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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** **SOUTH SUDAN**

**TYPE OF REPORT: FINAL REPORT**

**YEAR of report: 2023**

**Project overview**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Title: YOUTH ACTION FOR REDUCED VIOLENCE AND ENHANCED SOCIAL COHESION IN WAU, SOUTH SUDAN**  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** **00118940** | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** | **Type and name of recipient organizations:**  **IOM (Convening Agency)**  **UNESCO** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 2 December 2019  **Project end date:** 28 November 2022  **Has this project received a cost or no cost extension?** **Yes. Received Cost and No Cost Extension**  **Will this project be requesting a cost or no-cost extension?** **No**  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** | |
| **Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:**  Gender promotion initiative  Youth promotion initiative  Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions  Cross-border or regional project | |
| **Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):**   * *Please enter the total amounts in US dollars allocated to each recipient organization* * *Please enter the original budget amount, amount transferred to date and estimated expenditure by recipient.* * *For cross-border projects, group the amounts by agency, even where transfers are made to different country offices. You can provide the detail in the attached budget.*  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Recipient organisation** | **Budget Allocated ($)** | **Amount Transferred to date ($)** | **Amount spent to date ($)** | | **IOM** | **$1,922,095** | **$1,922,095** | **$1,804,057.87** | | **UNESCO** | **$865,650** | **$865,650** | **$708,907.9** | | **TOTAL** | **$2,787,745** | **$2,787,745** | **$2,512,966** |   Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: **96%**    \*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\*  **The budget templates are available** [**here**](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/application-guidelines)  **Implementing partners**  To how many implementing partners has the project transferred money to date? 5  Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each to date   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | ***Name of Implementing Partner*** | ***Type of Organisation (ex. Govt, civil society, etc.)*** | ***What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner to date*** | ***Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner (175 words)*** | | Community Empowerment for Progress Organization(CEPO) | Civil Society Organization | $320,000 | Vocational skills development; advocacy for and capacity development for youth involvement in decision-making platforms; mobilized youth for social cohesion promotion through arts and sports; and organized youth for public benefit works. | | SIHA | Civil Society Organization | $50,000 | Participatory action research with youth at risk on gender and peacebuilding; design of gender transformative approach; pilot of gender transformative approach among youth at risk; community awareness-raising on gender and peacebuilding. | | Inclusive Education Development Initiative (IEDI) | National non-governmental organization | $ 88,275 | Mobile community theatres to sensitize communities on youth contributions; radio programming to sensitize people against stigmatization; provided platform for youth to express themselves; created forums for youth to interact with leaders: commissioner, governor, and security forces; facilitate intergenerational dialogue involving youth and traditional leaders; organized civic education sessions; provide training on conflict transformation and leadership; functional literacy program | | Across Africa Development Organization (AADO) | National non-governmental organization | $ 97,669 | Facilitated mapping of out of school children; organized back to learning campaigns; facilitate out of school youth to enrol in education programs; organized functional adult literacy classes in combination with soft skills, entrepreneurial competences, and gender transformative approach and awareness; provision of learning and visibility materials. | | Women Advancement Organization (WAO) | National non-governmental organization | $ 235,078.12 | Undertook market assessment to identify sectors of vocational and skills training; conduct TVET skills development for youth at risk; procure and distribute start-up kits for participants who complete the training; support trained youth to increase their potential for long term success through mentorship of individual and group. | | Community Needs Initiative (CNI) | National non-governmental organization | $ 48,096 | Vocational skills development: support to the Youth Training Centre by provision of equipment and tools including start-up kits to enable youth to establish small businesses and enterprises |   **Gender-responsive Budgeting:**  Indicate what percentage (%) of the budget contributes gender equality or women's empowerment (GEWE)? **63.28%**  Indicate dollar amount from the project document to contribute to gender equality or women’s empowerment: $**1605737.44**  Amount expended to date on efforts contributing to gender equality or women’s empowerment: **$1771150.55** | |
| **Project Gender Marker:** **2**  **Project Risk Marker: Medium**  **Project PBF focus area: 2.3 Conflict Management** | |
| **Steering Committee and Government engagement**  Does the project have an active steering committee?  NO  If yes, please indicate how many times the Project Steering Committee has met over the last 6 months?  N/A  *Please provide a brief description of any engagement that the project has had with the government over the last 36 months? Please indicate what level of government the project has been engaging with? (275 words max.)*  In the first-half of 2022, IOM through the project, collaborated with UNESCO and the National Ministry of Youth and Sports to support nationwide consultative processes towards development of the South Sudan National Youth Strategy. The project supported consultative forums both at State and grassroot levels which enabled the youth to participate and get their voices included in the development of National Youth Strategy. Further, from 2020-2023 UNESCO and IOM established strong collaboration with Ministries of Education and Labour who provided technical guidance and support on components related to Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) and other relevant outputs.  From inception in 2019, the project engaged stakeholders both at the sub-national and local levels including seven (7) government entities which accompanied the project planning and implementation processes for the entire project lifecycle. These included the Office of the State Governor, and Ministries responsible for Youth, Peacebuilding, Gender, Education, and Internal Security. In addition, the Project worked closely with the Office of Mayor for Wau Municipality and community-based authorities including Block Administrators, chiefs, and community leaders to engage the youth in the various project interventions. The involvement of government entities resulted into substantial buy-in of the project, improved relationship and enhanced interaction between youth and state actors. Broader results from government - partners engagements include re-establishment of revitalized joint working group on Youth Empowerment in late 2021 and formation of Youth Peace Ambassadors Forum as mechanisms for project sustainability in September 2022. Further, in October 2022, the State government and the Municipality administration also adopted the proposals presented by the youth detailing their socio-economic and socio-cultural challenges and recommendations, as basis for future planning and implementation. | |
| **Report preparation**  Project report prepared by: Benjamin Moore  Project report approved by: MOSER Colleen  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: | |

**PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

**Please rate the implementation status of the following preliminary/preparatory activities** *(Not Started, Initiated, partially Completed, Completed, Not applicable):*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contracting of Partners: | **Completed** |
| Staff Recruitment | **Completed** |
| Collection of baselines | **Completed** |
| Identification of beneficiaries | **Completed** |

*Provide any additional descriptive information relating to the status of the project, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (250 word limit):*

In overall, the project completed all preliminary/preparatory activities during the inception phase of the project (Dec 2019-May 2020). IOM and UNESCO brough on board all categories of the project staff (managers, specialist and general staff) both at country level and the field location targeted by the project. Further the partners concluded project partnership agreements with six (6) local organizations including CEPO, SIHA, IEDI, AADO,WAO and CNI(refer to section on implementing partners above for more details).The local partners brought onboard a rich understanding of local context and prior comparative competencies on various aspect of the project including interaction with gang groups and ,GBV interventions among others. Further, project partners secured the buy-in and active support of different government line ministries including ministries responsible for youth, peacebuilding, gender, education, national security and local government among others. The project also fostered close collaboration with Office of the State Governor (Western Bahr el Ghazal State) and the Office of the Mayor (Wau Municipality) which leads the local administrators like Chiefs who are an important entry points and opinion influencers at community level. Additionally, project identified and fostered engagements with fifty-four (54) Youth Gang groups in Wau town.

All project activities were completed, and achievements are highlighted as below:

Through the Mental Health and Psychosocial support (MHPSS) intervention, 300 beneficiaries recovered from previous emotional distress and developed new positive coping strategies. Additionally, 114 previously alienated youth experienced reconciliation with and reintegrated back into their families.

The project empowered and deployed 400 graduates of gender transformative training to work as community influencers, with an aim of contributing to reduction in gender-based violence and challenging negative gender norms and practices. 579 youths who were previously confronted with economic hardship, redundancy and alienation are now productive actors in positive socio-economic and livelihood activities and contributors to own and their families’ well-being because of participating in project’s local socio-economic and livelihood activities.

The project empowered young men and women to meaningfully and effectively engage with both state and community level leadership on issues critical to youth empowerment and inclusion in decision-making processes. As a result, the local authorities created new spaces for youth participation in decision-making processes at different levels in the community including the Ministry of Youth Affairs revitalizing a Joint Working Group on Youth Empowerment as a platform for stakeholders to take forward and replicate gains made under PBF-supported project and other initiatives focused on youth empowerment.

IOM also contributed to significant transformation of community perception towards the youth through sports activities, radio outreach programs, community theatre performance, and public good initiative. Youth were supported to engage in constructive endeavours which serve public interests and demonstrate their positive contribution in the community. Consequently, the entire state and the community level leadership, including chiefs and security focal points, have positively embraced the youths, and shown greater openness, acceptance, and willingness to engage them in constructive problem-solving initiatives.

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize **the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. *This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (550 word limit): N/A*

**PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME**

**How many outcomes does the project have?** **Four Outcomes**

**Outcome 1:** **Emotional distress and use of violence among youth at risk are reduced through positive coping strategies at individual, family and community levels**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(350 word limit)*

According to project monitoring reports, three hundred youth (300;138M;162F) youth supported by the project recovered from previous emotional distress and developed new positive coping strategies at the individual, family, and community levels and another one hundred and fourteen (114;53M;61F) cases reported experiencing reconciliation with their families. The youth also indicated positive transformation on how they perceived themselves and their coping mechanisms on daily life situations. *Medina, 19years female youth from Hai Kosti in Wau, expressed appreciation for the psychosocial support sessions which enabled her to process the difficulties she had with her parents and to reconcile with her family. She now engages in small business and contributes to meeting needs of her family.* The emotional recovery among the youth has also been evidenced by youth adopting positive initiatives including taking up voluntary roles in different public initiatives such as helping in-shelter rehabilitation for vulnerable community members, including unaccompanied elderly persons and persons with disability.

