



## Annual Progress Report

# Migration MPTF ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT INFORMATION	
<b>Joint Programme Title:</b>	Strengthening border management, social cohesion, and cross-border security in the Parrot's Beak area
<b>Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):</b>	Republic of Guinea/Liberia/ Sierra Leone
<b>Project Identification Number:</b>	GN10P0521
<b>Convening UN Organization:</b>	IOM
<b>PUNO(s) (PUNOs):</b>	UNDP, WHO, ITC
<b>Key Partners:</b> <i>(include Implementing Partner)</i>	Government (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia ) Ministry of Security, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Territory Administration, Ministry of Youth, Ministry of Justice; (Regional) Mano River Union intergovernmental organization, (Local) Community Leaders, Border Security and Health personnel Civil Society: Community CSOs, Mano River Women’s Peace Network ,Ministry of Social welfare ,Ministry of Internal Affairs,Sierra Leone Immigration Department (SLID) ,National and District Trafficking in Person Task Force,Border Security and Health personnel, MOHS, Port health,UN network on Migration,Mano River Women’s Peace Network (MARWOPNET),Makona River Organization ,Joint border security and confidence building units, Border Communities. CSOs, Migrant associations, Private Sector: Afriland First Bank, Ecobank
<b>Project Period (Start – End Dates):</b>	<i>November 2020 – April 2023</i>
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	<i>January 2021- December 2021</i>
<b>Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: (breakdown by PUNO)</b>	<i>IOM (Guinea, Sierra Leone ,Liberia ):1,371,740 UNDP: 524,300 WHO: 492,200 ITC :398,040 Total:2,786,280</i>
<b>Total Funds Received To Date:</b> <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	<i>IOM (Guinea, Sierra Leone ,Liberia ):960,000 UNDP: 367,000 WHO: 344,540</i>



**Migration  
Multi-Partner  
Trust Fund**

	<i>ITC :278,628</i> <i>Total:1,950,396</i>
<b>Report Submission Date:</b>	<i>28 Febuary 2021</i>
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## Executive Summary

The overall objective of this joint programme (JP) is to **address irregular migration and support vulnerable groups by strengthening border management, social cohesion, and cross-border security** in the Parrot's Beak area (Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia). The JP aims to enhance integrated border management and promote exchanges to better control illegal activities, as well as other risks to which **border communities are particularly vulnerable**. The JP promotes an increased cooperation to : (i) reduce human trafficking and potential for sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); (ii) minimize the spread transmissible diseases ; (iii) improve cross-border social cohesion; and (iv) protect human rights.

In Guinea , the year 2021 was particularly marked by a range of outstanding issues namely the **resurgence of the Ebola virus disease**<sup>1</sup> (February 14<sup>th</sup>), cases of **COVID 19, Lassa Fever** (May 17<sup>th</sup>) the appearance of **Marburg fever** (August 9<sup>th</sup>) the 4 found in the parrot beak area (Commune of Koundou in the prefecture of Guéckédou) and a **military coup** (September 05<sup>th</sup>) that resulted in a constitutional change.

These events constituted a stumbling block in the implementation of various activities. However, it is in that context that a **cross-border meeting between the three countries of the parrot's beak area** was initiated by the National Health Agency (ANSS) and supported by the JP. Thus, **the cross-border exchange platform** between Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone was strengthened in 2021 along cross-border activities supported by the JP , in order to prevent the spread of the diseases by way of **information sharing and the strengthening the health surveillance measures** along the borders in accordance with the provisions of the International Health Regulations (RSI 2005). Spread risk analysis has demonstrated that viruses spread rapidly through border entry points. On average, the Guinean land borders register 500 to 600 passengers per day, and this mobility constituted a major risk factor for the spread of the disease.

The comprehensive focus towards achieving JP results despite the challenges encountered were covering reinforcing health surveillance especially on point of entries , strengthening cross-border security through capacity building of agents, logistical support and community awareness raising related to Trafficking In Persons (TIP), illegal activities and Gender Based Violence (GBV) , creating and revitalizing cross-border exchange platforms in the Parrot's beak . All the above is further developed in the results section below.

