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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** SOUTH SUDAN

**TYPE OF REPORT: semi-annual, annual OR FINAL:**

**YEAR of report:** 2020

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| **Project Title:** Breaking the Cycle of Violence -rehabilitating justice and accountability mechanisms for the transformation of survivors and perpetrators of violent conflict into change agents for peace**.**  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:**  **00117921** | |
| **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:**  **UNICEF (Convening Agency)**  **UNDP**  **OHCHR** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 4 October 2019  **Project end date:** 4 October 2021  **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):**  **Recipient Organization Amount**  UNICEF $ 1,000,000  UNDP $ 2,000,000  Total: $ 3,000,000  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 43 %  \*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\*  **Gender-responsive Budgeting:**  Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: 900,000 USD (30 %) of the total project budget  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: 466,866.222 USD (expended/committed) | |
| **Project Gender Marker:**  **Project Risk Marker:**  **Project PBF focus area:** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: UNICEF, UNDP and OHCHR  Project report approved by: RCO, PBF Focal Point Benjamin  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: | |

***NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:***

* *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
* *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
* *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
* *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*
* *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

**PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

Briefly outline the **status of the project** in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):

*The selection and contracting of counterparts to strengthen the capacity and inclusion of survivors in dialogues for peace have been finalized; Smile Again Africa Development (**SAADO), Universal Intervention and Development Organisation (UNIDOR), South Sudan Law Society (SSLS) and Dialogue and Research Institute (DRI). In Jonglei and Unity States, SAADO and UNIDOR have begun preliminary activities, including introductions to relevant project stakeholders and mapping/identification of target beneficiaries; SSLS and DRI are also in the process of launching activities shortly.*

*In Bentiu and Rubkona, the Civil Society Organization (CSO) partner**Hope Restoration South Sudan (HRSS) is implementing community policing activities as it seeks to empower people within their communities to respond to legal issues and engage with justice and related administrative systems more effectively. Another CSO, Foundation for Democracy and Accountable Governance (FODAG), has been raising awareness on the rights of children to justice actors including judges, social workers, traditional leaders as well as for youth and women groups, CSOs and parents in Juba. Additionally, Hold the Child Organisation (HCO) is equally providing legal aid service for youth in Bor.*

*The Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW) and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) were supported to initiate a monthly justice for children working group as a discussion and collaboration forum for relevant actors on matters related to children in contact with the law.*

Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000 character limit):

*Project-related events will include state-level forums, dialogues and engagement symposiums on transitional justice issues, as well as events organised by survivor networks, dramas, radio talk shows and human rights education activities.*

*Trainings will be conducted to strengthen the capacity of justice actors, both formal (judges, prosecutors, police officers) and informal (traditional leaders, religious leaders). For example, traditional leaders will be trained on children’s rights and juvenile justice in Pibor and Aweil.*

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. (1500 character limit):

*N/A*

In a few sentences, explain whether the project has had a positive **human impact**. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):

*As part of the community policing approach, HRSS has trained 25 (13 females) youth leaders on ways that security can be improved by resolving everyday minor conflicts that at times have escalated to violence. The trained youth have formed youth committees with support from the local police in countering youth violence and addressing youth conflicts which includes disputes regarding water point, tea places, family matters and child marriage. So far, the youth committee has had eight meetings in Bentiu and Rubkona town where 29 disputes have been recorded, and 13 disputes have been successfully resolved. Gai Monythorth, a beneficiary of the youth training on PCRC and a member of the youth committees, acknowledges the positive benefit of the trained committee members as they can counter youth violence and address disputes amongst themselves. Their efforts are contributing to a harmonious living environment, thereby fostering peace and development. He says, “I got involved in the project because I want to feel safe where I live. I also want my wife and my children to feel safe when she is doing her errands, and when the children are playing or going to school. Ever since the 2013 crisis, I got tired of hearing complaints from the youth because I could not help. After the community policing training in Rubkona, I am now equipped with the knowledge to support my community to resolve youth violence to bring peace.”*

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

Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration). Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.