The prevailing cultural and social norms in South Sudan hinder women from participating in public matters and taking up leadership roles at all levels. The project addressed this gender-related challenge, by empowering forty (40) young women with knowledge and skills training so that they are able to take up leadership roles and influence decision-making by speaking about challenges affecting women during community meetings. The young women received trainings that enhanced their leadership skills and confidence levels to enable them to become more assertive in the community especially on issues related to peacebuilding and gender equality. Project monitoring reports indicate that some of the trained young women have continued to demonstrate assertiveness and confidence by speaking about women challenges in community forums, such as Chief’s neighbourhood meetings.

At the project onset, a gender transformative approach was deployed to enable target communities go through reflection and accountability for behaviours to themselves, families and communities and project conducted dialogues to address issues of power, violence, identity and social norms. The gender discourses aimed to alter the way that individuals and communities value women and girls, and views that accept violence against them. Three hundred and fifty-two (352; aged between 18-25years; 176M;176F) graduates of gender transformative approach were empowered and deployed to work as youth and community influencers and monitoring reports indicate that the approach has continued to gain traction in the community Youth participants reported that their targeted local communities are experiencing reduction of gender-related violence and promotion of non-violence at the interpersonal and community levels. Additionally, the gender transformative initiative led to emergence of “Youth Friendly Group for Development” in Wau which brought together previously adversarial youth gang groups into one peace-oriented heterogeneous group; thus, contributed to reduction of inter-group violence in the community.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(350 word limit)*

Due to differing contextual understanding and barriers of reporting GBV, gaining an accurate picture of prevalence and experience of GBV remain a challenge in context such as South Sudan. Participatory action research, was thus conducted to gain a better understanding of the context which incorporates the needs and experiences of young men and women. The exercise confirmed the existence of harmful masculinities and gender inequitable norms that underpin violence. The key findings informed the development of gender transformative curriculum that was adapted to address harmful masculinities, inequitable gender norms and power imbalance by instilling understanding on issues of gender, power and equality.

The gender transformative approach interventions generated direct positive impact in the community. For example, before the project, youth gangs/groups from the Eastern Bank area of Wau were always involved in violent conflict with groups from the Western side of Wau town. Following the implementation of gender transformative sessions, groups from the two sides reconciled and started living in harmony with each other resulting in reduction of inter-group violence. In July 2021, nine groups of young men and women from various corners of Wau organised a Peace Concert on their own to demonstrate togetherness and social cohesion among them. During the event, the groups resolved to form a joint committee that would coordinate all groups to show their unity in promoting peace and refraining from violence and to cease all hostilities so that members of all groups can move freely without obstruction and resulting violence.

This peace party is an illustration of the project’s impact in reducing youth gang-related violence, especially because the engagements happened organically without the involvement of project partners. The youth facilitated the activities on their initiative, which shows that when given the knowledge and skills, youth engagement can act as a catalyst for peace and security.

***Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 1 in the table below***

| **Outcome Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome Indicator 1 a: % of improvement in well-being of people who participate in supportive activities and report on reduced emotional distress levels | Baseline: 64% | Target: 74% (10% of improvement in well-being of people who participate in supportive activities and report on reduced emotional distress levels) | 76% (WHO well-being index) (a 12% of improvement in well-being of people who participate in supportive activities and report on reduced emotional distress levels) | Target realized |
| Outcome Indicator 1b % of youth who believe the use of violence is never justified to resolve conflict | Baseline: 57% | Target: 77% | 96% | Over achieved to the continuous engagement of youth and other relevant stakeholders. |

**How many Outputs does Outcome 1 have? 3**

*Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 1 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators*

**Output 1.1: Psychosocial Support is provided for female and male at-risk youth and Youth gang members, affected families and their respective communities**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 1.1.1 Number of female and male youth, and respective family members provided with focused mental health and psychosocial support services (individual and group) | 0 | 200 youth (direct beneficiaries) and 400 community members | 679 (Youth-136 male; 218 females.  Guardians 88 male; 237 females. | This was achieved due to high demand for MHPSS by the youth. |

**Output 1.2: Youth and community leaders are engaged in a series of dialogues on communications, relationships, and masculinity, including the use of violence at community level and against women**

| Output Indicators | Indicator Baseline | End of project Indicator Target | Indicator progress to Date | Reasons for Variance/ Delay  (if any) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 1.2.1  # Youth and community leaders attend dialogue sessions on communication, relationships, and positive masculinity | 0 | 200 | 352 (176 male and 176 female) | Overachieved due to the high demand, continuous and intensive engagement of the communities |

