



United Nations
Peacebuilding
Peacebuilding Fund

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

<p>Project Title: Youth as Agents of Peace and Stability in Kyrgyzstan</p>	<p>Recipient Organization(s): Search for Common Ground - Kyrgyzstan</p>
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<p>Mr. Keneshbek Sainazarov Country Director - Kyrgyzstan Search for Common Ground 74 Boulevard Erikindik 720045 Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan +996.777.572273 ksainazarov@sfcg.org</p>	<p>Project Location: Kyrgyzstan</p> <p>6 Oblasts/Provinces: Osh, Jalal-Abad, Chui, Issyk Kul, Talas and Naryn</p> <p>11 Raions: Kara-Suu, Aravan, Uzgen, Noukat, Suzak, Bazar-Korgon, Ala-Buka, Chui, Issyk-Kul, Talas and Naryn</p> <p>27 conflict-prone communities: Nariman, Kyzyl-Kyshtak, Kashkar-Kyshtak communities in Kara-Suu raion; Gulistan, Mirmahmudov communities in Noukat; Check-Abad, Halle-Anarov communities in Aravan; Pasky Uzgen, Toktogul (Kaganovich), Lenin Jolu communities in Uzgen; Bek-Abad, Suzak and Yrys communities in Suzak; Seidikum, Arslanbob communities in Bazar-Korgon, Kajar, Ak-Tam (Safed-Bulan) in Ala-Buka; and Karavan in Aksy, Tokmok, Iskra, Kara-Balta communities in Chui; Saruu, Jeti-Oguz, communities in Issyk-Kul; Manas and Talas communities in Talas and Kochkor, Ming-Kush communities in Naryn</p>

<p>Project Description: <i>This project seeks to reduce the likelihood of community-based conflicts and radicalization by putting young people from highly conflict-prone communities in a driving position to be catalysts for peace in Kyrgyzstan.</i></p>	<p>Total Project Cost: \$995,000 USD Peacebuilding Fund: \$995,000 USD Other:</p> <p>Proposed Project Start Date: October 1, 2016 Proposed Project End Date: March 30, 2018 Total duration (in months)¹: 18 months</p>
<p>Gender Marker Score²: <u>2</u> <i>Score 3 for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective. Score 2 for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective. Score 1 for projects that will contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly.</i></p>	
<p>Project Outcomes: Outcome 1: Increased capacity & opportunities for youth in community peacebuilding efforts as a better alternative pathway from violence Outcome 2: Greater civic engagement of youth in conflict-prone areas Outcome 3: Increased collaboration between youth and their elder counterparts in local political decision-making</p>	
<p>PBF Focus Areas³ which best summarizes the focus of the project (<i>select one</i>):</p> <p>PBF Focus Area #2: Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflicts (Priority Area 2) best summarizes the focus of the project. Specifically, the project employs (2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management</p>	

¹ The maximum duration of an IRF project is 18 months.

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

³ PBF Focus Areas are:

1: *Support the implementation of peace agreements and political dialogue (Priority Area 1):*

(1.1) SSR, (1.2) RoL; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

2: *Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflicts (Priority Area 2):*

(2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management;

3: *Revitalize the economy and generate immediate peace dividends (Priority Area 3):*

(3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services

4) *(Re)-establish essential administrative services (Priority Area 4)*

(4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including JSC/ PBF Secretariats)

IRF PROJECT DOCUMENT

(for IRF-funded projects)

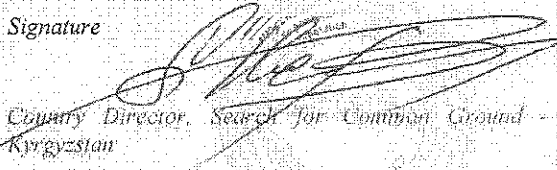

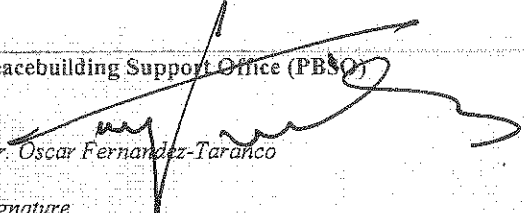

<p>Recipient Organization Mr. Keneshbek B. Sainazarov</p> <p>Signature </p> <p>Country Director, Search for Common Ground - Kyrgyzstan</p> <p>Date & Seal <i>August 30, 2016</i></p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities Mr. Kanat Amankulov</p> <p>Signature </p> <p>Director, State Agency on Youth Affairs, Physical Culture and Sports under the Kyrgyz Government</p> <p>Date & Seal <i>02.08.2016</i></p>
<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</p> <p> Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco</p> <p>Signature Assistant-Secretary General for Peacebuilding Support Peacebuilding Support Office, NY</p> <p>Date & Seal</p>	<p>Resident Coordinator (RC)</p> <p>Mr. Alexander Avanesov</p> <p>Signature </p> <p>RCO,</p> <p>Date & Seal <i>30.08.2016</i></p>
<p>Managing Agent Name of Representative</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>UNOPS, NY</p> <p>Date & Seal</p>	

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PROJECT COMPONENTS:

I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support

a) Peacebuilding context:

Major conflict issues and triggers: While Kyrgyzstan may look like a stable and democratic state in a region prone to instability, below the surface, “national unity is a brittle façade.”⁴ This disunity derives from a set of problems, from unresponsive government policies on poverty (with 38% of the population living under the official United Nations (UN) poverty line⁵ and a higher proportion of individuals in extreme poverty living in woman-headed households⁶) and economic woes, to unresolved ethnic tensions, and marginalized ethnic-minority communities. Young women and men who already grapple with high rates of unemployment (over 10%),⁷ are vulnerable to such challenges, particularly Uzbek ethnic minorities, who, on top of being labelled as the aggressors in the ethnic conflict of 2010 that left hundreds dead, continue to be marginalized by many in power, including the judiciary.⁸

Search’s research has shown that these challenges have created the conditions for radicalization to spawn, pushing youth into the hands of extremist recruiters, who capitalise on the weakening social fabric; “violent extremist groups, like ISIL, Jaishul Magdi, and Hizb ut-Tahrir, increased their recruitment efforts in Central Asia after 2010 and encouraged Kyrgyz citizens, particularly Uzbeks and women, to join jihads in Afghanistan and Syria.”⁹ Against the backdrop of rampant ethnic Kyrgyz nationalism - a root factor in the 2010 ethnic violence and a thorn in peacebuilding initiatives today - Babek Rezvani concludes that “the only feasible solution is moving toward a civic model of nationhood in which all citizens, regardless of their ethnicity, religion or language, have equal rights and duties.”¹⁰ **Youth (14-28),¹¹ who constitute more than one-third of Kyrgyzstan’s population, therefore, must be recognised as the key to weaving a stronger civic model,** and efforts to reduce the number of youth who choose violence and radicalization must be led by young women and men themselves.

