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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** Guinea Bissau

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

**YEAR of report:** 2020

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| **Project Title:** Vers un nouvel équilibre en Guinée-Bissau : créer l’espace pour une réelle participation de la femme dans le règlement pacifique des conflits et la gouvernance, No Sta Djuntu  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** 104809 | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** Interpeace | **Type and name of recipient organizations:**  Interpeace  **(Convening Agency)** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 08 april 2019 (II Phase)  **Project end date:** 30/09/2020  **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**  Interpeace (Phase II) $ 427.714,00        $        $        $  Total: $ 427.714,00  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 56%  \*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: -4.27  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: 238.499,96 USD | |
| **Project Gender Marker:**  **Project Risk Marker:**  **Project PBF focus area:** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Giulia Ferrati, Programme Manager Interpeace Guinea Bissau  Project report approved by:  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.*

**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 project is currently implementing its phase II, which was designed based on the learning of phase I and carried over as an extension of the overall project. This second phase was officially launched in January 2019 with an analysis of the lessons learned and recommendations from the first phase evaluation report. In the first year, the project team carried out a national participatory action research process to gather good practices in promoting women’s empowerment and inclusion while promoting social cohesion and to collect success stories. During this period, the project team also underwent some capacity building in nonviolent communication and conflict sensitivity and developed a mapping of key organizations and individuals working on gender related issues in the country.

In March 2020, following a joint evaluation with PBF Secretariat in Bissau, the project has been extended for an additional six months and is now at its final stage. These last months, were used to capitalize on the good practices and lessons learned and share them with the wider population to create a stronger catalytic effect. Stories and material collected along the project implementation constituted the basis for developing a social media and radio awareness campaign and stimulate a nationwide dialogue on the social benefits of positive collaboration between men and women.

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):

The awareness campaign will be completed with a series of public projections at the regional level to foster dialogue around women’s role in promoting social cohesion.

Activities are also going to focus on consolidating the change already achieved at individual level, creating networks and personal connections among men and women involved in promoting women participation and inclusion.

As final wrap up, in September, a public conference on women’s participation in decision making and women’s role in fostering social cohesion will be organized to allow participants involved in different activities along the project to have a common understanding. This last activity is indeed timely as it comes after the pandemic and would represent an opportunity to enhance dialogue beyond or besides dividing lines (age, gender, socio-political-economic conditions, geographical regions) and to avoid the rise of resistances within the Bissau-Guinean society on women participation

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):

Based on achievements of Phase I which “enabled grounding gender issues in everyday conversations and practices” and “pushing towards increased women’s participation in decision-making”, Phase II is focusing rather on using women’s promotion to mitigate division risks within the society, and seizing opportunities to promote harmonious relationships between men and women and between women, at different levels.

The project gave communities the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and social norms putting social cohesion at the centre of the discussions rather than focusing on gendered roles and divisions. Starting from individual experiences from both women and men that show the benefits to society that are derived from male-female collaboration, the project created a nationwide dialogue on good practices to strengthen social cohesion while promoting women’s empowerment. The project aims to scale up to a wider societal scale and at the institutional level, and its impact was registered on attitudes and behaviour of individuals, leading to a broader sociocultural change where the inclusion of women in decision-making is not a factor of division but is seen as a trigger of social cohesion.

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):

Phase I had a strong impact on the individual level: raising consciousness of gender issues among participants, providing a new vision on the topic, increasing confidence of women, and fostering a feeling of togetherness (“we are in this together”). Phase II fostered the debate on women’s participation in decision making stressing the need of adapting decision making mechanism to a new social reality where women and men equally cooperate and, thus, has to be equally represented: “we work together with men and we are those are most listen to in the community but we have always been penalized” said Adja Tai So, participating in one of the focus group organized. Building on knowledge, skills and networks created and strengthened along phase I, phase II consolidated the conscience of the need for women’s inclusion for Guinea-Bissau society, as witnessed by a man participating in one of the focus groups: “we have to work to help our girls to participate”. Phase II also focused on sustaining the idea that women’s promotion does not have to lead to divisiveness but can instead strengthen social cohesion and consequently peace in Guinea-Bissau, in a win-win logic for all, men and women and women themselves. As brilliantly summarized by Francisca Vaz, ex deputy in the national assembly, participating in one the project activities: “When we created synergies and acted together, besides political divisions, we managed to impede the approval of laws which could have harmed other women”.