**Output 1.3: Young women are engaged through leadership and confidence building activities**

| Output Indicators | Indicator Baseline | End of project Indicator Target | Indicator progress to Date | Reasons for Variance/ Delay  (if any) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 1.3.1  % Increase in young women’s empowerment | 35% | 65% (BL+ 30% increase in young women’s empowerment) | 75% (40% increase in young women’s empowerment realized) | Target achieved |

**Outcome 2: - Youth increase their positive social and economic engagement in their communities**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(350 word limit)*

Project supported five hundred and seventy-nine (579; 299M,280F) youths to integrate in the local socio-economic activities through vocational, trade, and entrepreneurial skills development and provision of start-up kits for small enterprises. Atleast 75% of the project beneficiaries have continued to grow and sustain small enterprises including retail shops, tailoring, and clothing shops, beadwork and embroidery articles shops, bakery, welding and fabrication workshop, and carpentry and joinery services.

Twenty-five (25) female youth, trained in hair dressing and beauty therapy now operate a saloon in Wau which is currently earning them a regular monthly income of about 150,000 – 200,000 SSP approximately U$250-U$300.



Figure 1: Salon operated by TVET graduates in Wau town

Another supported group which operates culinary and hospitality service has so far won three (3) local tenders to provide catering services for different events hosted by state government and civil society organizations. Further, a tailoring group was engaged by the State Ministry of Science and Technology make school uniforms for four (4) government supported primary schools in Wau town. In addition, TVET beneficiaries also ventured into production of local soap, shampoo, and body lotions which are sold in the local market while about 60 youths are now employed as skilled workers in the job market of Wau.

The creation of employment opportunities and earning of income by youth has consequently resulted into, youth reporting improved self-esteem, confidence, and self-acceptance. Feedback from parents and guardians also indicated that the youth are making significant contribution to improving livelihood conditions in their households.

The integration of over 500 youth in socio-economic activities and small businesses motivated other youths attached to gangs to stop criminal activities, which has significantly led to reduction in crime and delinquency activities thus making communities safer and peaceful. The demand for TVET and business skills subsequently increased among young people and relevant state ministries have since prioritized plans for scaling-up similar interventions targeting more youth in Wau town as well as in other counties and Payams within the State.

Functional literacy skills combined with soft skills such as social cognitive skills, emotional regulation, interpersonal problem-solving, conflict management skills, control of stress response, goal-setting and attainment, career counselling and mentoring services were also offered to TVET beneficiaries aim at enhancing knowledge and preparing TVET learners for employment search.



Graduation ceremony of vocational skills trainees attended by State officials from Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Primarily challenge witnessed in the period April 2020- May 2021 involved closure of most institutions of learning due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Project adapted to the altered circumstances by supporting beneficiaries gain the needed skills in smaller groups under settings approved by Ministry of Health where social distancing and health safety was observed.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(350 word limit)*

The focus of the project was predominantly on male and female youth in all its activities. Project partners and stakeholders were briefed from the initial stage on the imperative of ensuring inclusion and participation of both young male and young female beneficiaries during the identification, selection and implementation processes of the project . This imperative was consistently observed and upheld throughout the project intervention; hence the project included a balanced number of young male and young females in all its activities. This split has been achieved by, among other things, including youth benefitting from TVET activities in the gender transformative sessions.

***Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 2 in the table below***

* *If the outcome has more than 3 indicators, select the 3 most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight.*
* *Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (3000 characters max per entry)*

| **Outcome Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome Indicator 2 a  % youth with verifiable social and economic initiatives/projects facilitated by the livelihood assistance provided | Baseline: 51% | Target: 71% | 65% | COVID-19 negatively impacted business environment and some of the youth supported to engage in business did not succeed well. |
| Outcome Indicator 2 b  % of youth who report increased self-esteem and enhanced self-reliance outside of crime activities | Baseline: 57% | Target: 77 % | 66% | COVID-19 negatively impacted business environment and some of the youth supported to engage in business did not succeed well |

**How many Outputs does Outcome 2 have? 3 outputs**

*Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 2 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators*

**Output 2.1: Male and female youth receive vocational training, small business trainings, and start up kits combined with soft skills development and socio-emotional competencies**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 2.1.1  # of youth provided with business skills and start-up kits (disaggregated by age and sex) | 0 | 200 | 196 (113 male and 83 female) | Target partially achieved. Only 98% of target achieved as 4 beneficiaries of business training dropped out of the course mid-way and could not be replaced |
| Indicator 2.1.2  Number of youth participating in TVET provided | 0 | 410 | 383 (197 male;186 female) | Project scaled down number of training participants in compliance with COVID-19 regulations which limited number of persons allowed to interact in a single space. |
| Indicator 2.1.3  # of youth linked with job and internship opportunities | 0 | 100 | 50 (30 male and 20 female) | COVID-19 impacts reduced the absorption capacities of employers |

**Output 2.2: Youth capacity built in life skills, organizational management and socio-emotional competencies needed to create a sustainable livelihood project**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 2.2.1  # of youth provided with soft skills | 0 | 200 | 250 (161 female, 89 male) | Overachieved due to high demand for soft skills by the youth |