Through in-country research¹² and experience over the last three years, **Search for Common Ground (Search) has identified 27 conflict-prone communities** highly populated with ethnic minorities and four mutually reinforcing factors that drive radicalization and lead to violent extremism: 1. challenges of identity and belonging; 2. weakening social fabric; 3. lack of outlets to address grievances, and; 4. exclusion of minorities, youth, and women from decision-making processes.

- **Identity crisis:** Kyrgyzstan has grappled with development of a national identity since its independence in 1991, with recent attempts, such as promotion of the Manas¹³ symbol and the Kyrgyz language, failing due to a lack of resonance with the country’s multi-ethnic composition.¹⁴ The ethnic and nationalist divisions that have become entrenched since the 2010 violence threaten any hope of forming a pluralistic national identity. While the majority of young people in Kyrgyzstan, especially in urban areas, don’t view ethnicity as a cause of discrimination,

⁴ Crisis Group, 2016, *Tracing Political Circles in Kyrgyzstan*

⁵ <http://www.kg.undp.org/content/kyrgyzstan/en/home/countryinfo.html>

⁶ The World Bank, 2011, The Kyrgyz Republic: Poverty Profile and Overview of Living Conditions.

⁷ Youth unemployment rate reaches 10.1 percent in Kyrgyzstan, <http://www.eng.24.kg/community/168809-news24.html>

⁸ Franco Galdini, 2014, *Kyrgyzstan Violence: Four Years On*, Al Jazeera web

⁹ USIP, 2014, *Special Report: Preventing Violent Extremism in Kyrgyzstan*, p5

¹⁰ Babek Rezvani, *Understanding and Explaining the Kyrgyz-Uzbek Interethnic Conflict in Southern Kyrgyzstan*

¹¹ <http://kyrgyzstan.unfpa.org/uk/node/1852#sthash.HsBb6d00.dpuf>

¹² “Radicalization of the Population in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken Oblasts: Factors, Types, and Risk Groups,” “Psychological and Social Portrait of Extremists and Terrorists,” “Typology of thought and the steps of an extremist: internal reasons for radicalization and protest”

¹³ <http://www.silkroadfoundation.org/folklore/manas/manasintro.html>

¹⁴ Kyrgyz 70.9%, Uzbek 14.3%, Russian 7.7%, Dungan 1.1%, other 5.9% (includes Uyghur, Tajik, Turk, Kazakh, Tatar, Ukrainian, Korean, German) (2009 est.), Source: CIA World Factbook: Central Asia: [Kyrgyzstan](#)

repressive measures in the South, where Uzbek-Kyrgyz tensions are high, leaves many feeling the detrimental effects of minority ethnic discrimination.¹⁵

- **Lack of Social Cohesion:** Increased political in-fighting, dissatisfaction among Uzbeks with their political representation, and discriminatory language policies towards Uzbeks and other ethnic minorities widened societal cracks before the 2010 violence.¹⁶ Further strains on social cohesion derive from intergenerational clashes over the understanding of democratic governance between those from the Soviet era and those raised in independent Kyrgyzstan, as well as the generation of youth left behind as their parents migrated to Russia for work. Increased fiery rhetoric since the 2010 conflict further deepened distrust among communities and bred extremist spaces for vulnerable youth; unable to connect themselves with other community spaces to voice their grievances, they became more likely to join religious extremist groups.¹⁷ While such a demographic is mostly male, female extremists are on the rise in Kyrgyzstan (there was a nearly 24% rise in the number of women joining extremist groups from 2005 to 2016¹⁸), many of whom are poor, uneducated, don't understand Islam and follow their radicalised husbands.¹⁹
- **Lack of Outlets to Address Grievances:** Often, law enforcement lacks information or understanding of radicalization to effectively address the issue in a manner where young people can effectively air grievances without fear; "families troubled by youth radicalisation are reluctant to seek support for fear they will become targets of police extortion."²⁰ Our research shows that their actions, including punitive/repressive measures against relatives and friends of those believed radicalized, have led to further radicalization of young people, especially ethnic minorities. Such measures drive young women in Kyrgyzstan into the hands of extremists, as the wives and children of extremist foreign fighters are left behind to face such unrestrained police measures, forcing many to join such groups.²¹
- **Exclusion from decision-making processes:** With poor access to quality education, social services, and inequitable protection under law enforcement, youth in Kyrgyzstan feel marginalized and excluded from decision-making processes, national identity, and community structures, particularly ethnic minority youth, hence, some seek alternative pathways to status, such as becoming radicalized. Youth may be spurred on by a sense of purpose and "notoriety, sense of excitement",²² evidenced by Search's research; the absence of a sense of "belonging and validation" from elder community members²³ spurs interest in anti-government organizations, often extremist religious ones: about 600²⁴ people (22% women²⁵) are now fighting in combat zones—a low estimate.

Capacities for peace: Some efforts undertaken by the government of Kyrgyzstan in collaboration with the international community address the underlying causes of instability and conflict, including efforts to build inter-ethnic peacebuilding into local governance processes²⁶ and the passage of a youth policy.²⁷ For the first time since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the country has adopted the "concept on strengthening national unity and interethnic relations", which was later integrated into the

¹⁵ GIZ, 2015, *Youth in Kyrgyzstan, Bridging Tradition and Modernity*, p14

¹⁶ Inga Sikorskaya, 2015, *A Brief History of Conflict in Kyrgyzstan, Insight on Conflict web*

¹⁷ Jacob Zenn and Kathleen Kuehnast, 2014, *Preventing Violent Extremism in Kyrgyzstan*

¹⁸ Kyrgyzstan Interior Ministry, 2013

¹⁹ Eurasia net, 2014, *Kyrgyzstan Struggles with Rise of Female Islamists*, <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/70046>

²⁰ Crisis Group, 2016, *Tracing Political Circles in Kyrgyzstan*

²¹ Eurasia net, 2014, *Kyrgyzstan Struggles with Rise of Female Islamists*, <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/70046>

