

**PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT**

**COUNTRY:** TAJIKISTAN

**TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:**

**FINAL REPORT**

**YEAR OF REPORT: 2020-2021**

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| **Project Title: Empowering youth for a peaceful Tajikistan**  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** | |
| **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:**  **UNDP (Convening Agency)**  **UNICEF**  **UN Women** |
| **Date of first transfer: January 10, 2020**  **Project end date: December 31, 2021**  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** Yes | |
| **Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:**  X Gender promotion initiative  X Youth promotion initiative  ☐ Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping r special political missions  ☐ Cross-border or regional project | |
| **Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):**  **Recipient Organization Amount**  **UNDP $ 850,000.00**  **UNICEF $ 750,000.00**  **UN Women $ 400,000.00**  **Total: $ 2,000,000.00**    Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: **67% of the total project budget USD 2,000,000.00**  \*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: **USD 700,306.20 (35% of the total budget)**  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment:  **USD 229,375.03** | |
| **Project Gender Marker: GEN2**  **Project Risk Marker: Low (1)**  **Project PBF focus area: 2.3. Conflict Prevention/Management** | |
| **Report preparation:**  **Project report prepared by: RUNOs coordinated by the PDA**  **Project report approved by: Sezin Sinanoglu, UN RC in Tajikistan**  **Did PBF Secretariat review the report: NO** | |

***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 project began with significant delays in implementation of the project timeline in 2020 due to the COVID-19 crisis and the competing priorities of the Government as a result of the pandemic. Another contributing factor to the delay was the leadership change within the main national partner. Consequently, the work plan, including target districts and project timeframe could not be agreed until the end of September 2020.

Notwithstanding the delays, a preparatory phase was completed successfully, with the project redesigned to adapt to the post-COVID-19 realities. Accordingly, the Recipient UN Organisations (RUNOs) used digital tools and streamlined business processes to accelerate the project implementation. Further, partnerships were formed for youth-friendly health services on social and economic opportunities for adolescents. Additionally, baseline survey was conducted on young people’s needs and priorities to help guide the project. The RUNOs met regularly to review progress and strategize together, including on ways to fast-track implementation of the overall project.

**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 Final Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled to take place within the next six months of the project's completion. During the meeting, the project results and lessons learned, as well as the documentary film on project results will be demonstrated to key project partners. The Project Board will go over the overall project accomplishments, discuss the challenges, and close the project.

**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):**

The project supported the socio-economic inclusion of youth through creating appropriate skill sets and connecting young people to networking and business opportunities as well as by providing them with decent employment opportunities. Hence, through implementation of Innovation Labs, that were established under the Youth Development Centres/Child and Youth Services (CYS) in Kulob and Baljuvon and innovative skills building curriculum, including the social entrepreneurship module, 49 solutions proposed by adolescents and youth received seed funding for the total amount of 14,700 USD (300 USD each) for testing the ideas in reality and finding innovative solutions to the challenges pertained in the communities.

Additionally, to implement the solutions, the teams of adolescents went through the mentorship programme which has been tailored to strengthen the skill set and the implementation strategies of the projects by youth. As per the Innovation Lab programme, the mentorship has been facilitated by trained mentors and teachers, as well as external area experts.

The project has showcased how young people’s participation in local governance decision-making enable a “Youth Friendly Local Governance” model with engagement of 2,819 adolescents (1,541 females) young people through various platforms. As a result, 39 issues were identified at the local level and suggested to local authorities by young people, which are now included into the five targeted districts District Development Plans and implemented by young people jointly with local government. Social projects jointly implemented with local government were addressing various issue of young people, such as how to choose future career, young peacemakers through sports, young people as agent of sanitation, digital skills for young people, green peace and green helmet and other.

Eight participation platforms have been established at local government and school levels in target districts to enable adolescents to meet and discuss their issues and take part in decision-making. Moreover, 5 networks of Youth Unions were supported through capacity development and grant programmes.

A total of eight project winners participated in an international exhibition held in Dushanbe, regional UPSHIFT Forum and one of the projects took part in the World Youth Forum in Dushanbe. Participants had a chance to present their product and services to the wider audiences. In general, participation in skills building programmes have proven to be the most demanded among adolescents in the target districts (and also considered more impactful than one-time financing or microcredit projects, as per the World Bank’s global studies).

At the institutional level, the project supported the youth development strategy directly by connecting the youth with the local district officials and the Government of Tajikistan on increasing the capacities and knowledge of its civil servants, including on Women, Peace, and Security agenda through adoption of training modules. Namely, this connection was made through cooperation with the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (CWFA) at national and local levels, where young women from communities of pilot regions were invited by the CWFA to participate in the pilot trainings promotion of Women, Peace and Security agenda. This included the “Peace, security and prevention of violent extremism” module adopted by the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (for young women-leaders course at the CoWFA and branches), and the “Women, peace and security” module adopted by Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment (MOLME) for their educational institutions and was further institutionalized by CoWFA. **Over 100 trainers** of the Training Centers of MOLME built their capacities and enabled to teach on “Women, peace and security” with the training module integrated into its training curricula. This institutionalization and adoption of the training module to the training curricula to CWFA and MOLME ensures the sustainability of the project, as the modules will be used by the respective government agencies past the project closure. In addition, all young women, who pass leadership course at the for future career development at the GoT and students of the MoLME educational institutions will be sensitized on the topics of prevention of violent extremism and women’s role in advancing peace and security agenda. 2242, and UNSCR 2250 on youth, peace and security.