* “On track” refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.
* “On track with peacebuilding results” refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.

If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.

**Outcome 1: The engagement of children and youth in the target communities of Aweil, Juba Bor/Pibor and Bentiu in dialogue and trust building mechanisms has increased and leads to a reduction in violence and conflict.**

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

*Progress towards this outcome is being made at different levels, based on indicators to increase target communities’ confidence in peace and security and to decrease the motivations of children and youth to join armed groups.*

*Partnerships have been established with local counterparts not only to ensure community-driven and owned activities to address underlying community grievances, but also to build trust among and with survivors of conflict. The activities carried out in partnership with counterparts address historical grievances by targeting marginalized groups of survivors and victims, including conflict and sexual violence survivors. Additionally, survivors’ networks are being established and strengthened alongside their civil society allies to support the reconstruction of a worn social fabric and to facilitate the beneficiaries’ meaningful engagement in reconciliation dialogue and transitional justice processes. These actions, coupled by the promotion of accountability, will increase the target communities’ confidence in peace and contribute to decrease youth’s motivations to join armed groups, laying the foundations to promote long-term political will and successful transitional justice processes. Results will be further achieved through knowledge-driven decision making and activity design (e.g. field research on self-defense armed groups in Unity and Jonglei States). This knowledge will help to address peace spoilers, support the building of trust and dialogue efforts, and strengthen accountability mechanisms. The actions highlighted above will support a more participatory peace process and reduce the risk of retaliatory violence, revenge attacks and new localized conflicts.*

*As it is important to provide adequate support to the children and youth that come in contact with the law, partnerships with implementing partners been initiated to provide case management services to these children and youth. These partners will also build the capacity of state social workers for sustainability purposes.*

*In addition, to increase awareness on human rights, in particular women’s and children’s rights, in the implementation sites – where the knowledge gap of the same is vast – the Child Act 2008 has been printed for dissemination and the work on development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials initiated. It is of fundamental importance to spread information on human rights for the community members to know which acts violate these rights. This aims to contribute to a broader understanding of accountability, resulting in decreased violence and better conditions for sustainable peace. This knowledge needs to be increased in many different levels. Hence, the material will be used for different awareness raising events, including radio shows, sport events, workshops and trainings, targeting a broad scope of individuals, including community members, children, parents, traditional and religious leaders, justice actors.*

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000 character limit)*

*In line with the gender marker score 2 of this project, gender equality is prioritised as a significant objective with a target of 50 per cent women/young girls to be reached across all activities. The inclusion of youth aged 18-32 years has also been set as a priority focus group across all relevant activities. Also, to further promote gender equality, the recruitment of qualified female personnel has been encouraged to ensure appropriate representation and to further promote gender equality throughout and across the project.**Local counterparts also aim to actively engage local leaders to promote the inclusion of women and girls, as well as youth, to ensure their participation in decision making processes not only in project activities, but more generally across the civic space.*

**Outcome 2: Target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor/Pibor and Bentiu have enhanced trust in the formal law enforcement system leading to a stronger social contract between the state and its children and youth**

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

*To protect and defend the rights of juveniles and to promote skill development, rehabilitation and reintegration of children in conflict with the law, vocational training materials are procured for vocational training. Sixty-nine juveniles were selected for the first phase. Further, two juvenile courts in Juba were furnished and are operational. A total of 82 juvenile cases were registered, and during the reporting period, 38 juvenile cases were concluded.*

*Sixty (13 females) formal and informal justice actors from Bor and Aweil were trained on children’s rights for the first time.*

*The project partnered with FODAG in Juba, which raised awareness on the rights of children for the justice actors, including judges, social workers, youth leaders, traditional chiefs, women’s groups and civil society. Awareness was achieved through campaigns and distribution of 500 fact sheets that provided answers to frequently asked questions on juvenile justice. FODAG additionally conducted prison visitations in three prisons in Juba, identified seven children under remand charged with various offences and FODAG lawyers are following up to ensure that they receive a fair trial.*