²² Haaretz, 2016, *Leaked ISIS Documents Reveal Most Recruits Know Little on Islam*

²³ SFCG Report: Radicalization of the Population in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken Oblasts: Factors, Types, and Risk Groups

²⁴ National Security Committee, <http://rus.azattyk.org/a/27897305.htm>

²⁵ Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Internal Affairs, 2016

²⁶ Establishment of the State Agency of Local self-government and ethnic relationship; adoption of a country concept on strengthening national unity and interethnic relations

²⁷ Establishment of the Ministry of youth policy in 2010, and adoption of strategy on implementation of youth policy for 2017

*National Strategy for Sustainable Development.*²⁸ The Ministry of Youth Policy has been inducted into the Kyrgyz Government cabinet with the adoption of “The Strategy on Implementation of Youth Policy for 2017.” Search recognises the opportunity and importance of youth to drive change at the grassroots level in parallel to these national policy developments. The proposed actions enable youth to create their own response to peacebuilding challenges, from forming or joining inter-ethnic youth associations and informal networks to engaging political and religious leaders in dialogue processes, the young women and men will drive the shift of marginalized youth from a disempowered, victimized subject to an active citizen, by challenging stereotypes and prejudices through giving people an opportunity to hear each other’s stories and see one another’s humanity.

Current critical needs: The rise of religious radicalism (Kyrgyzstan is 88% Muslim and 11% Christian²⁹) and violent extremism, especially among youth, is one of Kyrgyzstan’s most pressing threats to peace, stability, and development.³⁰ Although radicalization can happen at any age, young people—especially those searching for a sense of belonging, purpose, and/or identity—tend to be most vulnerable.³¹ There is a critical need to reject identity politics and the marginalization it drives; “there is evidence that radicalization could be escalating, largely among those marginalized groups that feel socially, economically, and ethnically disenfranchised.”³² In addition, political ineffectiveness and weak economic prospects add further pressure to the Kyrgyz populace.³³ Such conflict triggers mean that “Kyrgyzstan should remain a conflict-prevention priority, as the risks of further upheaval and fresh inter-ethnic clashes have not truly diminished.”³⁴

Kyrgyzstan’s economic woes, increased conflict, and rise in religious radicalism is also creating an increasingly tenuous situation for women and girls. As labor migration rates rise and women are left without family and community support, women are at increased risk for exploitation, including human trafficking and radical recruitment. Some extremist groups specifically target Muslim women for recruitment, exploiting the increasingly heavy-handed response from Kyrgyzstan’s government and security forces against perceived or real Islamist movements, as well as other factors like domestic violence and community backlash against unmarried Muslim women. Although women’s movements have been hugely successful in Kyrgyzstan at securing a national quota for participation in decision-making, largely due to strong grassroots advocacy, there is still a strong need for continued capacity-building, as women’s participation in society remains unclear for the future “under increasingly traditional tendencies” that are ever-present in daily life in Kyrgyzstan.³⁵ The proposed project responds to this need through not only leadership capacity-building of young women to reach their peers in marginalized communities susceptible to radicalization and conflict, but also through direct inter-generational engagement with political and religious community leaders for dialogue and civic engagement. The proposed engagement is critical to ensure that elder leaders and policymakers recognize the value of engaging young women and that elders help to create an enabling environment for young women to become more active agents of peace in their communities.

Peacebuilding strategies in place: After the tragic violence of June 2010, the UN allocated \$10m to Kyrgyzstan for immediate response projects to build peace and trust in the regions affected by the conflict through its Peacebuilding Fund. In 2013, in response to Kyrgyzstan’s request, UNSG Ban Ki-moon approved allocation of additional funds for systemic peacebuilding in Kyrgyzstan and the building of institutional foundations to prevent recurrence of conflicts in the future. A Joint Steering

²⁸ Kyrgyz devise sustainable development program: http://centralasiaonline.com/en_GB/articles/caii/newsbriefs/2013/03/01/newsbrief-01

²⁹ Pew Forum, 2010, *Religious Composition by Country*.

³⁰ UNSC Document S/2015/231 on “The role of youth in countering violent extremism and promoting peace”, 2 April 2015

³¹ Joint OSCE Secretariat OSCE ODIHR Expert Roundtable Report on Findings and Recommendations on Youth Engagement to Counter Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism, Vienna, 2012, available at: <http://www.osce.org/atu/103352?download=true>

³² Katherine Quinn-Judge, 2016, *Kyrgyzstan at 25: Treading Water*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

³³ Crisis Group, 2015, *Kyrgyzstan: An Uncertain Future*

³⁴ Crisis Group, 2016, *Tracing Political Circles in Kyrgyzstan*

³⁵ UNDP, 2011, *Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Public Administration: Kyrgyzstan Case Study*, <http://goo.gl/x4SBL2>, p5

Committee, established by the Kyrgyz President, provides strategic guidance and oversight for the process of development and implementation of the Peacebuilding Priority Plan, which monitors and steers the implementation of the 15 UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) projects towards three peacebuilding priority outcomes and other related goals.³⁶ This effort actively complements these priorities, particularly in building respect for diversity and tolerance and strengthening the capacities of youth and women to bridge divisions and reduce tensions.

b) Rationale for this IRF:

How can this project make a relevant difference and why is now the right time: As the critical needs above show, Kyrgyzstan finds itself at a crossroads 25 years after independence. Ideological and ethnic clashes, entrenched in identity politics, fuel a host of challenges to its stability, from oppressive measures against ethnic minorities and extremist recruiters preying on vulnerable communities to rampant corruption and disenfranchisement among youth. Despite these significant challenges, there is huge potential and will for Kyrgyzstan to live up to its name as the most democratic and stable country in the region. Young people's active involvement in toppling two regimes, in the 2010 interethnic conflict, and the rush of youth joining extremist groups in the Middle East demonstrate how youth can be used as a powerful destructive force. However, Search recognises the positivity and will of the vast majority of youth in Kyrgyzstan to build peace in their communities, and supports a locally relevant approach where youth learn from the positive actions of other youth instead of from the negative narratives of a radicalized minority.

With the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2250, the global community affirmed a paradigm shift away from the notion that youth should be viewed as threats to security, to one that views them as having the power to positively transform violent conflict. The resulting challenge is to build innovative "mechanisms that would enable young people to participate meaningfully in peace processes and dispute resolution."³⁷ **It is critically important to enable such mechanisms in Kyrgyzstan** to address the widening social divisions and continue to develop young women and young men's participation in society, while also involving older stakeholders, such as political leaders and police representatives, to see the similar problems identified by youth and elders and the positive effects of working collaboratively to solve these issues.

