will be provided jointly by WHO, UNDP, UNV and NYSC. The project will also have a hands-on approach to M&E by allocating 20% of the time of the district level subnational coordinators on data collection and reporting on qualitative and qualitative indicators as well as community level best practices. They will also be the early

				warning mechanism for any community level issue that may arise so that the project can intervene in a timely manner and course correct.
External Project Evaluation	20,000.00			An external independent evaluation will be carried out prior to project closure. The 2 RUNOs and UNV have equally contributed to this evaluation which will be technically managed by a committee with the representation of each agency. However, to reduce transactional cost and to facilitate efficient financial management WHO will manage the service provision process.
Indirect support costs (7%):	\$37,325.98	\$60,804.77		The project has applied the standard UN support cost rate.

The second tranches of funding will be released when at least 75% of the first tranche has been utilized, and when the milestones below have been attained.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Milestones for transfer of tranche 2</b>
WHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 8 capacity building intervention modules developed and piloted in 2 provinces (June 2021)</li> <li>● Development of community action plans within a settings approach in 26 districts and initiate implementation in 5 districts (Nov 2021)</li> </ul>
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 12 capacity building intervention modules developed and piloted in 2 provinces (June 2021)</li> <li>● District level coordinators appointed and conducted first community needs assessment in 5 districts (UNV - Nov 2021)</li> <li>● Online Learning management system established, and 5 inter-district knowledge exchange visits conducted (Nov 2021)</li> </ul>

### Annex A.1: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
<b>Planning</b>			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	x		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission		x	The TOR of the project coordinator will be finalized with the implementing partners upon funding confirmation.
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline		x	The identification of the locations is built into the project design as an key activity within the first 3 months project implementation
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence of the project? Please state when this was done or when it will be done.	x		The national level counterparts have been consulted, collaborated in the planning process. local communities and organizations will only be reached upon funding confirmation as a do no harm approach. However, the community level implementation and action plan development is built into the programme to be designed with local consultations and not predetermined at this stage.
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done? If not, what analysis remains to be done to enable implementation and proposed timeline?	x		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	x		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?		x	NYSC as a signatory to the proposal, has been a key stakeholder in the project planning phase and plays a crucial role in implementation. The project has incorporated their contribution in the project document.
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	x		Described in detail in the budget narrative.
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?		N/A	

**Gender**

10. Did UN gender expertise inform the design of the project (e.g. has a gender adviser/expert/focal point or UN Women colleague provided input)?	x		
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	x		
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?	x		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?	x		

## Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question	Yes	No	Project Comment
1. Does the project have a budget narrative justification, which provides additional project specific information on any major budget choices or higher than usual staffing, operational or travel costs, so as to explain how the project ensures value for money?	x		
2. Are unit costs (e.g. for travel, consultancies, procurement of materials etc) comparable with those used in similar interventions (either in similar country contexts, within regions, or in past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.	x		
3. Is the proposed budget proportionate to the expected project outcomes and to the scope of the project (e.g. number, size and remoteness of geographic zones and number of proposed direct and indirect beneficiaries)? Provide any comments.	x		
4. Is the percentage of staffing and operational costs by the Receiving UN Agency and by any implementing partners clearly visible and reasonable for the context (i.e. no more than 20% for staffing, reasonable operational costs, including travel and direct operational costs) unless well justified in narrative section?	x		The staff allocations are included separately and is at 16% of the funding. These are not included in the activity costs.
5. Are staff costs proportionate to the amount of work required for the activity? And is the project using local rather than international staff/expertise wherever possible? What is the justification for use of international staff, if applicable?	x		All staff contributing for this project will be local and the district level coordination will be facilitated through persons of that region under UNV modality.
6. Does the project propose purchase of materials, equipment and infrastructure for more than 15% of the budget? If yes, please state what measures are being taken to ensure value for money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.		x	The anticipated material, equipment and infrastructure is at 9% of the programme budget and includes only equipment for learning management center and capacity building material. The project does not intent to support infrastructure development.
7. Does the project propose purchase of a vehicle(s) for the project? If yes, please provide justification as to why existing vehicles/ hire vehicles cannot be used.		x	
8. Do the implementing agencies or the UN Mission bring any additional non-PBF source of funding/ in-kind support to the project? Please explain what is provided. And if not, why not.	x		WHO is currently piloting a healthy settings based programme in 3 districts. Learnings from these programmes will be brought into the proposed project with adaptations for youth in terms of training material and capacity building resource personnel.