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<sup>1</sup> See links in annex

## Annual (or End-of Project) Progress

### 1. Summary and Context

Following the 1st annual report (November 2020 to December 2020) which mainly covered the launching of the JP, the hiring plan processes and the groundwork with relevant Ministries and partners ,great progress has been achieved despite the challenges mentioned above.

Building up on the groundwork with Ministries , a **joint field assessment** was carried out by IOM ,WHO , UNDP and ITC in February 2021 .The JP team got the opportunity to meet with the local authorities (2 prefects and 2 mayors of Macenta and Gueckédou ; 4 heads of security and defense services at the Point of entries (PoEs)) ,representatives of women and the youth to listen to their concerns and inform them on the program and its benefits . The **local authorities were engaged and fully supported the implementation of the JP.**

With the support of the three-governments and JP partners several milestones in the implementation of the project were reached among which :

- **Several trainings on areas of interest of the JP were carried out** .103 border agents were trained on prevention of GBV , 178 health workers and 30 community health surveillance volunteers on cross-border epidemiological surveillance , 50 members of joint security units(UCSRC) were trained on peace and social cohesion ,47 actors of the national committee against trafficking were trained on the identification and provision of victims of trafficking (VoT)
- **Logistical support was provided** to the National Public health institute of Liberia ,rural radio of Guekedou ,Ministry of Defense ,Health districts around PoEs
- In the midst of the COVID19 pandemic, Ebola virus Disease, Lassa Fever, Marburg fever health surveillance measures were strengthened by the JP **with trainings ,deployments of health workers ,screening services** in the three countries of the parrot's beak area.
- **Mobility and public health risk mappings** in Liberia and Guinea <sup>2</sup>
- **Cross border exchange platforms were reinforced**

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<sup>2</sup> See links in the annex



- Community engagement by the establishment of **village surveillance committees** and the initiation of **cross-border community credit unions**

Over the reporting period, the JP progressed towards project delivery , however implementation of few activities have been delayed due to the operational context in the parrot’s beak area.

## 2.Results

### OUTCOME 1

**Integrated border management capacities of Immigration and Health Authorities are strengthened to adequately address border control, health, and mobility realities.**

One of the objectives of the project is to better control risks along the parrot’s beak area , in particular GBV, illegal activities , health threats , smuggling and human trafficking to which border communities are particularly vulnerable. During this reporting period the following activities were carried out to reach the objective :

**OUTPUT 1.1. Border and health officials demonstrate better capacities to address GBV, trafficking cases, as well as detect and respond to health threats**

- In Guinea , a **training** was carried out by UNDP **from August 19 to 29, 2021 in Guéckédou and Macenta** with the aim of strengthening the capacities of identification and management of gender based violence (GBV) cases .As a result , **103 border agents** composed of security forces (police, gendarmerie, army), customs, forest cantonment, health agents and joint security units (UCSRC), the direction of social action, justice and civil society organizations **increased their knowledge** on the concept of gender, gender based violence, the provision and care of GBV.
- In the same vein, **In Liberia** two separate **community based awarenesses activities** , focused on psychosocial, mental health, sexual gender-based violence and human trafficking were conducted by IOM precisely between 7-15 May and 1- 8 December. Root causes and the role of communities in assisting government fight these social problems were covered, reaching 480 (four hundred and eighty) participants including key actors and local government leaders.
- **Cross-border meetings** enabled Guinea, Sierra Leone ,Liberia health workers to share their experiences in cross-border epidemiological surveillance. The discussions led to the development of a joint action plan for the management of entry points including cote d’ivoire and cross-border epidemiological surveillance. The workshop organized by WHO in June 2021 , on the prevention and control of infections made it possible to **train 178 health workers of all categories from public and private health structures.**
- **In Sierra Leone** , IOM organized a three-day **training on identification and protection of victims of human trafficking** for community stakeholder in the Kissy teing, Kissi kama and Kissi Teing