Based upon The Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding³⁸, the program supports such mechanisms through utilizing a "key people to more people" approach, engaging key youth to reach out and work with at-risk and marginalized youth from conflict-prone and "closed" communities.³⁹ The project's core group of influential youth will become local promoters of UNSCR 2250 through youth-led and youth-orientated initiatives that aim to reduce feelings of exclusion or marginalization among vulnerable youth, facilitate constructive dialogues with key elders to address grievances through positive engagement, thereby removing disaffected youth from radical and extremist narratives, which potentially lead them toward pathways to violence. The program recognises the need for women to play leading roles in peacebuilding, as outlined in the UNSG's 7-Point Action Plan on Women's Participation in Peacebuilding, through **ensuring the project's core group of youth has 50/50 gender balance**. As "young women make up 10-30 percent of armed forces and armed groups worldwide," the international community increasingly recognises their

³⁶ See [peacebuilding priority outcomes and other related goals](#)

³⁷ Security Council, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2250 (2015), Urges Member States to Increase Representation of Youth in Decision-Making at All Levels, <http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12149.doc.htm>

³⁸ Developed by the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development's Subgroup on Youth Participation in Peacebuilding, co-chaired by SFCG and UN PBSO

³⁹ "Closed communities" refers to some ethnic minority communities that limit their linkages with the state and neighboring communities out of concern for their security and safety. The aftermath of interethnic conflicts spurred in Kyrgyzstan after 2010 events and related socio-political pressure around the "fight" against violent extremism contributed to this increased (self)isolation.

crucial participation in peacebuilding initiatives.⁴⁰ The proposed program enables youth to own peacebuilding processes, from creating community engagement projects, to being seen as role models in reality TV shows.

Why is PBF the right mechanism: PBF focuses on youth empowerment and youth-led approaches. This project builds community cohesion, prevents radicalization, and supports personal growth of vulnerable youth. The project is in line with **PBF's Priority Area 2**, specifically the identified areas of national reconciliation, democratic governance, and conflict prevention/management. Owing to the success of past PBF initiatives, featuring youth and women in peacebuilding projects and increasing their participation,⁴¹ this project aims to increase this participation on multiple fronts, like inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogues, discussion of youth grievances, and youth leadership development. As the program affords young women the chance to engage in dialogue processes with key stakeholders and promote civic engagement, the initiative aligns with Objective 1.3 of Kyrgyzstan's National Action Plan on the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 on Women and Peace and Security, to support improved community security and durable peace in Kyrgyzstan.

Catalytic effects envisaged: This project is envisioned to create catalytic effects as a model for durable peacebuilding in Kyrgyzstan, enabling influential youth from these communities to increase civic identity among vulnerable and at-risk youth, strengthen social fabric by engaging youth with elder counterparts, and involve youth in community peacebuilding and decision making processes. By supporting youth-led initiatives and empowering youth leaders, the project will support a new generation of ideas and youth leadership in Kyrgyzstan. Further, the innovative media activities increase the reach of the project and allow deeper connections with youth. The project specifically aims at opening a new space for feedback to the UN on UNSCR 2250's application in Kyrgyzstan, highlighting the lessons learned and devising recommendations the peacebuilding community.

Coherence and contribution to other PBF projects in country: PBF projects in Kyrgyzstan work to further peace by supporting ethnic harmony, gender equality, and youth empowerment, while strengthening justice, human rights, and civic engagement. The proposed project's youth focus complement current PBF projects and add value by utilizing a youth-led approach to tackle issues like civic engagement and tolerance, while also targeting activities to youth radicalization and high levels of youth violence. By empowering youth from targeted and vulnerable communities to generate new ideas for countering violent conflict and extremism in their own communities and act as youth ambassadors to vulnerable youth, the project will support many of the objectives that PBF is focusing on in Kyrgyzstan. Two components of the proposed program, grassroots civic engagement and the TV series, will complement two PBF-funded initiatives, UNDP's *Media for Peace* and UNDP and UNICEF's *Women as Peaceful Voters & Women as Candidates*.

II. Objectives of PBF support and proposed implementation

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

The project's three activity streams support the **overall theory of change**; *If critically vulnerable youth to involvement in violent conflicts (1) strengthen leadership and critical thinking skills, (2) are involved in promoting civic engagement (3) relate to positive role models in the media (4) have opportunities to engage with their elder counterparts in law enforcement and local government in political decision-making processes, then they are less likely to join religious and nationalist extremist groups AND can contribute to community resilience against violent conflict AND can develop constructive ways to address grievances, because they will have a sense of belongingness to their communities and are empowered and entrusted to build dialogue across divided lines.*

⁴⁰ T. Bouta, G. Frerks and I. Bannon, *Gender, Conflict and Development* (Washington, D.C.: World Bank, 2005 in UNOY, 2016, *Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding: A Practice Note*: p17

⁴¹ IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FACILITY (IRF1) FINAL EVALUATION - KYRGYZSTAN UN Peacebuilding Fund - Immediate Response Facility (IRF) 10 May – 30 June 2012, http://www.unpbf.org/wp-content/uploads/Kyrgyzstan_2012.pdf, p5

Search and Youth Centers will implement a set of three interlocking and complementary activity streams to achieve the outcomes and change the project seeks. These activities will build on each other directly, creating a multi-step process:

Outcome 1: Increased capacity & opportunities for youth in community peacebuilding efforts as a better alternative pathway from violence

Activity Stream 1 aims to equip capable youth that will become ambassadors for peacebuilding in their communities, with the right skills and knowledge to carry key messages of the project to their local networks. Search's approach will be to enable active youth to show peers in communities vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremist groups how to use nonviolent means to address their grievances, through ownership of the project direction by participants. This **participatory approach** will ensure the inclusion of young men and women from diverse religious, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to address marginalization and exclusion in their communities, first through youth mapping and capacity building and later through civic engagement and decision-making processes.