## **Annex B.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 cost 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 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 ([www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund)) and the Administrative Agent's website ([www.mptf.undp.org](http://www.mptf.undp.org)).

## **Annex B.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

Timeline	Event
<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)
<b><i>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</i></b>	

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 ([www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund)) and the Administrative Agent website ([www.mptf.undp.org](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>40</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of project duration months and multiplying by 12.

- 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.

### Annex C: Project Results Framework (MUST include sex- and age disaggregated targets)

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<p>Outcome 1: <b>Next generation young leaders productively have committedly engaged with state and non-state actors to promote peace and social cohesion.</b></p> <p>(Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to)</p> <p>3.d, 16.7</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p> <p>UPR of 2017 (3rd Cycle – 28th session)</p> <p>A41 - 116.135 F14 - 116.158 S - 116.48</p>		<p>Outcome Indicator 1a Extent to which the level of ability on civic duties, including promoting national unity, social cohesion and development amongst youth groups have increased (Disaggregated by Gender and PWDs).</p> <p>Baseline: 1a.1 Baseline: 21% with necessary language skills 1a.2 Baseline: 52% with cultural norm awareness</p> <p>Target: High 1a.1 Target: 40% 1a.2 Target: 85%</p>	<p>Perception survey with targeted youth</p> <p>By end of the project</p>	<p>End of project measurement – High rating.</p>
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1b % of Youth, especially from excluded and vulnerable groups perceive that Youth development programme focus on increasing their capacities, choices and capabilities. (Disaggregated by Gender and Age).</p> <p>Baseline: 1b.1 Baseline: 63% Lack of opportunities to engage with society due to political marginalization. 1b.2 Baseline: 74% Lack of Recognition from the community.</p> <p>Target: 1b.1 Target: 45% 1b.2 Target: 50%</p>	<p>Perception survey with targeted youth</p> <p>By end of the project</p>	<p>End of project measurement – 70%</p>
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1c % of young women leaders confirm that they have enhanced capacity. Computation: Numerator- # of young women confirmed the increase of capacity; Denominator: # of young women participated in the intervention)</p> <p>Baseline: 93% Gender Discrimination is a key barrier.</p>	<p>Perception survey with targeted youth Individual Scorecard</p> <p>By end of the project</p>	<p>End of project measurement – 70%</p>

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
		Target: 70%		
	Output 1.1 Capacity of youth parliamentarians and youth leaders enhanced to effectively engage in political space and advocate for national unity using setting-based approach for health and wellbeing.	Output Indicator 1.1.1 % of youth demonstrated that they have increased participation in political space on advocacy  Disaggregated by sex  (Computation: Numerator: # of youth participated in political space on advocacy; denominator: # of youth participated/ trained by the intervention)  Baseline: 20% Target: 50%	Perception survey with targeted youth  Individual Scorecard  Module Assessments  By end of the project	End of project measurement – 70%
		Output Indicator 1.1.2 # of advocacy initiatives proposed by targeted youth  Disaggregated by types of advocacy  Baseline: 0 Target: 2	Project reports/ Media briefs  Annual reviews	First year of intervention – 1  End of the intervention – 3
		Output Indicator 1.1.3 % of youth adopted positive behavioral change in improving their personal wellbeing  Disaggregated by sex and age  (Computation: Numerator: # of youth confirmed practicing positive behaviours; denominator: # of youth participated/ trained by the intervention)  Baseline: 55% Target: 70%	Perception survey with targeted youth  Individual Scorecard  By end of the project	Composite indicator for “wellbeing” will be developed (prior to implementation)  End of project measurement – 70%
	Output 1.2 Youth Leaders, community and youth volunteers and civil society jointly/ collaboratively address conflict and emergency related psychosocial and relational needs	Output Indicator 1.2.1 # of joint working groups formed  Baseline: 0 Target: 9	Project reports  Bi-Annual measurement	1 <sup>st</sup> milestone (Annual) -  2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone (End of project) -



Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
	in a created healthy community setting.			
		Output Indicator 1.2.2 # of joint action plans executed Disaggregated by types  Baseline: 0 Target: 10	Project reports  Bi-annual measurement	1 <sup>st</sup> milestone (Annual) -  2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone (End of project) -
		Output Indicator 1.2.3  % of youth who reported as being active and meaningful contributors for community implementation  Disaggregated by sex and age  (Computation: Numerator: # of youth confirmed as being active and meaningful contributors for community implementation; denominator: # of youth participated/ trained by the intervention)  Baseline: 45% Target: 70%	Perception survey with targeted youth  Individual Scorecard  Action plan implementation report  By end of the project	End of project measurement – 70%
Outcome 2: <b>Target state and non-state actors encourage youth voices and advocate on national unity and social cohesion using established platforms</b>  (Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to)  3.d , 16.7  (Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation		Outcome Indicator 2a Extent to which the target state and non-state actors demonstrated that they encourage youth voices and advocacies on peace and social cohesion.  Baseline: 9% Target: 50%	Institutional survey with the target state and non-state actors  By the end of the project	End of project measurement – High rating.
		Outcome Indicator 2b % of state and non-state youth volunteer institutions/ organizations promote youth activism in peace and Social cohesion	Institutional survey with the target state and non-state actors  By the end of the project	End of project measurement – 70 Percentage

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<p>that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p> <p>UPR of 2017 (3rd Cycle – 28th session)</p> <p>A41 - 116.135 F14 - 116.158 S - 116.48</p>		<p>Computation: Numerator- # of youth volunteer institutions promote youth activism; Denominator - # of youth volunteer institutions reached)</p> <p>Baseline: 18% Target: 50%</p>		
		<p>Outcome Indicator 2c</p> <p># of state and non-state institutions promote youth volunteerism in national unity and Social Cohesion.</p> <p>Baseline: 66% Target: 80%</p>	<p>Institutional survey with the target state and non-state actors</p> <p>By the end of the project</p>	<p>End of project measurement -</p>
	<p>Output 2.1</p> <p>Target state and non-state institutions exposed to principles and the evidence-base relating to the importance of youth participation in national unity and social cohesion approaches.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1</p> <p>% of institutions that use data and trend analysis to mainstream integrated youth development/ participation into the policy formulation process</p> <p>(Computation: Numerator: # of state and Non-state actors mainstream data and trend analysis into policy formulation; Denominator: # of state and non-state actors reached)</p> <p>Baseline: 7% Target: 40%</p>	<p>Project reports, Institutional reports</p> <p>Annual reviews</p>	<p>1 milestone by annual – 40%</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> milestone by end of project -70%</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 2.1.2</p> <p># of policy formulated in relation to youth engagement in peace and social cohesion by state and non-state actors.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 2</p>	<p>Project reports, institutional reports</p> <p>Bi-annual monitoring and reviews</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> milestone (annual) - 1</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> milestone (End of project) - 2</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 2.1.3</p> <p>% of youth who reported as their wellbeing needs, and concerns were captured in the development of youth policies</p> <p>Disaggregated by sex, age and geographic area</p>	<p>Perception survey with targeted youth</p> <p>By end of the project</p>	<p>End of project measurement – 70 Percentage</p>

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
		(Computation: Numerator: # of youth confirmed as their concerns and needs being captured; denominator: # of youth participated/ trained by the intervention)  Baseline: 45% engaged in political participation Target: 70%		
	Output 2.2 Target state and non-state institutional platforms strengthened to promote youth responsible participation in developing cohesive, safe and healthy settings.	Output Indicator 2.2.1 # of platforms strengthened that promote youth responsible participation.  Disaggregated by types.  Baseline: 1 Target: 2	Project review reports, institutional reports and media briefs.  Annual reviews	1 <sup>st</sup> milestone (Annual) - 1  2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone (By end of project) - 2
		Output Indicator 2.2.2  % of capacitated youth leaders responsibly participating in institutional platforms.  Disaggregated by sex and age  Computation: Numerator- # of youth leaders participating; denominator: # of youth leaders trained by the intervention  Baseline: 52% Target: 70%	Project reports, observational reports  Annual reviews	1 <sup>st</sup> milestone (Annual) - 30%  2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone (End of project) - 70%
		Output Indicator 2.2.3  Baseline: Target:		