chiefdoms. This training provided participants with the **knowledge, skills and techniques** needed to identify victims and/or potential victims of human trafficking in providing protective services to victims within their communities. **A committee** that coordinates and supervise all human trafficking activities in the three kissi bendu chiefdoms was **set up**. In addition , **an awareness raising jingle** in local language ( Kissi and Krio) focusing on trafficking in persons was developed and is being aired three times a day over the kissi bendu radio station since October 2021 to date.

### **OUTPUT 1.2. Renovated facilities enhance monitoring of population mobility and border management and support to mobile population**

- In Guinea and Liberia , **mobility and public health risk mappings** were carried out by IOM and allowed : local authorities to **identify vulnerable sites to health threats** and formal and non-formal PoEs, to analyze the vulnerabilities linked to the risk of **disease transmission in a context of population mobility**, to build and share a **database of reference information** on high public health risk areas and to **guide decision-making** aimed at preventing, detecting and limiting the impact of public health risks.
- In close **collaboration with the Guinean Ministry of National Defense**, the project through UNDP has delivered two drone kits , together with on-board equipment (observation cameras) and related supports (batteries and other materials). Given their **reliable and long-range detection of possible threats** day and night and in all weathers at borders ,missions dedicated to defense and security forces, drones have become the technical and technological means necessary to compensate for the insufficient number of patrols in relation to the size of the area concerned. Drones are useful in border areas that are difficult to access or remote, due to their size, their endurance, the power of the technologies they carry. **15 drone remote pilots** (National Defense 6 and Police and Civil Protection 6 with 3 observers) **were trained in their use** and their deployment in the field is planned for 2022.
- Through WHO, the project is acquiring **health products** (drugs and other consumables) **for 5 district health centers Gueckedou and Macenta**. The first batch of health product is already available for the management of cases related to reproductive health, non-communicable diseases, cases of gender-based violence.

## **OUTCOME 2**

### **Trust is increased to better connect communities/migrant populations with state institutions and support systems**

The second objective of the project is to reinforce support systems along the parrot's beak , in areas of concern of the community such as trafficking , sustainable livelihoods and health, in the context of the fight against covid-19, Ebola virus disease, Lassa fever and other health threats in the area.