Activity 1.1 Youth Mapping

Identification of Canvassing Campaigners: The initial mapping of the project's core youth is paramount to the success of the project, and is rooted in Search's global experience.⁴² This exercise will identify key influential and active youth, like NGO leaders or young entrepreneurs, from target communities from the following pools: a) former participants of Search training and outreach activities; b) active youth who have collaborated with Youth Centers; and c) nominations from Search's pool of Kyrgyz youth activists, particularly those from Search's past CVE programs. This group will be called "**canvassing campaigners**," as they will be a trained group capable of spreading positive messaging in their own communities and listening to the grievances of young people. Youth will be incentivized to join the group due to the opportunity to build useful skills, contribute to their community's development, and participate more fully in civic life. The vulnerable youth will be identified through the networks and knowledge of the canvassing campaigners, and through guided mapping exercises to locate participants. Vulnerable youth will be included through workshops, dialogues, and public recognition. Six canvassing campaigners will be selected per target community, with a strict gender balance of 3 men and 3 women, resulting in 162 in total aged 16-25.

Youth Clubs: Once identified, influential youth in each target community will join a Youth Club, coordinated by the Youth Centers. These act as hubs and networks for active youth to interact and share ideas. The canvassing campaigners will be encouraged to contribute to the development of these Clubs, by holding meetings and recruiting new members. The canvassing campaigners will develop creative ways to engage with vulnerable youth and each other, for example, by setting up virtual spaces where activity ideas are exchanged. Recognizing the challenge in accessing vulnerable youth, especially girls, the project will work with female canvassing campaigners to engage with female youth through personal networks, female religious leaders, and tailored activities for young women.

Youth Community Mapping Training: The canvassing campaigners will then undergo tailor-made youth training led by two local youth leaders and supported by Search's global expert on youth and peacebuilding, Mr. Saji Prelis, who led the production of Search's toolkit, *Mapping Youth Leaders in Peacebuilding*. The training prepares the canvassing campaigners to undertake their own community mapping. Core training topics will include: a) the basics of peacebuilding; b) guidance on the project objectives and expected results; c) how to run community mapping exercises to identify other influencers; and d) how to build networks in communities, particularly including girls and young women. Three-day trainings will be held in Osh, Jalal-Abad, Issyk-Kul, and Bishkek, with the canvassing campaigners split amongst the four training groups.

⁴² Search's toolkit, *Mapping Youth Leaders in Peacebuilding*, is an invaluable resource that can be adapted to the specific contexts.

Key Influencer Mapping & Dialogue Processes: Upon completion of the capacity-building training, the canvassing campaigners will then bring their new skills to their home communities to identify key influencers, who are central to policy-making at the local level (local authority representatives, religious leaders, women activists, civil society leaders, etc.). Once selected, the key influencers, from diverse ethnic backgrounds, will be invited to participate in dialogues in each of the 27 target communities. Participants will come together and discuss factors related to peacebuilding, violence, radicalization, community security, and issues that divide and unite communities. Separate meetings will be arranged for women and girls, through “atyncha” (female religious leaders).

Activity 1.2 Leadership Development Training

Leadership development training for the canvassing campaigners will take place, with training modules developed based on the capacity needs identified during the *local dialogue processes*. The training sessions will take place in 11 target districts in **three rounds** during the life of the project: 1) Thematic training, such as interfaith dialogue, tolerance, minority integration, outreach to at-risk youth, encouraging responsible citizenship and participation; 2) Training on arts-based peacebuilding approaches, which could include a wide range of music, theatre, craft approaches, such as participatory theatre, IQ challenge games (trivia), food fairs, dance classes, music quizzes, and handicraft master classes⁴³; and 3) Training on how to run community-based programs, which could include topics such as project management, monitoring and evaluation, administration, budgeting, team-building, leadership, partnership building, public relations management.⁴⁴

Well-known business and community-cohesion trainers, who work extensively with youth, such as Mr. Azamat Attokurov and Mr. Chubak Baikonov will be invited to develop and run these trainings. Popular figures amongst youth will also be invited to these trainings as role models to share their experience in conducting youth events aimed at trust building, like sports star Kanat Begaliev, civic activist Aigerim Usonova from Search’s Central Asian Youth Forum, comedians Azia Mix, etc. Such figures were a key voice for youth in the social cohesion exercises in the aftermath of recent locally-based conflicts in Iskra, Andarak, Kara-Balta, Saruu, Suzak, etc. Some religious activists, including prominent young female religious leaders will be invited to these trainings as well.

Activity 1.3 Promotion of Best Practices

Recognising the importance of South-South learning, particularly amongst peers, canvassing campaigners and Youth Center participants will share their experiences via 2 national level symposiums (Osh and Bishkek), with at least 160 active youth at each. The project’s Youth Clubs will organize and participate in events. In parallel to the general assembly, the canvassing campaigners will run small sessions with guests from state and non-state institutions, to discuss community peacebuilding. Moreover, Search and Youth Centers will run 2 exchange visits among Youth Clubs and youth-led organizations. The Youth Clubs will have an opportunity to exchange results of their civic engagement campaigns, community mapping and dialogue platforms. Based on the achievements and lessons learned from the Youth Clubs, Search will develop a toolkit of community and arts-based peacebuilding, to be delivered to active stakeholders in the peacebuilding community, such as the State Agency of Youth Affairs, NGOs, and Youth Centers.

Activity 1.4 Mentorships

Some of the young, nationally-known cultural and social figures, as well as young community activists invited as role models during the leadership training will be invited as mentors (1 per target

⁴³ Based on Search’s experience, these activities have led to increased trust, and these are youth-friendly ways of engaging young people in their own communities

⁴⁴ Search will ensure that the youth engaged in these topics have an interest in and passion for the subject, so that their talents and interests are put to good use and they’re enjoying the activities.

district). Search will select mentors who have led initiatives in their communities or entrepreneurs, artists, and journalists, deepening our “key people to more people” approach. Search will widely publicise the selection along with the Youth Ministry and the President’s office, and a two-step selection process - a Government and civil society panel, and an online vote by young people. Mentors will also participate in an orientation workshop on the project’s mission and mentorship guidelines. This mentorship mechanism will create opportunities for the Youth Clubs in target communities to learn from established young leaders, who will provide advice and give feedback throughout the project. Further, women mentors will be paired with female Youth Club members to be sensitive to the comfort of female participants. Regular online and offline engagement between the Youth Clubs and mentors will be organized during the first 6 months. Search’s stringent selection process will ensure that proper steps are taken to guarantee the safety of youth participants.