The project is catalytic as it plants seeds for long-term societal changes: once 2819 (girls: 1541)-trained young adolescents’ boys and girls apply their peacebuilding competencies to resolve their problems with multiplier effects for peers and community members are significant.

At societal level, youth’s voices and women´s engagement in conflict resolution, incident prevention and peace processes were enhanced, including in decision-making thus contributing to the PVE agenda as well. In total 3,780 adolescents, youth including 2,306 girls and women were provided with knowledge on peacebuilding issues, including on prevention of gender-based violence, conflict resolution, and community development. This enables the youth, including young women to exercise their civil rights and participate in the development of local communities through a series of measures. At a structural level, trained young people become more resilient, tend to have a positive impact on society given their skill sets to influence their peers, community leaders, social enterprises, businesses, and engage in a dialogue between government on issues that affect young people’s lives.

**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 implementation has only just started there will be human impact stories in the next report.**

The project enables young people to build confidence through a set of skills and achieve self-realization through participatory roles in society, notably by bringing up voices of other young people and taking part in the implementation of the solution to issues within their community.

Please go through the link provided below for access to the short summary of Talk-show with youth in Isfara[[1]](#footnote-2). And through this link, where an adolescent talks about the changes happening to him after this project within self-efficacy.[[2]](#footnote-3)

**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: Adolescents and young people, both men and women, are empowered to participate equally in political, social and economic life and are more resilient to radicalisation and violent extremist narratives.**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track (with some delays due to COVID-19)**

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

**Output 1 Adolescents and young people have better competencies and skills that foster their opportunities in social and economic life**

Generate evidence for analysis of data on perceptions, needs, and priorities of young people and inform decision-makers. A research company (LLC Tahlil va Mashvarat) was commissioned to conduct a baseline study which served as a basis for measuring project results after the fieldwork. It served as a basis for measuring project results after the fieldwork. It analysed young people’s identity, psychological and socio-economic vulnerabilities and their coping strategies including for resilience-building and self-realization. The study involved 2020 adolescents and young people in 10 districts, of which 83% represented rural and 17% urban residents, including 49.3% men and 50.1% women. The assignment has been completed and the key results and findings of the baseline survey have been presented to the project team and the national partners. The end line survey to measure the project results against baseline survey data was initiated in late December 2021 by the same research company (LLC Tahlil va Mashvarat) and covered 2000 adolescents and young people in same 10 districts.

The survey revealed that the level of tolerance of young people has increased (towards another culture/religion from 33.5% against 45.3%; increase in authorities as well as significant increase towards women NGOs and gender issues) and an 8.3% increase post-project felt that their views are taken into family and socio-political lives of the country. However, only a slight increase in youth feeling confident in the socio-economic opportunities (from 34.1% to 39.2%), possibly due to slow post-COVID recovery, renewed inter-ethnic tensions during the project implementation period.

Enhancing peacebuilding competencies among adolescents and youth.

In total, 3,780 adolescents and young people were trained as trainers to improve their leadership and peacebuilding skil

ls (2,306 females) in the five target districts. One of the project's central assumptions is that societal change will occur over time as trained adolescents and young people apply their peacebuilding knowledge in peer-to-peer and social interactions. Out of 2,306 females, 480 girls participated in the community-based theatre forums on prevention of violent extremism in 5 pilot regions of the project, with the active participation of the young people in discussions and dialogue on finding peaceful solutions and peaceful narratives. The theatre forums used the Augusto-Boal approach, which delivered an interactive competency-building methodology which allowed the young people to reflect on attitudes and responses to a specific behavioural pattern. In order to give communities a platform to express themselves through a performance on numerous issues that affect their community, forum theatre was chosen. The project team assisted and accompanied communities as they formed actors' teams and selected a topic linked to peacebuilding, prevention of violent exptremism and social cohesion throughout the process. As a result of interactive session of the theatre forums, 300 young people received small prizes during the quizzes and competitions organized in the theatre forums.

Promoting the role of women as contributors to peace, resilience, and well-being of communities.

2500 young women were covered via outreach to local population for peaceful narratives and women’s role in peacebuilding. 48 women religious leaders (bibiotuns) received trainings on: role of religion in peacebuilding, prevention of violent extremism, and implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Tajikistan, 5 vital lessons for building a peaceful community, focusing on values and principles of peacefulness and mutual respect. A series of advocacy campaigns were held in 5 pilot regions reaching 2000 women. As a result, young women raised their awareness on the existing threats, importance of participation in peace processes and developing peaceful narratives in their local communities. Importantly, these awareness raising sessions connected religious women leaders in their communities, who hold a certain a decision-maker and influential power, with younger women in their communities. Not only the information sessions provide important information on peacebuilding and role of women in prevention of violent extremism, but it also connected local women influencers with at-risk women. Furthermore, a brochure on normative national and international frameworks on promotion of women, peace and security agenda was developed and disseminated in 5 pilot districts/cities.

Strengthening social entrepreneurship and innovative youth employment opportunities.

As a result of the project, two Innovation Labs with the full concept of Skills of Social Innovation for young people was established in two of the five targeted districts and was hand overed to the Government. As a sustainable approach, the government employees were trained on the curriculum in both districts to continue the initiative further. Over 4,760 adolescents went through skills development programmes within the UPSHIFT Module that was implemented in the Innovation Labs established under the Committee of Youth and Sports in Kulob and Baljuvon and supported and strengthened Labs.

Three Creative Corners in Shahrinav, Isfara and Khorog have been renovated, equipped with advanced equipment that provide an opportunity for design, programming, social media marketing and other youth demanded IT related courses to young people who were not in education and employment. The Project handed over the newly renovated and upgraded facilities to the Committee on Youth and Sports Affairs and provided opportunities for the district- level staff of the branches to take part in the various events planned as part of this project and learn new techniques and approaches for working with youth.

More than 875 young people (405 females) in 5 project target districts enhanced their potential for active participation in social and economic life of their communities. Outreach activities were held for young people about available business development trainings and grant opportunities.

173 young people (60 females) participated at (seven three-day) trainings, where they had an opportunity to build their knowledge on the preparation of business projects, social entrepreneurship and peacebuilding, innovative employment. Gender-balanced young people took part in “Inno-Hack” Hackathon, during which specialists from various fields of software development worked jointly with youth to find solutions for various social problems through introduction of innovations (creating a full-fledged software). As a result of this activity, three teams received financial support for implementation of their initiatives.[[3]](#footnote-4)

At a Start-up Choihona event 24 successful business ideas were pitched and 15 were provided with basic equipment to start self-employment and small start-up business in their communities.[[4]](#footnote-5) 15 civil society organizations and state enterprises received innovation grants to test, launch and expand and pilot their ideas. This in turn created employment opportunities for 143 young people (63 females), including self-employment opportunities for 20 people with disabilities.

An international Youth Forum on ‘The best start-up projects of youth” was organised in Dushanbe in a hybrid mode with 125 participated (55 females) from Tajikistan and seven CIS countries. The aim of the forum was to create a platform for young people to exchange knowledge, ideas and experience, as well as to promote skills, social-oriented ideas and entrepreneurship among youth. Also, jointly with a national partner, an International Conference on ‘Strengthening multilateral cooperation for prevention of youth involvement in destructive groups’ was conducted with 142 young people (54 females), where the best practices and experience of the CIS countries were shared recommendations for strengthening multilateral cooperation were developed.

110 girls and young women were trained in the MoLME regional Adult Training Centers (professional skills in sewing, confectionery, hairdressing, nail service, and make-up artistry). To strengthen social entrepreneurship and innovative youth employment opportunities for young women, local authorities and jamoats agreed to participate in the evaluation commission to jointly select the most effective and sustainable grant projects. 16 joint socio-economic initiatives were supported at community level developed by representatives from local public organizations, youth groups and young women entrepreneurs from 5 target regions. As a result, 16 joint applications (instead of 24 individual) were supported; under the supported initiatives to maximize impact and sustainability and enabling purchase of equipment and resource materials.

A series of TOTs for Professional Vocational Centres of MOLME covering project target areas were conducted on Women, peace, and security" training module. A total of 133 staff were trained on WPS on the key messages of the module and methods of its teaching (females 68, males 65,) in target districts. The content of the WPS course includes aspects of economic security, countering non-military threats such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, information technology crimes and violent extremism.

**Output 2 Adolescents and young people have more opportunities for meaningful participation in decision-making and peacebuilding processes to strengthen non-violence values and action**

Strengthening capacity of current and future duty-bearers. The project supported a forum on “Modern approaches to PVE among youth” in February 2020 in which over 50 officials and 250 young people took part and discussed factors deterring meaningful youth participation youth empowerment.

Four local development programs have been elaborated and adopted for better integration of youth priorities, participation in decision making in Shahrinav and Baljuvon districts, and the cities of Khorog and Isfara. 101 civil servants (28 females), as well as 300 young people from target areas have been trained in youth participation in local development processes and conducting situational analysis on youth issues. 12 youth-supported projects have been introduced into district and city development programs and local budgets.

In total, 529 (265 females) duty bearers have been trained in Isfara, Khorog, Kulob, Baljuvon and Shahrinav on youth participation and engagement skills in decision making as well as on conducting situation analysis of youth issues in their districts

30 young women have the capacity on peacebuilding issues through completion of "Peace, security and prevention of violent extremism" training. The training module was developed and incorporated to the training curricula of the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (CWFA), covering the implementation of UNSCR 1325, and other international and national normative frameworks on women and security. According to the event report, the training was well-received and requested for continuation in future plans.

To enhance meaningful participation within Local Government

839 young girls and boys (499 females) took various trainings on critical thinking, media literacy, participation in decision making and project development to enhance their meaningful participation in decision making in Isfara, Kulob, Shahrinav, Baljuvon and Khorog. In all districts, consultations of local government with young people were held, where young people spoke about issues of young people in their society and proposed solutions to their local government. As a result, 27 issues brought up by young people were included into the District Development Plans in 2021 and 34 social projects were developed and implemented by young people in groups on these issues through social projects jointly with the local government of their districts.

Since meaningful participation requires a platform and an audience who listens to and amplify young people voices, within the project 428 duty bearers (237 females) within local government and Student Council platforms were capacitated with the knowledge on meaningful participation in the targeted districts.

Moreover, training sessions on strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation of DDP action plans have been carried out covering 300 young people (98 females).

Supporting parenthood models in the family and community that instils non-violent means of problem resolution and builds pro-peace skills in children and youth.

As part of its communication campaign, the project organized a roundtable “Promoting women’s sports in Tajikistan as a tool against violent extremism” on 10 March 2021. The campaign was carried out in cooperation with CYS, CWFA and the Football Federation of Tajikistan.

In celebration of International Day of Girl Child, an information video was produced and disseminated through various social media channels and events of the CoWFA in promoting the role of parents in promotion of education and non-violent narratives for young women and girls.

Promoting joint actions of young people within the spirit of volunteerism. The project supported the operation of the Communication Centre as part of the COVID-19 response, which engaged volunteers into response and awareness options. A volunteer briefing session for the centre was organised and technical support was provided to volunteers in the design and dissemination of communications materials. Online awareness-raising and community mobilisation activities were carried on for two months through social media with an outreach of 130,000 viewers.

Moreover, together with the youth unit of the Local Governance (LG) 30 young volunteers (12 females) were supported to develop problem and solution identification skills. During the reporting period, 112 volunteers (67 females) have been capacitated with various skills and competencies and 22 social projects directed at issues in their communities have been implemented.

A local consultant provided technical and advisory support to the members of the Volunteer Associations in five target districts/cities. A five- day youth camp was held to promote joint actions of young people within the spirit of volunteerism. 30 gender-balanced active volunteers from five targeted locations developed the five Action Plans for further implementing them back in targeted locations. Based on developed Action Plans 5 small grants have been distributed among five Volunteer Associations in target districts/cites to implement community development-based solutions. Within grant initiatives training on business development, finance literacy, language courses and vocational trainings have been conducted to 484 young people (278 females) and established or expanded 10 small businesses creating 14 employment opportunities for young people including for people with disabilities. On the district levels, 141 young volunteers (74 females) were capacitated on various topics, including critical thinking, problem-solving's skills, project development and 34 projects were developed and implemented by them addressing issues they identified within their own districts. A National Youth Volunteers Forum was conducted where 100 young people from all the targeted districts participated and exchanged experience and ideas.

Building youth wellbeing and resilience through the peer-to-peer support systems and rehabilitation of adolescents. Provision of mental health services to adolescents in 5 target locations was strengthened through the capacity-building of school psychologists, family doctors/nurses, school administrators, and law enforcement staff, representatives of law enforcement agencies such as the police were involved to sensitize them to adolescent development and health, as well as child-friendly approaches to the investigation of juvenile delinquency cases, suicide, and violence against adolescents and youth. peer-to-peer teams were established within youth departments of local governments in the targeted districts. A total of 82 young people (43 females) were trained to raise youth awareness on reproductive health, protective health measures that are crucial in preventing HIV and on the available youth-friendly services. Trained teams organized 100 interactive sessions among 6,524 peers (3,352 girls and 3,172 boys) through the implementation of an interactive exhibition “Join Circuit” (JiC) that contributes to strengthening adolescents’ and young people’s ability to protect themselves. The knowledge is tailored to the local context, and it is practical and engaging. Post- test results showed an increase in adolescents/ youth knowledge from 39.4 per cent to 82.9 per cent.

In addition, the implementation of a peer-to-peer component on adolescent mental health and psychosocial wellbeing started in August 2021 with the Republican Center for Additional Education, that oversees the work of student councils at the school level. ToT training were conducted for 45 people (heads of student councils and school psychologists/ or homeroom teachers, and representatives from Centers of Additional Education) from 24 schools in target districts. Those trainers organized training for 144 adolescents – peer-supporters (six adolescents per each of schools – three girls and three boys). Trained peer supporters conducted awareness raising sessions on emotional distresses and relevant coping strategies for 10,493 peers (5,036 girls) through school platforms. A total of 354 adolescents (135 girls) had been referred by peer supporters to school psychologists.

The project worked with the relevant authorities to roll out juvenile support services in target areas of the project with a goal of identifying and providing social rehabilitation and reintegration services to children in conflict and contact with the law and prevention of reoffences by children.

New juvenile support services were rolled out in new target areas of Baljuvon, Khorog City and Shahrinav; the services in Isfara and Kulob were strengthened. Juvenile support to at least 69 children, including four girls were provided in the target areas.

In addition, a gender assessment of sport centres was conducted in pilot regions, identifying the needs of sport centres to increase the number of young girls in sports. As a result of the assessment, recommendations were developed and presented to the CYS on ensuring gender mainstreaming in sports. The results of this assessment fed into tailored trainings that were conducted for sports coaches. 20 sport leaders and 800 young people passed through specially tailored youth programme on "Life skills counselling" to understand the nexus between gender equality and sports, and promotion of women in sports. The Project together with the CYS mobilized all RUNOs’ resources and engineers as joint contribution to conduct feasibility assessment of youth and sports clubs in four target districts.

**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)*

More than 100 women and girls attended the “Contemporary approaches to PVE among youth” Forum (female 30%). More than 60 volunteers, 40% out of whom were women and girls, have been involved in the activity related to COVID-19 response.

A roundtable was organized on 10 March in Gissar on “Promoting women’s sports in Tajikistan as a tool against violent extremism”. Over 20 participants were invited including sportswomen and representatives of CYS and CWFA. The aim of the event was to discuss challenges faced by women in sports, but also address how sports can be a tool against PVE. In addition, a seminar on implementation of NAP on UNSCR 1325 was conducted in Kulob, bringing together all government agencies responsible for its implementation, including law enforcement officials, general prosecutors' office, CWFA and other agencies. The project mobilized women in implementation of NAP on UNSCR 1325 through community engagement activities and roundtables in target project locations. Young women and future duty-bearers were targeted by the “Peace, security and PVE” component of the training module. In addition, MOLME has incorporated the “Peace and safety” component in its vocational training programme, and teachers of MOLME undertook a TOT to further capacitate young women.

Through a multi-dimensional approach to preventing violent extremism, this project also ensured the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment through its interventions. Recognizing that political, economic, and social exclusion of women and girls is pervasive in Tajikistan and that the perpetuation of traditional gender roles harms women's empowerment, this effort ensured that: i) by addressing the root causes of violent extremism, the project in effect is addressing gendered social dynamics that are harmful for both young men and women; ii) young people are not seen as victims and/or trouble makers, rather as drivers of peaceful narratives and change through gender-sensitive and gender-responsive investment in the skills and capacities of young people; iii) gender is not only included as a cross-cutting issue, but also recognized as its own result, ensuring the project includes gender mainstreaming through a two-fold approach, where the project invested in strengthening women’s agency and role in the house (women as mothers play a core role in shaping the values of their family) and in the community (engaging women to promote peaceful narratives and tolerance).

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000-character limit) | Do outcome indicators have baselines? No  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? Yes  The baseline survey with an objective to identify needs, gaps and priorities of young people which will serve as a baseline for measuring the project outcome has been completed and the results presented to the project team. The study responded to the outcome indicators of the project such as level of their participation in decision-making, consideration of non-violent means as the best approach to address differences and conflicts and level of youth access to economic opportunities and social services.  The end line survey to measure the project results and project goals achieved against baseline survey data was initiated covering 2000 adolescents and young people in the same 10 districts. The study showed that, despite the short duration of the project, there had been significant positive developments and significant improvements in some of the survey indicators.  Monitoring missions to the project’s cites and districts have been undertaken by RUNOs and RCO in 2021 April, July, December to Isfara, September to Baljuvon, Kulob and Shahrinav, September to Khorog, October 2021 and January 2022 to Shahrinav. |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required): USD 20,000, and USD 10,000 for end-line survey  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500-character limit)*: The process of the contracting of the International and Local consultants for conducting project Final Evaluation is in process. |
| **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: N/A Amount: N/A    National Partner greatly assisted in the organizing of events at the national and local levels during the Project's implementation by involving other government stakeholders and providing platforms and personnel to facilitate and coordinate dialogues and efficiently promote youth-related policies and initiatives. |
| **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)* | The Government has requested RUNOs to provide support in prevention of COVID-19 spreading in the country. RUNOs re-oriented a number of activities from the communication block to support Youth COVID Communication Center under the lead project partner on behalf of the Government. |

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

The project has not undergone any monetary adjustments due to Covid-19, however, as part of the response to COVID-19, UN Women provided to Communication Center with routers and an Internet connection at a cost of about $1,400

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):