**Output 2.3: Male and female youth receive basic, technical and/or alternative education**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 2.3.4  Number of youths facilitated to enrol in schools | 0 | 200 | 158 (70 male and 88 female) | COVID-19 impacts resulted in the closure of the learning institution for a significant period of project lifecycle |
| Indicator 2.3.5  Number of adult/functional literacy classes provided | 0 | 500 | 250 (139 male and 111 female) | COVID-19 impacts resulted in the closure of the learning institution for a significant period of project lifecycle |

**Outcome 3:: Community perceptions of youth are transformed, breaking stigmatization and enabling young men and women to participate in decision making processes**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(350 word limit)*

Project empowered youth to participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the society and contributed to significant transformation of community perception towards the youth. Over one thousand (1,000) participants, including youth and leaders, were engaged through a series of consultative forums and inter-generational dialogues to robustly engage and develop mutually agreeable solutions on youth involvement in decision making processes at various levels of the community.

Consequently, the local authorities created new spaces for youth participation in decision-making processes in different levels in the society including establishing Youth Peace Ambassadors Forum and revitalizing the Joint Working Group on Youth Empowerment to take forward gains made under the PBF Youth Project as a basis to inform future state plans & programming. Chiefs and Block leaders also started incorporating youth in leadership structures at local level.

Project interventions also challenged prevailing prejudice and negative perceptions towards the youth entrapped in gang groups. The project- through sports activities, radio outreach programs, community theatre performance, and public good initiatives- supported the youth to engage in constructive endeavours which serve greater public interests and demonstrate their positive contribution in the community. At the peak of COVID-19 pandemic, the radio outreach program conducted by project beneficiaries and health experts, became a reliable source of information for the community on combating the virus. Using drama, the youth engaged and sensitized the public in simple yet profound ways which spoke to their hearts.

Youth used sports to break barriers of enmity between communities and between youth themselves. In Eastern Bank neighbourhood an area well known violence and inter-ethnic intolerance, a football tournament was used as tool to promote social cohesion among the community and particularly among young people by bringing together, for the first time, members of rival gang groups to form a joint team to participate in the tournament. Additionally, the youth rehabilitated ten (10) local feeder roads, waterways, playground, and public health facilities.

Consequently, the interventions contributed in community positively embracing the youth and showing greater openness, acceptance, and willingness to engage youth through constructive problem-solving as opposed to previous adversarial approaches.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(350 word limit)*

The project sensitized the youth to ensure balanced involvement of both boys and girls in all activities throughout the selection, preparation, and implementation phases aimed at promoting and ensuring gender equality and women and girls’ involvement. The project encouraged female youth to participate in events which are perceived to be predominantly for male. For example, the project formed four football teams for only girls to participate in the peace and social cohesion tournament. After the girls only football tournament, *one traditional leader from Block (E)-Eastern Bank- Wau admitted that he never thought that women and girls can play football like boys because football is perceived as a sport for only males. However, after that moment, he urged the community members to allow their daughters to play football, arguing that this opportunity will reduce the likelihood that they are exploited by “irresponsible boys and men*.” In addition, *the Director General of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Mrs. Mary Tulba, at the same sport event, acknowledged the role of women in the promotion of peaceful coexistence, especially through sport and arts activities.* Another illustration was that gender transformative dialogues sensitized male youth to engage in roles such as helping in household chores like cooking, which are culturally seen as a preserve of women. The above small steps of courage by project beneficiaries may add impetus to slow but systematic transformation of negative attitudes on gender in the community

The sports activities brought together hundreds of young people and elders to interact and talk about the peaceful coexistence and role of young people in the community. CEPO and IOM used the football tournaments as platform to promote social cohesion. For example, during the tournaments, transformed gang youths were allocated time to share their personal history, journey of transformation, and how they were welcomed back home by their family members and community, no longer viewed as criminals or a nuisance in the community.

***Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 1 in the table below***

* *If the outcome has more than 3 indicators, select the 3 most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight.*
* *Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (3000 characters max per entry)*

| **Outcome Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome Indicator 3 a  Percentage of youth who believe they have improved relationships and increased influence within their communities | Baseline: 35% | Target: 45% | 54% | Overachieved due to comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of the youth and intensive stakeholder engagements |
| Outcome Indicator 3 b  Percentage of community members who believe that youth positively contribute to their communities | Baseline: 78% | Target: 88% | 95% | Overachieved due to comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of the youth and intensive stakeholder engagements |

**How many Outputs does Outcome 3 have? Three (3) Outputs**

*Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 1 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators*

**Output 3.1: Community awareness raised on youth contributions to**

**Peacebuilding**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 3.1.1  Number of radio and theatre projects produced and community sensitization events led by the youth participants | **0** | **12** | **24** | Achieved. Due to COVID restrictions, project adapted by doing more Radio outreaches with same amount of resources which would have supported fewer theatre activities at community level |
| Indicator 3.1.2  Number of participants (direct and indirect participants) in the community awareness events | **0** | **15,000** | **30,000 (predominantly indirect beneficiaries reached through radio outreach)** | Overachieved due to intensive community mobilization done by the project staff leading to high turn up for the community awareness events |

**Output 3.2: Platforms are provided for the voices of young people to be heard by decision-makers to promote understanding**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 3.2.1  # of forums held between youth and  community/political leadership | **0** | **10** | 7 forums attended by 654 participants (371 male and 283 female) | COVID-19 restrictions hampered meetings for almost one year |
| Indicator 3.2.2  Intergenerational dialogue between youth and community elders/ leaders | **0** | **10** | 10 dialogues attended by 493 participants (253 male and 240 female) | Target realized |
| Indicator 3.2.3  # youth trained on conflict transformation and leadership | **0** | **200** | 150 attended (60 males and 70 females) | COVID-19 restrictions hampered meetings for almost one year |
| Indicator 3.2.4  Number of people participating in capacity building events | **0** | **120** | 32 attended (16 male and 16 female) | COVID-19 restrictions hampered meetings for almost one year |

**Output 3.3: Youth are empowered to engage in a consultation process with community to define priority projects to be supported**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 3.3.1  # of youth action plans developed | **0** | **10** | 10 | Achieved |
| Indicator 3.3.2  Youth participating in community labour | **0** | **200** | 300 attended (208 male and 92 female) | Overachieved due to the intensive engagement of youth |
| Indicator 3.3.3  Infrastructure/community assets project | **0** | **10** | 10 | Achieved. Infrastructure rehabilitated include community access roads (7); water pathways (1),  Public facility (91)) and sports facility (1) |

**Outcome 4: Juveniles in detention and recently released delinquents reintegrated in the community**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(350 word limit)*

The project engaged 97(91M;6F) Juveniles in reformatory centre and 150(107M;43F) recently released delinquents at community level in and around Wau Municipality. About 840 Functional Literacy (FL) and Psychosocial Support (PSS) sessions were conducted targeting different youth in line with their established needs. Functional Literacy (FL) empowered targeted juveniles with basic numeracy, writing, and English language skills. The trainings aimed at transforming the behaviour and attitude of the juveniles toward future educational pursuits. Additionally, the juveniles received emotional support through psychosocial support, basic counselling, psychological first aid, and referrals to specialized services where needed. The FL & PSS interventions complemented some vocational skills training already offered by the reformatory centre. As a result of FL & PSS interventions, some released delinquents re-joined school to continue with their education while others have enrolled in vocational skills training. Anecdotal reports also suggest that some juveniles who were previously disconnected from families have reconnected and reintegrated back into their homes. All the above was achieved through close collaboration with State Prison Service, State Ministry of Education and Block (Sector) Leaders in Wau. The National Ministry of Education provided support for standards and design of the FL and PSS Curriculum. Further, the community-based structure for monitoring FL and PSS activities at juvenile recreational centres was established which capacitated support to released juveniles, to reintegrate more effectively into the community. This structure will also ensure program continuity by facilitating links and mutual harmony between the released juveniles and their parents.

Project also ensured smooth and effective integration of 150 released delinquents by linking them to different socio-economic interventions including rehabilitation of community assets such as roads. The intervention helped improve community perceptions of the juveniles and strengthened their social cohesion bonds with families who now perceive them as productive members of the society.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(350 word limit)*

The enrolment of juveniles and delinquents in detention centres was primarily geared toward those who were in juvenile detention centres and released delinquents who are were involved in risky activities. As part of the project, these juveniles were engaged and connected to their parents after being provided with adequate emotional and reformatory support. Gender inclusivity was strongly observed during the mobilization and registration processes by making it an imperative that women and girls must be included in the processes. As part of FL, PSS and cash for work interventions, inclusion and participation of both boys and girls was an imperative to ensure both gained access to FL, PSS, livelihood, and income-generating activities through this project.

***Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 4 in the table below***

* *If the outcome has more than 3 indicators, select the 3 most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (3000 characters max per entry)*

| **Outcome Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome Indicator 4a  Percentage of juveniles in detention and recently released delinquents successfully reintegrated in the community | Baseline: TBD  Target: BL + | N/A | N/A | This was an additional outcome without baseline data.  Result will be measured at Output level |

**How many Outputs does Outcome 4 have? 1**

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 1 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

**Output 4.1:** **Percentage of juveniles in detention and recently released delinquents successfully reintegrated in the community**

| **Output Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator progress to Date** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator 4.1.1  Functional Literacy manual adapted to the unique context of juveniles | 0 | 1 | 1 | Target realized |
| Indicator 4.1.2  # of FL classes and psychosocial support sessions conducted for juveniles and delinquent youth | 0 | 200 | 840 | Overachieved due to high need and demand for FL and PSS sessions. |
| Indicator 4.1.3  # of juvenile and delinquent youth trained on FL | 0 | 150 | 247  (198M;49F) | Overachieved due to the high number of juvenile youths, who needed the training |
| Indicator 4.1.4  # of juvenile and delinquent youth linked to community infrastructure projects, gender transformative interventions, and basic trade training and psychosocial services | 0 | 150 | 150  (107M;43F) | Target realized |

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

*Is the project planning any significant events in the next 6 months (eg. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc.)* The project is in the closing phase and not planning any major events during the next six months.