*The project supported the establishment of Police Community Relations Committees in Bentiu and Rubkona through a partnership with HRSS. In partnership with HRSS, the project facilitated a total of two neighbourhood watches within the Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites; eight Police Community Relations Committees (PCRC) in Bentiu, where 348 (43 per cent female) people have attended the meetings; and 25 youth (13 female) have been trained on the youth in community policing concept supporting the security forces to counter youth violence.*

*To enhance knowledge and capacity on children’s rights in the different implementation sites, two consultants (one national, one international) have been identified to support the MGCSW with the implementation process of the Child Act 2008 and related policies and frameworks – from the strategic level down to grassroots level. The support includes technical support to the national government, training of justice actors (informal and formal) as well as establishing community networks on the ground. It is important to spread the knowledge on different levels and use an inclusive approach, including various different actors, for the appropriate and best results.*

*While measures to fill the knowledge gap is of fundamental importance for accountability and trust among the communities, access to a fair trial is equally important. For this purpose, the project will engage with the South Sudan Law Society to establish a legal aid scheme in collaboration with the MoJCA and form a coalition of lawyers to provide legal representation to juveniles accused of committing a crime or victims of the same.*

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000 character limit)*

*The project fosters youth inclusiveness as the youth have been trained on the community policing concept and are empowered to resolve disputes among their peers.*

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)  *Monthly coordination meetings in the technical working group have been set up and/or reports received from counterparts to review the progress that is being made and any challenges faced, as well as how to address these. The field offices are also being involved to ensure regular support, coordination and oversight of the counterparts’ activities. Moreover, communication and visibility guidance has been shared with local counterparts to ensure the material development is in line with donor and agency norms and procedures.* | Do outcome indicators have baselines?  *Outcome and output level indicators will be reviewed through a perception and baseline survey by a consultant. The consultant is identified, and the implementation of the assignment, which is for a three-month period, is about to start.*  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?  *The perception and baseline survey have not been launched, as it is not yet finalized.* |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?  *The mid-term evaluation was delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak and is planned to be conducted in February/March 2021.* | Evaluation budget (response required): *150,000 USD for monitoring and evaluation.*  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: *N/A* |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project. | Name of funder: Amount:  *N/A* |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(1500 character limit)* | *Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, activities have been slightly delayed and subject to small adjustments to fit the evolving context and restrictive measures in place. For example, the partners have had to modify their implementation modalities in line with government issued guidelines.* *However, the modifications are not expected to cause significant delays in project implementation as such.*  *Additionally, project monitoring will continue to be conducted remotely and with support from the field staff.*  *The programme shall take into consideration scaling up outreach/awareness raising through COVID compatible measures, such as online platforms/media instead of face to face interactions.* |

**PART IV: COVID-19**

*Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

1. Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

$ 0

1. Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications:

*Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, implementation of certain activities has been modified to align with the evolving context as well as the restrictions put in place by the national government. Trainings that would have been conducted in one hall took place in two halls with facilitation led separately to adhere to the COVID-19 protocols. Additionally, the training facilitators echoed COVID-19 messaging, urging participants to adhere to guidelines as well as take protective and preventative actions.*

1. Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications

Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery

Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management

Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe): *Within the COVID-19 context, the consortium and its local counterparts have had to adapt their activities and work plans to guarantee that implementation respects WHO guidelines on infection prevention and control. Moreover, with restrictions and related impediments to, for example, regular movement and travel, and to large groups of people being brought together, activities have at times experienced delays or have had to be carried out over an extended period of time, as opposed to the initial planning made prior to the pandemic's outbreak.*

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)