Outcome 2: Greater civic engagement of youth in conflict-prone areas

Activity Stream 2 aims to boost civic engagement by enabling the canvassing campaigners to drive their own initiatives through their Youth Clubs and deepening ownership. Search will employ the **Common Ground Approach (CGA)**⁴⁵ in the civic engagement and tolerance road shows. These roadshows afford youth with the opportunity for intergenerational engagement, where they can build relationships with community elders, including police representatives, religious leaders, and political leaders. Search’s vast experience around the globe shows us that youth leadership exercises like this are most powerful when they are explicitly focused on catalyzing new collaboration between young people and elder power brokers, including government. The shifts in attitudes which are caused include a) youth perceive themselves as having value to the community and b) adults/elders perceive youth as being relevant stakeholders who can make a positive impact.

Activity 2.1 Institutional Support to Youth Clubs through Action Grants

Search and Youth Centers will facilitate mini-grants for Youth Clubs to design and implement local initiatives aimed at strengthening civic engagement. To support these initiatives, the selected mentors will be available to the canvassing campaigners for advice and support. Possible civic initiatives could include running civic campaigns; creating public spaces; or income generating opportunities. Search will provide grants three times periodically. There will be a 20% quota for projects initiated by young women and/or women from socially marginalized groups. The best mini-projects will be selected during the national exchange symposium through an open vote among the participants and judges. Action grants will be administered by Youth Centers with close guidance from Search.

Activity 2.2 Community Outreach & Civic Engagement Workshops

Youth Club members will work with their mentors to create syllabi for vulnerable youth to develop life skills and civic identity through peer-to-peer training. They will plan and carry out workshops on community outreach and civic participation in their own communities, with support from mentors. The canvassing campaigners will complete at least three workshops each. After, the youth who attended these workshops will run their own course for other youth (at least two) with close support from canvassing campaigners. Workshop topics will be closely tied to learning outcomes for the at-risk youth in their own community, such as career development, effective communication, public speaking courses, or art skills courses such as photography. This two-way civic engagement and multiplier effect will enable greater engagement among youth and more positive youth connections.

Activity 2.3 Tolerance Road Shows

Search will mobilize influential people with the State Agency on Youth Affairs and the President’s office like celebrity mentors, religious leaders, and women activists, for tolerance road shows (public

⁴⁵ The CGA brings people together across dividing lines to understand each other’s differences, to celebrate their commonalities and to work collaboratively around shared interests.

lectures, master classes, film screenings, or food fairs). These innovative road shows are an ideal way to involve a broader audience in a fun activity and develop a spirit of unity in target communities, focusing on topics like diversity, tolerance, and peace. As extremist groups promise fame and influence to young recruits, the road shows will provide a positive outlet for showcasing talents. The canvassing campaigners, through their Youth Clubs, will work closely with mentors to organize one-day roadshows at least twice in each target community. Local governments will provide event premises and security. Media will cover selected events on TV, radio, etc.

Outcome 3: Increased collaboration between youth and their elder counterparts in local political decision-making

Activity Stream 3 aims to increase canvassing campaigners' engagement with multiple stakeholders. With their new knowledge and skills, they will be encouraged to take an active role in the decision-making processes in their communities, further developing a network committed to building peace. As part of the media component, Search will **promote positive local narratives**. Search's experience has shown that to promote peace and prevent violence, it is more powerful to elevate positive narratives than to develop counter narratives or emphasize the negative value of extremist narratives. In Kyrgyzstan, Search will leverage its media expertise to amplify constructive pathways for addressing grievances and collaborative problem-solving. This activity stream consists of **two core activities**: local stakeholder dialogues and town hall meetings, and a reality TV series.

Activity 3.1 Local Stakeholder Dialogues and Town Hall Meetings

Local stakeholder dialogues and town hall meetings will afford another opportunity for increased engagement with diverse community stakeholders. Key participants will include local authority representatives, religious leaders, women activists, civil society leaders, and police representatives. Canvassing campaigners will go back to the results of the original local dialogue processes, revisiting factors related to peacebuilding, violence, radicalization and community security, as well as issues that divide and bring communities together. To delve more deeply, canvassing campaigners will lead the organization of town hall meetings. Lessons and views of these youth leaders will then be linked to local government policy making processes that aim to transform the structures that frame long-term conflict. The primary themes will be community security solutions to violence. At least 5 meetings will be organized in each of the 27 communities, with themes such as "What is community resilience?" and "What is the role of religion in Kyrgyzstan's secular democracy?" Outcomes of these meetings will be documented and success stories disseminated through the media.

Activity 3.2 Reality TV Series

The proposed project seeks to propel the positive role youth can play into homes across Kyrgyzstan, through a unique reality TV show that models positive youth behavior. Search, together with a local production company, will harness decades of experience in producing high-quality, positive media to produce a cost-effective reality TV show, entitled *Normalizer*, which will **highlight youth playing a positive role in society, solving local problems and conflicts**. It is important for youth viewers to see their peers as positive role models onscreen through engagement with multiple stakeholders, and for elders and key decision-makers to see the valuable contribution youth can make to Kyrgyzstan.

Normalizer will serve to challenge stereotypes and prejudices by giving people an opportunity to see the *process* of civic engagement in action, through entertaining challenges, **thereby bringing this crucial inter-generational engagement to scale in Kyrgyzstan**. It will show how attitudes of community members and authorities toward the contestants change. In each weeklong program, two groups of contestants will need to problem-solve to address the same challenge. For example, one might decide to use a government office, while another could work through a civil society organization to resolve an issue. The **focus on process**, not results, presents realistic challenges

faced by marginalised groups, including lack of knowledge and connections; prejudice and stereotypes; and practical difficulties often connected with corruption, incompetence and lack of resources among authorities. From a pedagogical standpoint, it is also more valuable for viewers to watch the critical thinking and persistence needed to address issues than to only receive the results.

i) **Message Development** - Search will run a consultation process with the critical stakeholders, particularly youth in our target areas, to develop the messages of the program. This will be done primarily through interviews and will result in a message map which outlines the specific elements of positive role models that need to be introduced into and through popular culture. This will inform the selection of topics, the scripting, filming and editing, and the branding of the program.

ii) **Production** - Through established contacts and networks, Search will identify and select a suitable local production company to prepare for pre-production. The selection of contestants will be open to the canvassing campaigners, who will be the real heroes and sheroes of the show, with a 50/50 gender balance. Pre-production will include finding locations, setting shooting schedules, and many other specific tasks before filming begins. Post-production and editing will then begin, including adding music, graphics, subtitles, and preparing it for broadcast. We will broadcast the show on major television networks across the four countries during prime time. The show's primary language will be Russian, with subtitles in all local languages for maximum audience reach.

iii) **Broadcast** - The show will be broadcast in local languages (Kyrgyz, Uzbek and Russian) on Yntymaak and KTRK.

iv) **Promotion and social media strategy** - The show will be the first of its kind in Kyrgyzstan, so a creative and contemporary marketing campaign will be rolled out to generate significant hype. The marketing campaign will be **mission based**, in that beyond attracting audience members, it will also promote the core messages of the show. A successful promotional strategy develops a loyal audience by helping them create an identity around the show. By having viewers or listeners express pride in being a *Normalizer*, they become ambassadors for the show and messages, growing the influence of the program. We will establish a **multi-pronged social media presence** including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube pages. Finally, the program will benefit from lessons learned in promoting the current *Normalizer* radio show at Yntymaak TV/Radio and build on its demonstrated successes.