If yes, please state how many, and for each, provide the approximate date of the event and a brief description, including its key objectives, target audience and location (if known)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Event Description*** | ***Tentative Date*** | ***Location*** | ***Target Audience*** | ***Event Objectives (150 word limit)*** |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

**Human Impact**

*This section is about the human impact of the project. Please state the number of key stakeholders of the project, and for each, please briefly describe:*

1. *The challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation*
2. *The impact of the project on their lives*
3. *Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Key stakeholder** | **What were the challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation? (350 words max)** | **What has been the impact of the project on their lives (350 words max)** | **Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group (350 words max)** |
| Youth entrapped in criminalized gang groups | Young girls and boys were facing difficult challenges: unemployment; trauma of civil war; shattered dreams from lost schooling opportunities; broken families; lack of basic skills and support to engage in gainful economic enterprises; unending conflicts with guardians at home and security actors in the public space.  In the above context, youth resorted to forming gang groupings as a way of seeking a sense of belonging; self-affirmation; and purpose.  Youth gangs engaged in parties; rivalry with each other; and general criminality in the community. | Youth recovered from emotional trauma and strengthened their emotional self-regulation skills. Other youth integrated in the local economy and others underwent a  gender transformation, which is challenging negative gender norms and re-socializing other youth on a gender approach.  Further, youth developed capabilities to voice their issues and advocate for space in decision-making processes.  Most of the youth also shunned criminality and as a result their relationship with local authorities and community drastically improved. | **Quote 1:** Madelena Arkangelo, one of the female youth participants said: *“I have seen some good changes in my life. I could not interact with people from different communities, now I have realized the importance of socializing with other people to promote peace in our community. In addition, I used to be afraid to speak in front of many people because I had low self-esteem and believed that decision-making, and leadership is a role for men and boys only. I don’t believe that anymore because I have gained skills and confidence to participate in decision making processes and I know my rights, thanks to IOM*.”  **Quote 2:** Veronica Kenyi, 20 years old, female beneficiary of catering skills development attests that “*the economic empowerment of women and girls is an important step in reducing their vulnerability to violence and the project has created a space for both women and girls in the society be economically self-reliant.”* |

In addition to the stakeholder specific impact described above, please use this space to describe any additional human impact that the project has had. (650 word limit):

At the peak of COVID-19 pandemic, the youth gang members enrolled in the project who were previously not involved in any community service took up the task of sensitizing community members through Radio Outreach on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures, and also challenging emerging stereotypes narratives through creative use of theatre methods such as arts, songs and drama in local languages. The messages from the youth, which was crafted in collaboration with Ministry of Health at State level, became hugely popular with the community (evidenced by number of live calls and messages send to the radio) as a source of reliable information on COVID-19 related issues. The perception of the community towards the youth gangs also begun to change to the positive.

You can also upload up to 3 ﬁles in various formats (picture ﬁles, powerpoint, pdf, video, etc..) to illustrate the human impact of the project and 3 links to online resources (OPTIONAL)