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:** Adolescents and young people, both men and women, are empowered to participate equally in political, social and economic life and are more resilient to radicalised and violent narratives. | Indicator 1.1  1 a Proportion of adolescent and young girls and boys who consider that they participate in decision-making on issues of concern to them and contribute to the development of their communities (including social cohesion) in targeted districts. | 26% | increase by 10% compared with the baseline | 8.3% | Partly achieved | According to the Baseline survey, on average, 26.0% of young people believe that they are involved in decision-making, including 22.9% of adolescents aged 14-17 and 33.6% of those aged 18-30.  According to the End-line survey, proportion of young people who consider that they participate in decision-making is 34.3% (increase by 8.3%). |
| Indicator 1.2  1 b Proportion of adolescent girls and boys who believe that non-violent means are the best approach to address differences and conflicts in targeted areas. | 49.2% | increase by 10% compared with the baseline | 5.6% | Partly achieved | According to the Baseline survey, on average, 49.2% of young people believe that in case of disagreement, it is necessary to use non-violent approaches. Including 52.2% of adolescents aged 14-17 years and 50.2% of young people aged 18-30 years.  According to the End-line survey, proportion of adolescent girls and boys who believe that violent means are the best approach to address differences and conflicts is 54.8% (5.6% increase). This can partly be attributed to the renewed inter-ethnic tensions in several border regions during project implementation period. |
| Indicator 1.3  1 c Proportion of young men and women, who believe they have good access to economic opportunities and social services in targeted areas. | 34.1% | increase by 15% compared with the baseline | 5.1% | Partly achieved | According to the Baseline survey, on average, 34.1% of young people believe they have access to economic opportunities and social services.  According to the End-line survey, proportion of young men and women, who believe they have good access to economic opportunities and social services is 39.2% (5.1% increase). |
| **Output 1.1**  Adolescents and young people have better competencies and skills that foster their opportunities in social and economic life. | 1.1.1. # of research papers (reports) prepared that analyse needs, priorities and perceptions of youth, and disseminated to policy makers at the national and local level | Baseline: 0 | Target: 1 (UNDP) | 2 | Achieved | Under the project the Baseline and End-line surveys have been conducted analysing needs, priorities and perceptions of youth |
| 1.1.2. Number of adolescent girls and boys, young men and women and young girls and boys, including from at risk groups, who have acquired peacebuilding competencies, skills for personal empowerment, social entrepreneurship, and employability (professional skills) in targeted areas | Baseline: 0 | Target: Number – 2500 (UNICEF) | 500 (girls: 275)-social entrepreneurships skills  2819(girls: 1541)-peacebuilding competencies | Achieved | 2819 adolescent's girls and boys have been trained on the peacebuilding competencies. Within an analytical measuring of the pre and post-test, the result shows that over 68% have increased knowledge of the competencies in the post testing.  Innovation Labs –In total 4760 (49% female and 51% of male) Adolescents went through skills development programmes in the Innovation Labs in Isfara, Kulob, Baljuvon and Khorog Additionally, 1000 Adolescents benefited from Mobile version of Adolescent Kit-ore soft skills programme. Mobile version considers the community delivery of programmes by volunteers |
| 1.1.3. # of young people engaged into discussions and solutions finding on peacebuilding issues theatre-forums | Baseline: 0 | Target: 400 (UN Women) (50% of girls) | 480 | Achieved | 480 young people participated in the community-based theatre forums in 5 pilot regions of the project. The theatre forum is designed based on Augusto Boal model and the active participation of the young people resulted in discussions and dialogue on finding peaceful solutions and peaceful narratives. |
| 1.1.4. # of young women built their capacities through My safe and peaceful community programme through outreach of AWGs work and local dialogue | Baseline: 0 | Target: 2500 (UN Women) (100% young women) | 2500 women | Achieved | 2500 young women are capacitated to through "My safe and peaceful community" programme and were able to outreach to local population in promotion of peaceful narratives and role of women in peacebuilding. A brochure was developed on normative national and international frameworks on promotion of women, peace and security agenda, and was disseminated in 5 pilot regions of the project (28,800 copies). |
| 1.1.5. # of trained bibiotuns supported and reached out to # of young women with messages on non-violent culture and civic competencies | Baseline: 0 | Target: 48 trained bibiotuns reached out to 2000 (100% of women) | 48  2000 | Achieved | 48 women religious leaders (bibiotuns) were provided with capacities on promotion of non-violent messages and civic competencies through completion of training which covered the following issues: role of religion in peacebuilding, prevention of violent extremism, and implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Tajikistan. In addition, bibiotuns completed a 2-day training on 5 vital lessons for building a peaceful community, focusing on values and principles of peacefulness and mutual respect. Following the trainings, a series of advocacy campaigns were held in 5 pilot regions of the project, reaching 2000 women. As a result, young women raised their awareness on the existing threats, importance of participation in peace processes and developing peaceful narratives in their local communities. |