### **OUTPUT 2.1. Community services for sustainable livelihood are improved.**



- In Guinea , IOM conducted **epidemiological surveillance in 6 Points of Entry (PoE)** and in cross-border communities (Nongoa, Kessenie, Koundou, Kpaou, Kotizou and Badiaro), through the deployment and training of 6 flow monitoring point agents, 12 health community workers and 12 technical health workers. The epidemiological surveillance was completed with a **logistic support** in materials for epidemiological surveillance at the Prefectural Health Directorates of Macenta and Gueckédou. In addition, a **technical support** was given to the Prefectural Health Directorate through the activation of the Gueckédou Public Health Emergency Operation Center (EOC) in the fight against Marburg fever ,as a result 23 SITREPs were produced to better inform health authorities.
- In the same light, in Liberia under the umbrella of **One Health Platform, health check and screening of travelers** has been **successfully implemented** for a period of six months (July to December 2021) with 20 Communities Health Assistants and volunteers (two CHAs/CHVs assigned at each PoE) performing traveler’s health screening, supervised by three District Ports of Entry and a Data Officer charged with the responsibility of consolidating information related to these activities for real time reporting. The functionalities of these twenty-four volunteers were strengthened through the provision of necessary onsite mentorship trainings for effective performance, **Infectious Disease Preventions and Control (IPCs)** materials and monthly in cash and communications allowances.
- In Sierra Leone, the project **has trained and deployed 30 community health surveillance volunteers** in the Kissi Tongi . These community volunteers were trained on the skills, techniques and knowledge needed for **effective community health surveillance and referral mechanism**. The trainings were facilitated by personnel of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation. The timely reporting of suspected health cases at community level, will help the ministry of health and sanitation **to prevent the spread of communicable and other infectious diseases in the parrot beak area** . To further support community health surveillance, awareness raising in form of jingle in local language (in Kissi and Krio )focusing on covid prevention and control of other communicable diseases developed and is being aired on radio.
- In Guinea, ITC is under the process of operationalizing a **trade information desk** at the border between Guinea and Sierra Leone to assist traders complying with cross-border requirements. from 14 to 22 June 2021 the project conducted a **mission** to carry-out a rapid appraisal of the situation in collaboration with WACTAF and secured approval from national and local authorities to ensure the efficiency of the action. Subsequently, the action developed a handbook *“Facilitating trade to formalize cross-border trade flows”*, intended primarily to **train Trade Information Desk Officers** that will be stationed at selected borders across the West Africa Region, including at Guéckédou.
- In addition , in order to build **capacity of cross-border trade monitoring agencies**,the Action focused on collecting testimonial, insight and practical experience of small-scale cross-border traders and local communities in their interactions with civil servants and in particular Border Regulatory Agencies: customs and SPS with the rapid appraisal and establishment of the Trade Information Desk in Guéckédou which will be used as groundwork in upcoming activities. Accordingly, the Action **initiated the work to develop a tailored 2/3-day training on risk management and detection of illegal goods** for representatives of customs and SPS agencies with the view to facilitate safe cross-border trade in the Parrot's Beak area.

## OUTPUT 2.2 Communities are informed about health and other human rights risks and referral mechanisms

- In Guinea, 43 key actors (police officers, gendarmes and social workers) of the National Committee for the Fight against Trafficking in Persons and Similar Practices (CNLTPPA) **are trained on the identification and referencing of victims of trafficking**, the training was carried out by IOM in November 2021, the results of post test surveys showed that there was an increase from 10% to 78 % in knowledge on trafficking thematics.
- Simultaneously, a **mapping of vulnerable groups and existing resources in terms of mental health and psychosocial support** in the sub-prefecture of Koundou, health district of Gueckedou(Guinea) was carried out highlighting the big gaps in terms of needs related to psychosocial support and mental health awareness, the diagnosis will contribute to identify the priorities for the subsequent phase.
- In addition, a **health system performance assessment study** in Koundou, Guéckédou sub-prefecture was produced. The study served to identify detailed information on the **strengths and weaknesses of the health system** with regard to the six (6) pillars of the health system, to reach a consensus between the actors on the strengths and weaknesses observed and the priority actions to be implemented, and to propose a plan to improve the resilience of the health system.
- In Liberia, a **community engagement activity on psychosocial and public health awareness** was conducted over two phases with a total first hearing audience of 440 influential community's actors, including local government, school, religious, traditional, youth and women leaders, clinical personal (Officer-in-Charge) and joint border post commanders and official Ports of entry (Mendicorma, Foay Tengia, Worsongar, Sorlumba, Barkadu, Blogidu, Konadu, Sufudu, Kpassigizzie, Lawalazu and Yealla). With the objective of promoting psychosocial and mental health awareness to support vulnerable groups but also for the participants to serve as foot messengers to assist their respective communities act and address issues, through information sharing that allows rapid detection and activation of response mechanism.

### OUTCOME 3

#### Cross-border social cohesion is improved among Parrot's Beak communities

In order to improve social cohesion among the parrot's beak communities', activities related to exchanges of relevant information between the appropriate institutions and members of the community, cross-border dialogues, economic inclusion and the creation of joint socio-cultural activities were proposed in the project.

#### Output 3.1 Cross-border security is enhanced through regular dialogues and relevant information sharing among appropriate institutions and community members

- A **training workshop** was held by UNDP from September 11 to 17, 2021 in Gueckedou, Guinea on the concept of border security, peace and social cohesion with the security joint units (UCSRC) in order to better play their mission and role while strengthening security and peace. Various themes related to social cohesion were tackled: the culture of peace, the place of gender in border management, conflict management, Communication and Advocacy and inform the 50 members of the UCSRC and resource persons, the provisions on human rights violations and GBV. The security joint units (UCSRCs of Nongoa, Ouendé kénéma, Fangamadou





and Tékoulo (Guéckédou) and Daro (Macenta) have benefited from a **logistical support** (forty-five mobile phones and 5 desktop computers with printers and accessories) to **enhance communication** with between the stakeholders.

- In complementarity, **village surveillance committees** in the 15 most frequented districts **were established with 75 members among which 15 women**. The village surveillance committees are bodies that play an important role in the circulation of information; whether it is to obtain them, to disseminate the laws among their fellow citizens or to inform the authorities of the situation in their district.
- The project has **set up a partnership with rural radio** on the production of **interactive programs on specific themes** related to the preservation of the achievements of peace and social cohesion in the region. In the field, it has been observed that the rural radio station of Guéckédou offers the advantage of broadcasting for the entire prefecture of Guéckédou, some communes of Macenta such as Panziazou, but also followed in Sierra Leone (from 25 km) and in Liberia (4km) in the local language Kissia with programs in English. Unlike the Lola community radio station as initially proposed which only broadcasts within a radius of 5 km. The project provided the radio with **logistical support** to increase its transmission capacity (transmission radius, such as Stereo transmitter, Office computers audio consoles with 8 inputs, 1 hybrid telephone with echo cancel ration, motorbike, headphones, master output, Multiservice printer, etc) As of December more than 15 thematics were broadcasted ( *Living together in peace, History and intercommunity pacts of the area, Revitalization of pacts and alliances in the Communities, youth migration, empowerment of women , civics and citizenship, etc.* )
- in a context of building trust between cross-border communities and security services, a **cross-border meeting** between Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone on social cohesion was organized by IOM in Nzerekore region with the participation of 47 people. The meeting was a **platform** to discuss community activities to be carried out in the context of social cohesion, set up information and communication tools for cross-border communities and develop an action plan to facilitate the implementation of activities.

### **Output 3.2 Cross-border community stabilization and cohesion straightened through joint socio-cultural activities and economic inclusion**

- In Guinea ,UNDP initiated **cross-border community credit unions** (in consultation with financial institutions) to **enhance economic inclusion and empowerment**, especially among women and youth. To do this, the project conducted an **organizational assessment of women's groups** in the urban commune of Guéckédou and in the rural communes of Nongoa and Koundou, to select those that best meet the criteria (general information, structure, organization , partnership and financial management) for proper functioning in order to organize them and migrate to village savings and credit cooperative. 111 people including 15 women's groups mobilizing 70 women, were assessed in the urban commune of Guéckédou, rural communes of Nongoa and Koundou.



Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Baseline	Results achieved for the reporting period (only provide data for the specified year)			Cumulative Results <i>Note: For Y1 report, this will be the same; For Y2 report, it will be Y1+Y2; and for Y3 report, it will be Y1+Y2+Y3</i>	Notes
		Y1 Nov-Dec 2020	Y2 Jan-Dec 2021	Y3		
<b>OUTCOME 1</b> Integrated border management capacities of Immigration and Health Authorities are strengthened to adequately address border control, health, and mobility realities.						
Indicator 1a. Percentage of migration and health personnel in the identified target area indicating an improvement in the level of border management on matters of security, health and trade	TBD	TBD	100%			
Indicator 1b. Percentage of migration and health personnel in the identified target area indicating an increased level of addressing mobility realities such as	TBD	TBD	100%			

identifying victims of trafficking and illicit activities.						
<b>OUTPUT 1.1</b> Border and health officials demonstrate better capacities to address GBV, trafficking cases, as well as detect and respond to health threats						
Indicator 1.1a. Percentage of trainees who have mastered relevant knowledge in addressing GBV, trafficking cases, as well as detect and respond to health threats	0	0	100%			All the trainees have increased their knowledge from 10 to 78 % compared to the pre test.
Indicator 1.1b: Number of cohesive strategies for integrated border	0	10	N/A			Discussions are ongoing with MRU to better select among the many existing strategies, which ones should be reinforced.
Indicator 1.1c Number of border and health officials trained in different thematic (illegal trading, SGBV, trafficking, Epidemic health)	0	0	281			178 people were trained on PCI in collaboration with the partner Expertise France(WHO) and 103 border officials have been trained on VBG
Indicator 1.1d Number of integrated border management inter-governmental dialogue conducted	0	0	0			Discussions are ongoing to hold an intergovernmental dialogue with the Ministers in Liberia, Sierra

						Leone, Guinea and key actors in migration management
<b>OUTPUT 1.2</b> Renovated facilities enhance monitoring of population mobility and border management and support to mobile population						
Indicator 1.2a Number of border posts/facilities renovated and equipped	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			The 3border post to rehabilitate have been identified and site visits with engineers have been scheduled.
Indicator 1.2b Number of health-related population Mapping and visits reports mobility mapping exercise conducted in targeted areas	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>			3 mobility mapping have been produced and a study on the 6 pillars of the reinforcement of health systems.
Indicator 1.2.c Percentage of border officials trained who have a good knowledge and/or capacity in using modern communication and surveillance equipment including UAVs	<b>TBD</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>			the border official trained had no knowledge on using and capturing surveillance footage prior the training
Number of border officials trained in modern communication and using surveillance equipment including UAVs	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>			A drone remote pilot training was carried out with the participation of 10 border officials.

<p><b>OUTCOME 2 Trust is increased to better connect communities/migrant populations with state institutions and support systems</b></p>						
<p>Indicator 2a. % Community impression of the quality and availability of support services of institutions (data disaggregated by age, sex, target zone and county)</p>	<p><b>TBD</b></p>					
<p>Indicator 2b. % of local authorities and community members in the identified target area indicating awareness about EPD and referral mechanisms (disaggregated data by age, sex, target area and country)</p>	<p><b>TBD</b></p>					
<p><b>OUTPUT 2.1. Community services for sustainable livelihood are improved</b></p>						
<p>Indicator 2.1a Number of community services that support improved options for sustainable</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>32</b></p>			<p>32 healthcare structures have benefited from infection prevention products.</p>

livelihoods, including enhanced cross-border trade activity.						Discussions have been initiated with border regulatory agency in order to improve options for cross-border trade activity.
Indicator 2.1b Number of cross-border trade mechanisms improved by removal of non-tariff trade barriers	0	0	0			Testimonial, insight and practical experience of small-scale cross-border traders and local communities in their interactions with civil servants and in particular Border Regulatory Agencies were collected in order to establish a Trade Information desk.
Indicator 2.1c Number of the Guinea National Committee trained for Fight against Trafficking and Sexual Gender Based Violence in border areas	0	0	43			43 participants from Gueckedou, Macenta, Daro, Koundou, Nzerekore
Indicator 2.1.d. Percentage of cross border trade monitoring staff who demonstrate good knowledge to better identify illegal activities	TBD	0	0			ITC is developing a tailored training on risk management and detection of illegal goods for representatives of customs and SPS agencies
Output Indicator 2.1e. Number of cross border trade monitoring agencies trained to identify illegal activities	0	0	0			ITC is developing a tailored training on risk management and detection of illegal goods for representatives of customs and SPS agencies