Please see Annex 2.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (*350 word limit)* | *Do outcome indicators have baselines*?  *If yes, please provide a brief description*  A Baseline survey and Endline Evaluation were conducted at the start and at the end project respectively.  This baseline study was done using a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods for the collection of primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected, as appropriate, through survey of youth gang participants of the project and community members and focus group discussions were held with some community members and leaders in Wau. Appropriate tools were developed and deployed to support collection of both secondary and primary data. The data collected was then analysed drawing out themes and key findings.  Similar methodology and tools were deployed for endline evaluation with an added element of including evaluation questions according to the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability. Further, the endline evaluation investigated other aspects of the project including its catalytic effects, time-sensitivity, risk tolerance and innovation.  Under Outcome 1, the Baseline Survey adopted the World Health Organization (WHO) well-being index to measures the *percentage (%) improvement in well-being of people who participate in supportive activities and report on reduced emotional distress levels.* The baseline stood at 6 per cent and the projects targets realize a 10 per cent improvement by the end of the project. An additional indicator which sought to measure, the *percentage of youth who believe that the use of violence is never justified to resolve conflict* stood at 88 per cent and project target to realize positive attitudinal change of 10 per cent at the end of the project.  Under Outcome 2, the baseline established a 57 per cent rate *of youth who report increased self-esteem and enhanced self-reliance outside of criminal activities*. The project targets to realize a 20 per cent increase at the end of the project.  Under Outcome 3, the baseline established that *35 per cent of youth believe they have improved relationships and increased influence within their communities* and the project aims at a 10 per cent increase by the end of the project. Further, the baseline found that a rate of *78 per cent of community members believe that youth positively contribute to their communities* and project targets to change this by a 10 per cent point by end of the project.  Under Outcome4, the project only monitored output level indicators. The Outcome was added during mid-term project cost extension and short timeframe for implementation meant that there was minimal likelihood that realistic outcome level change would be witnessed in such a short duration. No baseline survey was therefore conducted to capture the outcome indicators at the start point.  *Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?*  *If yes, please provide a brief description (350 word limit)*  The project has conducted an endline survey to establish progress made towards realizing project outcomes. The results are captured under the Outcome Indicators components of the report. Overall, the project has registered positive progress as outlined in different sections. |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required): 147445.00  An independent terminal evaluation was conducted, and part of the findings have informed various sections of the current report. The full evaluation report will be shared as an attachment to the Final Report.  This Endline Evaluation study used variety of qualitative and quantitative methods for the collection of primary and secondary data including key informant’s interviews, focus group discussions, documents review, observations, and semi-structured interview to gather the project data. The methodology and tools added element of including evaluation questions according to the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability. Further, the endline evaluation investigated other aspects of the project including its catalytic effects, time-sensitivity, risk tolerance and innovation. The data collected was then analysed drawing out themes and key findings. |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project since it started. | **Name of funder: Amount:(Euro)**  EU Delegation 20,000,000 (Signed Agreement)  (Project ID: NDICI AFRICA/2022/433-11) |
| **Catalytic Eﬀect (non-ﬁnancial):** Has the project enabled or created a larger or longer‐term peacebuilding change to occur?  ***Please select***  No catalytic eﬀect  Some catalytic eﬀect  Signiﬁcant catalytic eﬀect  Very Signiﬁcant catalytic eﬀect  Don't Know  Too early to tell | *If relevant, please describe how the project has had a (non-ﬁnancial) catalytic eﬀect i.e. ways in which the project has supported the expansion or creation of programs and policies supporting peace, both within and outside the UN system (Please limit your response to 350 words)*  The youth gangs targeted by the project are part of the actors perceived as instigators of violence and a threat to peace and harmony in their communities and to larger society. Testimonials from the State Governor, Municipality Mayor and community leaders indicate a transformation of behaviour among the youth and a significant reduction in crime and enhanced social cohesion in several areas of Wau municipality.  The larger pool of transformed youth continues to act as change agents and influencers to other youths still trapped in gangs and it is anticipated that more youth will be motivated to leave gang lifestyles by opting for positive coping mechanisms as a result of influence exerted by their peers  Lessons learned and experience from this project are being used as a platform to engage armed actors more broadly, seeking to enhance the inclusion of marginalized groups such as youth. The experience has translated into project proposals that catalyse this experience into more marginalized areas for peacebuilding and reconciliation. |
| ***Sustainability:*** *Does the project have an explicit exit strategy?**Please describe any steps that have been taken to ensure the sustainability of peacebuilding gains beyond the duration of the project (350 word limit)*  From the inception phase, the project partners endeavoured to ensure that the gains realized during the project implementation will remain sustainable in the long term. Project partners used a local ownership strategy and brought on board seven government entities at the State level to be part of project implementation, including entities responsible for youth, peacebuilding, education, security, gender, and local governance, as a premise to ensure long-term sustainability.  As a result, and as previously outlined, the Ministry of Peacebuilding constituted a Youth Peace Ambassadors Forum as an enduring engagement platform for the youth and other stakeholders involved in the areas of peacebuilding, social cohesion, and community security. The Youth Peace Ambassadors will also act as mentors and positive influencers to their peers and this engagement will provide continuity and sustainability of the project gains. Further, the Ministry of Youth Affairs revitalized a Joint *Working Group on Youth Empowerment* as a platform to harness synergies and resources from various stakeholders geared toward taking forward and replicating gains made under the current PBF-supported project.  Additionally, the youth empowered through vocational and entrepreneurial skills will continue to sustain and steadily grow their small businesses and in their places of employment in relevant sectors. The project also registered a significant number of youth gangs have indicated willingness to transform themselves into *Self-Help Groups* (a formal group registered by government) with altruistic objectives of taking on community labour and seeking assistance from well-wishers for income generating activities. These groups will have an effect of further draining the pool of youth entrapped in gang violence in Wau.  It is anticipated that these new pathways of engagement and the progress made thus far will continue and will enable the stakeholders to sustain gains made in respect to an overall reduction of violence in Wau. | |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(350 word limit)*  None. | |