Geographic scope: The project's canvassing campaigners will derive from 27 vulnerable target communities in 11 raions/districts from 6 oblasts/regions of Kyrgyzstan, selected in collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Committee on Local Self-Government and Interethnic Relationships based on two criteria. More detailed descriptions about these communities' vulnerability to conflicts and radicalization and a detailed map is attached in Annex D.

b) Budget:

Table 2: Project Activity Budget

Outcome/ Output number	Output name	Output budget by RO	UN budget category (see table below for list of categories)	Any remarks (e.g. on types of inputs provided or budget justification)
Outcome 1: Increased capacity & opportunities for youth in community peacebuilding efforts as a better alternative pathway from violence				
Output 1.1	Youth Mapping	\$124,019	All categories	
Output 1.2	Leadership Development Training	\$48,092	All categories	
Output 1.3	Promotion of Best Practices	\$179,607	All categories	

Output 1.4	Mentorships	\$93,358	All categories	
Outcome 2: Greater civic engagement of youth in conflict-prone areas				
Output 2.1	Institutional Support to Youth Clubs through Action Grants	\$121,453	All categories	
Output 2.2	Community Outreach & Civic Engagement Workshops	\$23,550	All categories	
Output 2.3	Tolerance Roadshows	\$57,800	All categories	
Outcome 3: Increased collaboration between youth and their elder counterparts in local political decision-making				
Output 3.1	Local Stakeholder Dialogues and Town Hall Meetings	\$31,344	All categories	
Output 3.2	Reality TV series	\$219,493	All categories	
	Monitoring & Evaluation	\$96,284	All categories	
Total		\$995,000		

Table 3: Project budget by UN categories

PBF PROJECT BUDGET			
CATEGORIES	Amount Recipient Organization - SFCG	Amount Recipient Organization- Youth Centers	TOTAL
1. Staff and other personnel	\$196,592		\$196,592
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials			
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)			
4. Contractual services	\$65,800		\$65,800
5. Travel	\$20,500		\$20,500
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts			
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	\$227,313	\$419,702	\$647,015
Sub-Total Project Costs	\$510,205	\$419,702	\$929,907
8. Indirect Support Costs*	\$65,093		\$65,093
TOTAL	\$575,298	\$419,702	\$995,000

* The rate shall not exceed 7% of the total of categories 1-7 and should follow the rules and guidelines of each recipient organization. Note that direct project implementation costs should be charged to the relevant budget line, according to the organization's regulations, rules and procedures.

c) Capacity of RO(s) and implementing partners:

SFCG global annual budget (2016): \$ 47,650,000 Search global staff: Full-time employees = 554 / Part-time employees = 82 / Consultants = 19 / Volunteers = 50

Founded in 1982, Search works in 49 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America to transform the way the world deals with conflict, away from adversarial approaches and towards collaborative solutions. Search works with local partners to strengthen societies' capacity to deal with conflict constructively, emphasizing the benefits of nonviolence and cooperation. Search has worked in Kyrgyzstan since 2012, cultivating extensive experience in CVE and youth peacebuilding through training of media professionals in conflict-sensitive reporting, increasing the capability of religious actors and state authorities to deal with VE, and by transforming media from a mechanism for inciting hatred to a primary tool for peace. From 2013, with support from the UK Government, Search convened a Consultative Working Group on CVE, bringing together stakeholders, like government, security agencies, and religious leaders, for the first time to collaborate, transform relationships, and build trust. SFCG also uses media, particularly young journalists, to create dialogue around interethnic conflict and to engage authorities and policy makers around conflict issues.

All Search Kyrgyzstan projects were jointly implemented with partners, such as a USAID-supported program for conflict-sensitive journalism with the youth-led organization, *Youth of Osh*, while a UK Government and USIP-funded CVE program was implemented in collaboration with 22 state and non-state institutions, including law enforcement, religious leaders, women, and youth. Search has established relationships with local community members to address root causes of conflict and create positive alternatives to religious extremism, networks that will be valuable for this project's smooth implementation. With 100% Kyrgyz national staff, not only are activities politically and culturally sensitive, but implementation is rapid and cost-effective due to already established infrastructure. Monitoring and evaluation at the program level will be overseen with project partners by the Design, Monitoring and Evaluation (DM&E) Coordinator in Kyrgyzstan. He/she will be supported by Search's Asia Regional DM&E specialist, who works closely with the Institutional Learning Team, and its DM&E unit in Search HQ. Search has a strong M&E framework including a specially designed database, team of experts, curriculum for training partners, and quarterly reflection meetings.

Youth Centers, established in conjunction with the Ministry of Youth after the 2010 conflict, with support from organizations like UNICEF, USAID, and World Bank, is an organization that provides safe environments for youth from different backgrounds to interact, acquire peacebuilding competencies and life skills, and to cope with their situation. The aim has been to empower youth to participate in peace building, reconciliation processes and decision-making, and to provide them with skills for and opportunities to better their lives. It is widely represented in every district, has close connections with local youth and ability to coordinate youth around a positive cause. Courses on peacebuilding, multiculturalism, leadership, among others empower youth to make positive changes in their communities and country. Independent entity status affords it flexibility in operations and its long-standing, voluntarily-run structure provides sustainability after project closure.