<p><b>OUTPUT 2.2.</b> <b>Communities are informed about health and other human rights risks and referral mechanisms</b></p>						
<p>Indicator 2.2a Number of awareness raising activities organized about health and other human rights risks and referral mechanisms</p>	0	0	8			<p>440 influential community's actors, including local government, school, religious, traditional, youth and women leaders, clinical personal and joint border post commanders from these communities' public clinics and official Ports of entry were reached. radio shows and jingles in local languages on human rights, health and security were also broadcasted.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2b. Number of victims of trafficking/SGBV who present for medical and other support services</p>	0	0	0			<p>A referral mechanism of VoT is being set up with the national committee for medical support and other services.</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 3</b> <b>Cross-border social cohesion is improved among Parrot's Beak communities</b> Indicator 3a Community</p>	TBD					



member perception of social cohesion in the identified target area (disaggregated data by age, sex, target area and country)						
Indicator 3b Community members perception of economic inclusion in the identified target (disaggregated data by age, sex, target area and country)	<b>TBD</b>					
<b>Output 3.1 Cross-border security is enhanced through regular dialogues and relevant information sharing among appropriate institutions and community members</b>						
Output Indicator 3.1a: Number of communities based cross-border meetings organized	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>			The cross-border meetings organized resulted in creating an action plan of the joint security units but also establish 15 village monitoring committees with 75 members including 15 women
Output Indicator 3.1b: Number of community awareness events organized to inform communities on reporting	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>			20 radio broadcasts, 6 reports ,48 reruns and production of jingles .

of security and human rights issues, including trafficking and illegal sales of controlled substances.						
<b>Output 3.2 Cross-border community stabilization and cohesion strengthened through joint socio-cultural activities and economic inclusion</b>						
Output Indicator 3.2a: Number of cross-border social cohesion activities conducted	0	0	0			To be carried out in the next reporting period.
Output Indicator 3.2b: Number of financial support mechanisms created for youth and women to enhance economic inclusion and trade potential.	0	0	2			Creation of 03 cooperative groups for youth and women, Partnership with financial institutions
Output Indicator 3.2c: Number of Covid 19 economic and social impacts study conducted for the targeted area.	0	0	1			
Output Indicator 3.2d: Number of small and medium enterprises who benefit/receive financial support to improve their activities and income	0	0	0			To be carried out in the next reporting period.

## Partnerships

On top of the partner Ministries in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, the joint program has obtained the support of the local authorities, border communities (village surveillance committees) and community-based organisations in the areas of implementation.

Since the start of the JP, agencies were working closely with the Mano River Union, Mano River Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET), Makona River Organization, Joint border security and confidence building units, CSOs, Migrant associations.

Over this reporting period more partnerships were fostered such as the West African Association for Cross-Border Trade in Agro-forestry-pastoral and Fisheries Products (WACTAF), the National Public Health Institute of Liberia, Border regulatory agencies, African Union Border management project and Gueckedou rural radio.

## Cross-Cutting Issues

Gender considerations are being incorporated into all project tools (i.e., activity plan, reporting and monitoring tools in terms of number of beneficiaries, evaluation surveys). Furthermore, the JP reinforced health structures through provision of health products for reproductive health, gender-based violence

As an illustration, in order to strengthen social protection, authorized students and children of school ages are often invited to participate in **tailored awareness activities**, with the intend to build their knowledge and understanding of the various kinds of violations, abuses and other social issues including sexual and gender-based violence and human trafficking. This serves as an early warning mechanism, as children and young people are often prime target and victims of the human right violence and social issues particularly around border communities. Human rights aspects have also been incorporated in the different training modules of border post agents (customs officers, immigration officers, security agents, etc)

Marker Questions <sup>34</sup>	
<p><b>Human Rights Marker Score (A, B, C or N/A if none applies)</b></p> <p>Which of the following human rights marker applies to your proposal?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The Human Rights Marker has largely been achieved</p> <p><b>B:</b> The Human Rights Marker shows significant integration of human rights in the joint programme, but some challenges remain.</p> <p><b>C:</b> The Human Rights Marker shows a very partial integration of human rights in the joint programme</p> <p><i>Please refer to the Migration MPTF Human Rights Marker Guidance Note, Annex: Self-Assessment Matrix</i></p>	B

### Innovation, Good Practices and Lessons Learned

The Parrot's Beak is a traditional cross-border conflict prevention area where the United Nations System (UNS) has previously intervened. The activities of the project evolve in the footsteps of lesson learned and good practices from previous interventions which brings complementarity dynamics to maximize the results (reinforcement of the UCSRC, equipment).