**PART V: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

*Using the* ***Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments****- provide an update on the achievement of* ***key indicators*** *at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the 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. (300 characters max per entry)

|  | **Performance Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator Milestone** | **Current indicator progress** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1**  **The engagement of Children and Youth in the targeted communities of Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu in dialogue and trust building mechanisms has increased and leads to reduction in violence and conflict.** | Indicator 1.1  **#** of individual respondents with confidence in peace and security in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, Bentiu and Juba (disaggregated by sex, age, and geography) | **Baseline**: 47.4% (Male 46.6% and Female 48.7%) | **Target**: 50% (disaggregated by sex) |  |  |  |
| Indicator 1.2  % of children and youth (<=32) both male and female with motivations to join armed groups in the targeted locations. | TBC | TBC |  |  |  |
| **Output 1.1**  Strengthened local networks of survivors for peace dialogues with local communities and political elites in the targetcommunities of Aweil, Bor, Pibor, Bentiu and Juba | Indicator 1.1.1  **#** of local youth networks operational to promote peaceful resolution to conflicts in the target communities | **0** | **2** | 1 by March 2021 |  |  |
| Indicator 1.1.2  # of training sessions conducted to sensitize on the consequences of conflict and violence on children and youth to local communities, CSOs and influential actors. | **0** | **4** | 2 by March 20201 |  |  |
| **Output 1.2**  Improved access to justice in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, Pibor, Bentiu and Juba | Indicator 1.2.1  # of children and youth having access to at least 1 justice service consistent with the best interest of the child and youth. | **0** | 500 (min. 40% female) |  | 82 | Partners identified and activities just starting, hence, too soon to estimate progress for most implementation sites. |
| Indicator 1.2.2  # of children and youth accessing alternatives including diversion. | **0** | 100 (min. 30% female) |  |  | Activity will be carried out in 2021. |
| **Outcome 2** Target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu have enhanced trust in the formal law enforcement system leading to a stronger social contract between the state and its children and youth | Indicator 2.1  Percentage of public satisfied with the legal aid services provided by the government in the project target locations (disaggregated by age and sex) | TBC with the result of the initial  assessment. | **Target**: increase of 2 % |  |  | The development of a legal aid scheme with the MoJCA, is ongoing. At this stage, it is on a strategic and systematically level and results will be reported as they unfold. |
| Indicator 2.2  Public perception of a fair trial: “Level of confidence  that you will receive a fair trial if you were charged  of committing a criminal act/delinquency “in the  project target locations **(disaggregated by age and**  **sex).** | **Baseline**: TBC with the result of the initial  assessment. | **Target**: increase of 2 % |  |  | Plans are underway to conduct a survey to set the project baselines that will later inform project reporting. |
| **Output 2.1**  Fair trials/detention provided for children and youth of the target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu. | Indicator 2.1.1  # of children and received legal aid and representation support. | **0** | **Target**: 500 (30% female) | **500** |  | The project has partnered with two CSOs after the COVID-19 restrictions were eased to in Bor and Aweil to provide legal aid to children. In this regard, FODAG has identified 7 children from prison facilities in Juba and is in the process of following up on their cases. |
| Indicator 2.1.2  # of community-based policing and community relations Committees (PCRCs) established and operational | **9** | **22** | 13 | 11 | HRSS is continuing to implement community policing activities in Bentiu and Rubkona. |
| **Output 2.2**  Enhanced capacity of justice actors in Aweil, Juba, Bor and Bentiu. | Indicator 2.2.1  # of judges, prosecutors, police and prisons officers and socialworkers demonstrate increased knowledge on juvenile justice and inmate care. | **0** | 100 participants (30% female | 100 participants (30% female | 60 (22% female) | Training in Pibor is planned by December 2020 and the rest of the implementation sites in 2021. |
| Indicator 2.2.2  # of traditional leaders/customary court judges with increased knowledge on children’s and women’s rights and child sensitive justice procedures. | Baseline: 60 traditional leaders benefitted from training. | 90 traditional/customary law judges | 30 | **0** | The training is scheduled for the month of November in Pibor and Aweil. Further training will be conducted in 2021. |