| 1.1.6. # of young people obtained knowledge and skills through # events within various training platforms (hackathons/bootcamps, acceleration and incubation programmes etc.) – that build skills and competencies making young people more resilient to extremist narrative | Baseline: 0 | Target: 700 (UNDP) young people through at least 20 events and incubation support | 875, 20 | Achieved | Awareness raising campaigns have been conducted covering about 875 adolescents and young people through 20 public awareness events to select 200 with entrepreneurial capacity. |
| 1.1.7. Number of innovative solutions, social enterprise developed and implemented by adolescent and young boys and girls; # of social entrepreneurship projects designed and supported (through micro-grants) | Baseline: 0 | Target: 29 (25 - UNICEF and 4 -UNDP) | 49-UNICEF  4-UNDP | Achieved | UNICEF - In total 49 innovative solutions were created by Adolescents and Youth in target districts within Innovation Lab activities and implemented with support of mentors in the targeted districts. |
| 1.1.8. Enhancing capacity of Creative Corners under the Youth centres/ VTIs through equipping them with new competencies related to the innovative economy, to provide them with opportunities for economic empowerment | Baseline: 0 | Target: 3 Creative Corners (UNDP) | 3  3-safe space for volunteers-UNICEF | Achieved | The process of renovation and equipping of the Creative Corners is completed. The facilities are handed over to the Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. |
| 1.1.9. # of target youth presented business ideas in the Startup Choihona initiative | Baseline: 0 | Target: 25 (UNDP) | 24 | Achieved | Out of 24 presenters, 15 received support to run their ideas |
| 1.1.10. # of projects designed and received funding from small innovation fund to test, launch and expand start-up projects to promote leadership and incentive taking among young people in the economic sector | Baseline: 0 | Target: 6 (UNDP, av. amount $20,000) | 11 | Achieved |  |
| 1.1.11. Number of young women and girls from the Communities, identified by Active Women’s Groups of 8 Jamoats, are supported to get professional skills through educational facilities of the Ministry of Labor | Baseline: 0 | Target: 100 (UN Women) | 110 | Achieved | 110 girls and young women passed training courses in the regional Adult Training Centers of the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Employment of the RT and thus increased their professional skills in sewing, confectionery, hairdressing, nail service, and make-up artistry. |
| 1.1.12. Number of activities, including economic activities, developed by women and girls for their communities (family, school, mahala), supported by the seed funding | Baseline: 0 | Target: 24 (UN Women) | 16 | Achieved | 16 joint socio-economic initiatives were supported at community level developed by representatives from local public organizations, youth groups and young women entrepreneurs from 5 pilot regions. According to the partner report, young people emphasized on impact of joint initiatives to be greater and more sustainable. As a result, 16 joint applications (instead of 24 individual) were supported; under the supported initiatives. |
| 1.1.13. Peace and Safety component is incorporated in the professional vocational training programme of the MoLME RT (incl. career orientation) for young women | Baseline: none | Target: (UN Women) | 133 trainers trained | Achieved | The “Women, peace and security” component was incorporated in the professional vocational training programme of MoLME. The module discusses: i) the reduction the level of social inequality through improving gender equality policy; ii) Prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, iii) Illicit drug trafficking and human trafficking and iv) addressing crimes on information technology, terrorism and extremism. |
| 1.1.14. Number of PTAs activated to support pro-peace parenthood models in the community | Baseline: 0 | Target: 10 PTAs activities, 500 parents engaged (UNICEF) | 21 PTAs (composing of 81 teachers and 243 parents) | Achieved | 21 PTA have been established in 21 schools in Isfara, Baljuvon, Kulob, Khorog and Shahrinav prior project implementation.  Training manual on “Complaint mechanism” has been finilised to address issues of violence, neglect and abuse among schoolchildren  1135 parents (411 Men, 724 women) have been covered with positive parenting messages and activities in target districts and communities |
| 1.1.15. # of advocacy materials/products developed to promote tolerance, social cohesion and non-violent conflict resolution | Baseline: 0 | Target: 6 (UN Women) | 6 | Achieved | A communication strategy was developed, outlining key messages from different PUNOs for the implementation of the project. 2 awareness raising brochures were developed: 1) on project and its key interventions and 2) on UNSCR 1325 and its application in Tajikistan. Information campaigns were conducted in 5 pilot regions on gender equality, youth and prevention of violent extremism. Promotional videos were produced on: 1) Generation Equality Forum, 2) International Day of Girl Child and 3) women in sports. Articles were published on Asia Plus on women and peacebuilding, with information on National Action Plan 2019-2021 of Tajikistan. A total estimated outreach of 1 million was reached as part of these initiatives. U |
| **Output 1.2**  Adolescents and young people have more opportunities for meaningful participation in decision making to strengthen non-violence values and action. | Indicator 1.2.1  1.2.1. Number of government employees capacitated on work with youth and youth focused policies in targeted areas, and local development policies that engage young people | Baseline: 0 | Target: 125 (50 - UNICEF and 75 - UNDP) | UNICEF 428 (237 females)  UNDP – 101(28 females) | Achieved |  |