**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:** Strengthen capacities and self-esteem of key members (women and men) of political parties, civil societies organizations and Security and Defense Forces (SDF) to improve mitigation of risks of division and promote social cohesion trough women promotion

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*From January to June 2020 project activities focused on strengthening the capacities of men and women from political parties, civil society and DSF on good practices to mitigate the risks of division and contribute to social cohesion through the promotion of women’s role. The good practices collected at the community level and consolidated in a note, were used as a base to develop a comprehensive training module on advocacy that also mainstreamed non-violent communication techniques (output 1.1). Based on this module, 236 men and women were trained on advocacy for women’s participation, including good practices and non-violent communication techniques, through 12 sessions in all the regions of the country. At the end of training session participants have been encouraged to organize activities promoting women’s participation at the community level. Before the covid-19 crisis, 49 participants were monitored, the majority (39) of which held activities after the training, and 33 invoking good practices in them (output 1.2).

The outbreak of covid-19 in the country and the governmental measures adopted to contain the pandemic impeded the smooth progression of activities, particularly of advocacy activities at the local level, and imposed to the project team a reflection on possible adaptations to safeguard the achievement of project’s outcomes. With this aim, RSD members trained in the framework of the project to monitor advocacy efforts of participants to the training were involved to monitor the pandemic impact on social cohesion at the community level. Results of the monitoring have been consolidated in an analysis report and shared with main institutions and organizations working on the management of the emergency response to bring their attention on the effects and implications of their response on peacebuilding.

The first set of data collected shed light on the fact that women were most affected by the pandemic due to their role at the household level. Interviews were carried out with participants to the training to better understand how the pandemic impacted women’s role and how men and women response to the crisis differ. Lessons learned are going to be integrate with the collected good practices in the compilation of a guideline to mitigate division risks and promote social cohesion through the promotion of women’s participation, contributing to consolidate men and women capacities and their respective self-esteem.

**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)*

Project activities under this outcome are fully dedicated to GEWE.

**Outcome 2:** Strengthen the institutional capacities of political parties, civil society and SDF in Bissau to mitigate the risks of division and resistance and to maximize their contribution to social cohesion through women’s promotion

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

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

In the reporting period the project team has been working on the preparation of 3 trainings sessions for 30 key members from civil society, political institutions and defence and security forces to mainstream conflict sensitivity at the institutional level, aiming to improve capacities of targeted institutions to develop and lead gender promotion initiatives internally which mitigate the risks of division and maximize social cohesion. Based on the mapping exercise done to improve the team’s understanding of existing initiatives to promote women’s role and participation, the project team carefully selected participants to the training ensuring they will be able to maximise the impact of the activities. A training module and its main contents were developed through an internal workshop based on the work previously done on conflict sensitivity with an external consultant. The participants will be trained on context analysis (actors and factors) and on risk management to be able to tailor their activities in a conflict-sensitive way.

Due to the covid-19 crisis, training activities have been suspended slowing overall progress towards targeted outcomes. 30 men and women members of key institutions are going to be trained in June if conditions and restrictions allowed; those selected among them are going to be supported in the development of institutional plans on how to conceive and develop women promotion interventions promoting social cohesion.

**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)*

Project activities under this outcome are fully dedicated to GEWE.

**Outcome 3:** Increase the public awareness of the importance of women leadership in peacebuilding and of the good practices in the mitigation of division risks, and the public knowledge of the previously shared success stories of men and women

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

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

To foster greater acceptance for women’s leadership roles and of the social benefits of positive collaboration between men and women, Voz di Paz and Interpeace engaged in a public and nationwide debate through radio programme and a social media campaign (output 3.2).

The campaign focused on men's and women's success stories to make the idea of strengthening social cohesion while fostering women’s empowerment legitimate and compelling. The selected stories helped the project team in pinpointing what exactly can contribute to social cohesion and what attitudes behaviours and actions promote divisions between men and women instead. Four videoclips have thus far been produced by the audio-visual team to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining social cohesion while promoting women participation in decision making, and to show how it can be pursued (output 3.1). Two videoclips and other posts were shared on social media reaching 520 people among younger segments of the urban population of Guinea-Bissau which is not commonly reached by radio programmes (output 3.2).

With the intervention of participants in the dialogue sessions held in the regions and in Bissau, the AV team have so far produced 7 radio programmes which are going to be transmitted to increase awareness on good practices in the mitigation of division risks. Radio programmes, which are going to be broadcasted in the next months, will allow a national peer-to-peer exchange helping the audience to reflect and discuss on the experience of participants and how to replicate them

**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)*

Project activities under this outcome are fully dedicated to GEWE.