The judicious choices of participants in the various training courses, namely (i) border agents made up of security forces (police, gendarmerie, army), customs, forest cantonment, health agents, (ii) joint border security units , (iii) the prefectural directorates of social action and those of youth, (iv) local elected officials, (v) representatives of women and young people, (vi) justice and (vii) civil society are pledges with multiplier effects for a better application of human rights and an effective fight against border abuses.

The introduction of border surveillance by drones is an innovation not yet adopted by other countries in the sub-region. It is certain that this will have a ripple effect in several countries. Because, over the past ten years, the importance of border areas has increased for armed groups. The prevention of illegal immigration, smuggling, human trafficking, including gender-based violence and of terrorism which are a real concern of governments.

## Challenges Encountered and Measures Taken

Due to COVID 19, its variants, the Ebola virus disease and Marburg fever in the region, the JP has doubled the health protection measures by sometimes conducting individual or restricted interviews to the detriment of focus groups. On the other hand, this method made it possible to collect information without any influence from administrative authorities.

In addition, adjustments such as demotions, replacements of prefects were made in the government after the coup in Guinea which required additional efforts to keep the ongoing momentum.

Furthermore, between 2014 and 2016, the Joint Security and Trust Restoration Units made a valuable contribution to raising awareness, providing information, and ensuring the security of cross-border communities. Nowadays, there is a very low level of operationalization of the UCSRC, the departure of members not replaced, the non-availability of certain equipment received and poor knowledge of the texts governing the UCSRC. The project has therefore adapted its support to the needs identified through training on the roles and missions of the UCSRCs, conflict management, communication and advocacy, the provision of legal texts and support for their application, the allocation of small equipment: mobile phones, computers and printers, the organization of two monthly meetings with the prefectural authority and the establishment and training of village surveillance committees.

## Conclusion and Next Steps

Overall, the project activities implementation has been good in preparing communities actors for public health emergencies, strengthening security, social cohesion, migration management and has enabled the Ministry of Health to revitalize cross-border collaboration for the epidemiological surveillance of diseases. Existing platforms were associated with activities and served to harmonize approaches to strengthen this collaboration in the spirit of the International Health Regulation (IHR)

In 2022, the project intends to deliver most of the activities proposed in the JP such as:

- Introducing the Trade Information Desk in Guéckédou (followed by a communication campaign) which will be administered in a sustainable manner by members of cross-border trade association of cross-border traders is an innovation in the sub-region which will have a ripple effect in countries benefiting from trade flows transiting in Guéckédou (i.e., Mali, Sénégal, Liberia and Sierra Leone).
- Building the capacity of the districts concerned on the management of health data and the training of health workers on reproductive health, gender-based violence and vulnerability.
- The rehabilitation of 3 border posts
- Reinforcing credit cooperative groups to be autonomous by supporting economic activities
- The reintegration of VoTs and GBV abuse

ANNEX

1. Pictures



*Training of border officials and local elected officials on the identification and management of gender-based violence (Guéckédou)*



*Mobility and risk mapping conducted in june2021,Guekedou*



*Practical exercise in dressing and undressing in a contaminated area, Gueckedou June 2021*



*Practical training for drone pilots*



*Health surveillance training at the border Kailahun, Sierra Leone*



*Border community engagement, Liberia*



## **2.Mapping**

Mapping 1 -Click [here](#)

Mapping 2-Click [here](#)

## **3.Media links**

Ebola (click [here](#)) and Marburg outbreak ( Click [Here](#))

Cross-border meetings on national TV ([Click Here](#))

## **4.Testimonies**

Click [here](#)