| Indicator 1.2.2  1.2.2. Number of young women leaders are capacitated on peacebuilding issues through CWFA’s training module for women leaders, conducted in cooperation with CWFA | Baseline: 0 | Target:30 (UN Women) | 30 women (UN Women) | Achieved | 30 young women have the capacity on peacebuilding issues through completion of "Peace, security and prevention of violent extremism" training. The training module was developed and incorporated to the training curricula of the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (CWFA). |
| 1.2.3. Number of communication platforms or networks supported by the project to facilitate sustained participation of adolescents and youth, especially young women in targeted areas. | Baseline: tbd | Target: 8 (UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women) | 13 (8-UNICEF,  6-UNDP) | Achieved | There is initial discussion ongoing with LG of Kulob for the establishment of communication platform for youth participation within the Local Government of Kulob City. Due to the natural disaster in Khatlon region, the activity in Kulob has been put on hold and all preparation for holding the events are in place. |
| 1.2.4. Number of young people, including from at-risk groups, who have participated in the decision-making within supported platforms (e.g. attended sessions of local councils, meetings of youth councils – within youth-friendly governance model, public hearings, and participated in review and implementation of local development programmes). | Baseline: 0 | Target: 2000 young people (UNDP, UNCEF and UN Women) | 2267 (1387 females) -UNICEF  625 (310 females)  UNDP  UN Women | Achieved |  |
| 1.2.5. # of youth initiatives introduced in the local development programmes, and local budgets | Baseline: 0; | Target: at least 12 (at least one per district) | 39 issues added into the District Development Plan | Achieved |  |
| 1.2.6. # young people whose capacities on local development and decision-making were built through # of capacity building events (trainings, workshops etc.) | Baseline: 0 | Target: 300 (UNDP) of young people through 10 capacity building events | 839 (females 499)-UNICEF  481 (285)-UNDP | Achieved |  |
| 1.2.7. # of inter-district youth and duty bearer exchange programmes and study tours | Baseline: 0 | Target: 4 (2 – UNDP, 2 – UNICEF) | 8 (6-UNICEF and 2 UNDP) | Achieved |  |
| 1.2.8. # of media outputs (publications or brochures) that document best practices and success stories on youth participation in decision-making in local development – disseminated for scale-up in other regions of Tajikistan | Baseline: 0 | Target: 2 (UNDP) | 5-UNDP  5-UNICEF | Achieved | <https://www.facebook.com/173387243212807/posts/981198655764991/>  <https://www.facebook.com/173387243212807/posts/986262651925258/>  <https://www.facebook.com/173387243212807/posts/1050420462176143/> |
| 1.2.9. # of volunteer projects supported involving # of young people - volunteers | Baseline: 0 | Target: 25 projects involving at least 50 young people (UNICEF, UNDP) | UNICEF-34 social projects  UNICEF-141 (74 females) volunteers trained  UNDP- 30 (15 females) volunteers trained  UNDP-5 projects | Achieved |  |
| 1.2.10. Number of adolescents and young people engaged in peer-to-peer support in targeted areas | Baseline: 0 | Target: 1000 (UNICEF) | 82 peer moderators (female:43)  6524 adolescents and young people (girls - 3352, boys - 3172)  144 peer supporters (girls - 72)  10493 adolescents (girls-5036; boys-5457) | Achieved | 82 peers (43 females) have been trained to raise youth awareness on reproductive health, protective health measures that are crucial in preventing HIV and on the available youth-friendly services. Through interactive exhibition “Join in Circuit” (JiC) they covered 6524 peers (3352 girls and 3172 boys).  144 adolescents trained as peer supporters on Adolescent Mental Health. Trained adolescents organized awareness raising sessions among 10493 peers at schools on topics related to emotional distresses and relevant coping strategies. |
| 1.2.11. Number of adolescents in conflict with the law diverted from justice system and rehabilitated through juvenile support services. | Baseline: 0 | Target: 70 (UNICEF) | 69 (4 females) |  | Juvenile support service has been established in Kulob city and provided individual rehabilitation services to 69 adolescents (4 females) in conflict and contact with the law |
| 1.2.12. Number of sport leaders and young volunteers passed the specially tailored Youth programme on life skills counselling for boys and girls, and involved # of young people | Baseline: 0 | Target: 20 sports leaders involved 800 young people, both girls and boys (UN Women) | 20, 800 | Achieved | 20 sport leaders and 800 young people passed through specially tailored youth programme on "Life skills counselling". Based on the partner report, target audience was able to understand the nexus between gender equality and sports, and promotion of women in sports. |

1. <https://www.facebook.com/173353030240281/videos/267491705020356> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [www.facebook.com/173353030240281/photos/a.689101291998783/951638185745091/](http://www.facebook.com/173353030240281/photos/a.689101291998783/951638185745091/) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <https://www.asiaplustj.info/ru/news/tajikistan/20211216/tri-proekta-poluchili-finansirovanie-v-ramkah-hakatona-innohack> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. <https://www.asiaplustj.info/ru/news/tajikistan/20220126/v-dushanbe-15-molodih-predprinimatelei-poluchili-podderzhku-ot-startup-choikhona>

   <https://www.asiaplustj.info/ru/news/tajikistan/society/20220222/molodie-i-ambitsioznie-5-istorii-uspeha-vipusknikov-biznes-shkoli> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)