**Outcome 4:**

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

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

**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)*

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)  A monitoring and follow-up of the participants on advocacy trainings was started by the Regional Spaces for Dialogue to measure the appropriation of good practices and the change in confidence levels of the participants. This monitoring was interrupted due to the Covid-19 emergency. A total of 49 participants were monitored through a single data collection. The majority of the participants monitored took women’s promotion activities and resorted to good practices.  A monitoring of the impact of Covid-19 on social cohesion is being done by Voz di Paz team in collaboration with the Regional Spaces for Dialogue. The data collection is being done on a bi-weekly basis, with RSD from a total of 41 communities in all the sectors of the country. | Do outcome indicators have baselines?  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required): 20.000,00 USD  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: The covid-19 pandemic and resulting governmental contention measures including strong limitation to people’s movement, a curfew, the closure of borders, and the prohibition of organizing any gathering activities, challenged the organization of project activities as they were planned in line with the original workplan. Consequently, the project team conducted some changes at the activities level to ensure the achievements of projects outcomes. Changes have been communicated to PBF to ensure strategy alignment.  The project team is now working in the preparation of the external evaluation: the ToR for an international consultant are being prepared in order to be able to carry out the evaluation exercise in the months of August/September 2020 if context allows. The evaluation is going to measure progress done in the last two years and will be developed in line with the evaluation exercise carried out at the end of the first phase of the project (September 2018). The evaluation is also going to include a reflection moment for the project team to develop project related lessons learned and good practices. |
| **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: |
| **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)* |  |