Table 4: Overview of RO funding in the country

	RO 1: NAME?	Key Source of Funding (government, donor etc)	Annual Regular Budget in \$	Annual emergency budget (e.g. CAP)
Previous calendar year 2015	SFCG Kyrgyzstan	British Embassy, FCO, USIP, DRL	1 105 455 \$	NA
Current calendar year	SFCG Kyrgyzstan	British Embassy, FCO, USIP, DRL	921 288 \$	NA

As part of the proposal the following must be included:

- Annual report of the Recipient Organization;
- Audited Financial Statements for the last three years;
- A letter from RO's external auditor stating that the RO has the requisite financial systems, internal controls and capacity to manage project funds. At the time of submission, the auditor must also provide membership of a national or regional audit association.

III. Management and coordination

a) Project management:

The Project Management Team (PMT) will be ultimately accountable for ensuring effective and efficient implementation. Its primary functions include coordination and management of project implementation. The PMT is also responsible for quality control, monitoring and reporting, finance and procurement, and communications in accordance with UN procedures and national standards. The PMT will comprise of: SFCG – Country Director, Finance Manager, Project Manager and Youth Centers focal points/project coordinators, Ministry of Youth focal point. The project team will utilize existing connections with UNWOMEN, IOM, and UNFPA to make use of the key insights from their Gender in Society Perceptions Study, currently being implemented as part of a broader initiative to build gender responsive policy and programming in Kyrgyzstan.

b) Funds disbursement: *Funds transfers will be made based on the following schedule:*

	Percentage	Triggers
Tranche 1	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formal approval of the project
Tranche 2	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expenditure of at least 75% of the first tranche ● On-time submission of a semi-annual or annual report
Tranche 3	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expenditure of at least 75% of the second tranche ● On-time submissions of semi-annual, annual and final reports

c) Risk management:

Table 5 – Risk management matrix

Risks to the achievement of PBF outcomes	Likelihood of occurrence (high, medium, low)	Severity of risk impact (high, medium, low)	Mitigating Strategy (and Person/Unit responsible)
The political situation in Kyrgyzstan deteriorates, preventing the project from continuing.	Low	High	We have established good relationships built on trust with multiple political and security leaders in Kyrgyzstan. We will seek to secure early buy-in and ensure continued engagement and transparent communication with all key stakeholders. Early warning signs will be communicated to PBSO for necessary response.
Young canvassing campaigners are not open and willing to participate in activities with youth from other ethnic or religious	Low	Medium	SFCG will identify and recruit youth that share Search's mission and vision of inclusive peacebuilding, using a consultative, locally-driven process that ensures stakeholder buy-in and relevance

backgrounds, or political, religious and police leaders.			amongst the target group to ensure interest.
Key stakeholders, such as political and religious leaders, community leaders and the police are unwilling to engage in project activities.	Low	Medium	Search will consult with all relevant stakeholders and inform any potential spoiler of our impartiality and objectivity. This interactive and inclusive process will ensure any issues are communicated upfront and that the rationale behind the project is understood.
Project's participants become targeted as a result of their participation in the project's activities.	Low	Low	Search is committed to ensuring the security of the participants at all times. Search has strong relationships and communication patterns with local and national authorities for added security.

d) Monitoring & evaluation:

M&E/ILT staff costs: \$17,100; baseline assessment: \$5,000; ongoing monitoring: \$10,800; final evaluation: \$40,000; Total: \$72,900.

Development of Comprehensive M&E Strategy and Plan: During the Inception Phase, SFCG's DM&E Specialist will develop a Comprehensive M&E Strategy in collaboration with the project partner based on the indicators outlined in the attached Results Framework.

Baseline Assessment: At the outset of the project, SFCG will carry out a *baseline assessment* to identify pre-project base data on the indicators of success written in the results framework. The baseline also includes a brief organizational capacity assessment of local partners'. SFCG's DM&E team will conduct a quantitative survey with a representative sample size in the project districts and one control district. The survey will be supplemented with qualitative data generated through focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informants interviews (KII) carried out with target stakeholders. Recommendations from the baseline will guide the project implementation process.

Monitoring: All outputs will be monitored monthly to ensure they are integrated into project management, outcomes, integration between activities, application of best practice, lessons learned, and adapting to necessary changes. SFCG will use the following *means of verification* to collect output and outcome data: an up-to-date database of participants disaggregated by age, sex, location, ethnicity and religion; pre- and post-test surveys among direct participants of the capacity building training; FGDs and KIIs to assess attitude and behavior change among the key target groups; Mini-surveys and targeted interviews among target stakeholders to assess the effectiveness and value-added of the policy and research work; viewership survey among the viewers of reality TV program using the 3-R approach (reach, resonance and response); documenting success stories, anecdotes, quotes and personal narratives (written and visual means); Common Ground Assessment Criteria to assess the CG element and conflict sensitivity of media; Quarterly reflection meetings to review the monitoring results and inform further program methodologies and implementation.

An internal *mid-term reflection meeting* will monitor activity implementation and conflict dynamics/local needs, identify project progress against the desired outcomes and results, and recommend any major mid-way changes and adjustments. This exercise will involve SFCG and Youth Centers staff, Ministry of Youth, local authorities, selected youth leaders and some mentors. The *external final evaluation* will be conducted to measure the results of the project as a whole, examining its relevance to evolving contexts, effectiveness in achieving desired results, intermediate impact on improving youth leadership and their constructive engagement in peacebuilding and reconciliation activities using the OECD DAC criteria for evaluating conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming. The evaluation will include a survey similar to the baseline to compare results and discern changes in public knowledge and attitudes, quantitative data and a 3-R survey.

Roles & Responsibilities: The SFCG locally-based DM&E specialist will be responsible for leading the project's DM&E efforts. He/she will be supported with technical assistance with development, methodology, and analysis by the Asia Regional DM&E Specialist and the HQ-based DM&E staff. SFCG DM&E team will carry out activities related to the baseline assessment, FGD of scripts, and mid-term reflection exercise. Final evaluation will be carried out by an external evaluator with a close support from the SFCG DM&E local and regional team.

- e) **Administrative arrangements** (This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient:

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

The Recipient shall have full responsibility for ensuring that the Activity is implemented in accordance with the fully signed Project Document;

In the event of a financial review, audit or evaluation by UNOPS or PBSO, be responsible for providing the necessary accounting documents;

Providing all documents and information to UNOPS which may be required under the relevant payment requests; and

Ensure professional management of the Activity, including performance monitoring and reporting activities.

Compliance with General Conditions on Grant Agreement as per Annex C.

Reporting:

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

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

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall be owned by the PBF. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by UNOPS shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

Public Disclosure.

The PBSO and Managing Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Management Agent website (<http://www.unops.org>).