**PART IV: 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**  Strengthen the capacity and self-esteem of key men and women that are members of political parties, civil society and Defence and Security Forces (DSF), to improve the division risks mitigation | Indicator 1.1  The capacities and self-esteem of the main actors involved in the project are reinforced | n/a | 60% of the 180 respondents feel more capable and confident to mitigate the division risks and promote social cohesion through women's promotion. |  | 63% of followed up participants said they feel very capable of promoting dialogue | The Covid19 outbreak imposed a modification of activities contributing to outcome 1. Data reported is built on the basis of a portion of the activities realized. Modifications operated would allow to furtherly monitor the impact obtained in term of capacity and self esteem of participants |
| Indicator 1.2  Indicator 1.2  Number of advocacy actions (e.g. formulation of implementation strategies, meetings with authorities, declarations) taken after the training, and during the follow-up of the Regional Spaces of Dialogue (RSDs) | 0 | 4 |  | A total of 54 activities, mostly sensitization ones through meetings (djumbai) were held by participants |  |
| Indicator 1.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.1  At least 200 people are consulted in the regions and in Bissau to identify and document good practices to mitigate the division risks and promote social cohesion through women's promotion | Indicator 1.1.1  Number of people consulted disagreggated per sex (at least 50% women), age (at least 30% young people) and region (8 regions + Bissau) | 0 | 180 |  | 182 people participated in focus-groups in eight regions and Bissau (68% of women, 11% of young people). |  |
| Indicator 1.1.2  Number of good practices collected per region | n/a | 3 good practices per region (30 for the whole country) |  | 32 good practices collected in all the national territory |  |
| Output 1.2  The capacities of 180 men and women from political parties, civil society and DSF are reinforced in terms of good practices to mitigate the division risks and seize the opportunities to contribute to social cohesion through women's promotion (including NVC and identification of micro-machismo). | Indicator 1.2.1  Percentage of participants in the trainings who take activities of women's participation promotion | n/a | 60% |  | 79% of participants monitored took women’s participation promotion activities. | Covid-19 outbreak and the contention measures imposed by the government caused the interruption of advocacy activities and, consequently, of monitoring activities. Data used for the compilation of the indicator refers only to the first round of monitoring carried out in early March (49 people) |
| Indicator 1.2.2  Percentage of participants in the follow-up meetings that include good practices in their activities of women's promotion | n/a | 20% |  | 85% of participants monitored who held activities used good practices in those activities. | Covid-19 outbreak and the contention measures imposed by the government caused the interruption of advocacy activities and, consequently, of monitoring activities. Data used for the compilation of the indicator refers only to the first round of monitoring carried out in early March (49 people) |
| Output 1.3  At least 110 women of political parties, civil society and DSF in the regions and in Bissau are connected to the success models of local, national and international women to reinforce their aspirations and self-esteem. | Indicator 1.3.1  Number of young women enrolled in the internships and in the mentorship program. | 0 | 77 |  | To be updated in the following report | Activities were delayed due to the Covid19 emergency and are currently under preparation. |
| Indicator 1.3.2  Percentage of participants in the internships and mentorship programs who take concrete measures for their personal and professional development. | n/a | 30% |  | To be updated in the following report | Activities were delayed due to the Covid19 emergency and are currently under preparation. |
| Output 1.4 | Indicator 1.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 1.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 2**  Strengthen the institutional capacities of political parties, civil society and DSF in Bissau to mitigate the risks of division and of resistence and to maximize their contribution to social cohesion through women's promotion. | Indicator 2.1  Number of institutions and actors (government, political parties, DSF, opinion leaders, etc.) that show awareness of the results of good practices and opportunities to contribute to social cohesion through women's promotion | 0 | 3 |  | To be updated in the following report |  |
| Indicator 2.2  Number of concrete actions taken inside of political parties, DSF and civil society to adopt a more conflict-sensible and gender-focused approach (e.g. changes in the formal and informal practices or changes in the procedure rules to improve women's access conditions to the higher echelons) | 0 | 5 |  | To be updated in the following report |  |
| Indicator 2.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.1  Output 2.1  At least 30 people from the staff of political parties, civil society and DSF are trained in "conflict-sensitive programming with a gender focus" | Indicator 2.1.1  Better understanding of the existing initiatives or programmes to promote women and of new initiatives developed along the process of the project | n/a | 1 mapping file |  | 1 mapping file finalized and 1 map available online. Mapping exercise carried out with Voz di Paz team and complemented with input from other organizations. |  |
| Indicator 2.1.2  Number of people trained in conflict-sensitive programming with a focus on gender | 0 | 30 |  | To be updated in the following report | Due to the Covid19 emergency this activity was delayed and is currently under preparation |
| Output 2.2  At least 5 institutional structures (including at least 1 political party, 1 civil society | Indicator 2.2.1  Number of technical support plans developed and implemented | 0 | 5 |  | To be updated in the following report | Due to the Covid19 emergency this activity was delayed. |
| Indicator 2.2.2  Number of good practices and lessons learned implemented by each of the institutional structures with the goal of increasing the quality and the inclusion of gender in their interventions | n/a | At least 1 per structure for a total of 5 practices and 5 lessons. |  | To be updated in the following report | Due to the Covid19 emergency this activity was delayed. |
| Output 2.3 | Indicator 2.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.4 | Indicator 2.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 3**  The public is becoming more conscious of the importance of female leadership in peacebuilding and of good practices for division risks mitigation and is aware of the success stories of men and women that | Indicator 3.1  Number of broadcasting spots and radio transmissions, from Voz di Paz or from independent radios | 1900 | 3000 |  | To be updated in the following report |  |
| Indicator 3.2  Level of participation from the audience in the dialogue sessions after each of the video-projections done | n/a | At least 10 people per projection intervene in the dialogue, totalling 100 people |  | To be updated in the following report |  |
| Indicator 3.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.1  20 success stories from exemplary men and women for women's promotion in favour of social cohesion and of division risks mitigation are documented through video and audio (stories collected during activities from outcomes 1 and 2) | Indicator 3.1.1  Number of success stories from men and women (disaggregated by sex, at least 30% of male stories) | n/a | 20 (including 6 male stories) |  | 17 stories have been selected so far, 6 of which are male. There are currently 4 videoclips produced. | Selection of success stories and production of videoclip will be finalized in the next months. |
| Indicator 3.1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.2  One (1) public awareness campaign is carried in Bissau and the regions about the importance of female leadership for peacebuilding through the success models and good practices to mitigate the division risks. | Indicator 3.2.1  Number of people reached by and number of reactions to Facebook publications | 0 | At least 500 people reached and at least 100 reactions to Facebook publications |  | 518 people have been reached so far. 32 reactions were made to Facebook publications, with 38 clicks on publications, being 70 the total number of interactions | The campaign on social media will continue in the next months. |
| Indicator 3.2.2  Number of programs and national, independent or community radios that use the material and content of VdP activities in their own programs and transmissions. | 0 | 10 programs or programs of at least 3 radio stations |  | There are currently 7 programs produced. | Programme production is ongoing and broadcasting is going to start in the next weeks and will continue even beyond the conclusion of the project. |
| Output 3.3 | Indicator 3.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 3.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.4 | Indicator 3.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 3.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 4** | Indicator 4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 4.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 4.1 | Indicator 4.1.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 4.1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 4.2 | Indicator 4.2.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 4.2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 4.3 | Indicator 4.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 4.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 4.4 | Indicator 4.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |