



GUATEMALA

PROJECT HALF YEARLY PROGRESS UPDATE

PERIOD COVERED: JANUARY – JUNE 2015

Project No & Title:	PBF/IRF-80 00089115: 1325 - Asserting the Rights of Women Survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Guatemala		
Recipient Organization(s)¹:	UN Women, UNDP and UNFPA		
Implementing Partners (Government, UN agencies, NGOs etc):	Public Prosecutor's Office and Human Rights Ombudsperson's Office		
Location:	Guatemala		
Total Approved Budget :²	US\$1,000,000.00 UN Women US\$ 548,460 UNDP US\$ 240,750 UNFPA US\$ 210,790		
Preliminary data on funds committed :³	UN Women US\$ 200,767 UNDP US\$ 47,428 UNFPA US\$180,146	% of funds committed / total approved budget:	UN Women 37% UNDP 20% UNFPA 85%
Expenditure⁴:	UN Women US\$171,409 UNDP US\$172,534 UNFPA US\$ 28,515	% of expenditure / total budget: (Delivery rate)	UN Women 31% UNDP 72% UNFPA 15%
Project Approval Date:	24 Jan 2014	Possible delay in operational closure date (Number of months)	N/A
Project Start Date:	24 Jan 2014		
Expected Operational Project Closure Date:	24 Jan 2016		

¹ Please note that where there are multiple agencies, only one consolidated project report should be submitted.

² Approved budget is the amount transferred to Recipient Organisations.

³ Funds committed are defined as the commitments made through legal contracts for services and works according to the financial regulations and procedures of the Recipient Organisations. Provide preliminary data only.

⁴ Actual payments (contracts, services, works) made on commitments.

⁵ PBF focus areas are:

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

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

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

(2.1) National reconciliation; (2.1) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Management of natural resources;

3: Revitalise the economy and generate immediate peace dividends (Priority Area 3);

(3.1) Short-term employment generation; (3.2) Sustainable livelihoods

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

(4.1) Public administration; (4.2) Public service delivery (including infrastructure).

<p>Project Outcomes:</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1: The capacities of the relevant Congress Commissions have been strengthened to design, negotiate, promote and monitor implementation of laws on women’s fundamental rights and freedoms.</p> <p>Outcome 2: The state capacities have been strengthened to investigate, prosecute, trial, provide adequate support to conflict and post-conflict related sexual violence cases.</p> <p>Outcome 3 The leadership of women human rights defenders and women in politics, their organizations, and their supra-national networks has been strengthened for the construction of peace, justice, security, and democracy, in collaboration with State parties.</p>
<p>PBF Focus Area⁵</p>	<p>Priority Area 1. Support to Implementation of Peace Agreements and Political Dialogue</p> <p>Outcome 2. Judiciary system is strengthen through equipping, staffing and training of Office of the Magistrate and courts to establish credibility, professionalism, independence, and efficiency in the judiciary system and inclusive law reform in order to institute rule of law.</p> <p>Priority Area 2. Promote coexistence and peaceful conflict resolution</p> <p>Outcome 8. Women are empowered to overcome specific post-conflict hardship (e.g. psychical and economic security, political participation) and to end gender-based violence and discrimination.</p>

Qualitative assessment of progress

<p><i>For each intended outcome, provide evidence of progress during the reporting period.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, for each outcome include the outputs achieved. (500 words max.)</i></p>	<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>The post-conflict political crisis is an opportunity to overcome setback of the 2012-2015 legislation. In response to citizen's pressure, Congress has set up tables to review key normative with civilian parties, including the bill for the Political System reform. All parties agree to gender and ethnic parity, as stated in the Constitutional Court's dictum. Controversial aspects demanded by civil society include the application of revisions to the forthcoming election (September 2015); the democratization of political parties and greater control of campaign funding. Other laws under discussion include civil service and public procurement. The Security and Justice mixed SCO-Congress table has gained momentum and will concentrate in advanced law reforms, including age of marriage; immediate search for disappeared women and the justice reforms. The National Civil Police is seeking the incorporation of its reformatory law, which has not yet been integrated into the set of state-reform-bills.</p> <p>Outcome 2: The state capacities have been strengthened to investigate, prosecute, trial, provide adequate support to conflict and post-conflict related sexual violence cases.</p> <p>HR Prosecutors, Investigators and Analysts enhanced their capacities to investigate and prosecute conflict-related sexual violence through regular analysis of progress, difficulties, and future strategies with plaintiff organizations in monthly coordination and bilateral roundtables with participation of international experts and UN organisms; expert advice and technical assistance provided during mentoring missions of an international senior consultant and a regular legal advisor, including training on investigation, strategic prosecution, evidence and case management, and applicability of national and international norms; development of tools to organize and register victims' testimonies and cases under investigation; and legal dicta. The May 2015 mock trial exercise guided by GPI proved advances in managing all aspects of oral trialing.</p> <p>The GPI supports legal teams within four plaintiff organizations and their coordinated work at the</p>
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	<p>local level with prosecutors, to strengthen and complement investigation processes. Psychosocial support is provided to victims to enhance their participation in the legal process and minimize potential re-victimization.</p> <p>The Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women has revised the blueprint for the protection and holistic attention of indigenous women VAW survivors; has enhanced the capacities of the psychosocial and legal teams in two departments.</p> <p>Outcome 3</p> <p>The leadership of women human rights defenders and women in politics, their organizations, and their supra-national networks has been strengthened for the construction of peace, justice, security, and democracy, in collaboration with State parties.</p> <p>A key indicator of GPI's positive impact is the reactivation of the Women's Forum, the largest and most diverse network in country, which signed an agreement with the National Peace Accords Council (CNAP) to strengthen women's role in monitoring peace accords' compliance.</p> <p>GPI's supported WPS Intern-Institutional Table, comprised by 14 institutions, incorporated results of consultations with women survivors, women human rights defender organizations, state instances, and international organizations into the 1325 PAN project, and established dialogue with two women's networks to facilitate their participation in the monitoring of its implementation. Internal armed conflict widows' association, CONAVIGUA, took leadership in documenting unaddressed human rights violations against women, and joint efforts with the post-conflict public transportation widows' association, AVITRANS, to claim their rights. Women in politics have organized into the "You Vote for Me, I Vote for You" movement to advance their proposal for the reform of the political system and jointly with other movements are advocating for parity in the public and political power reforms.</p>
<p><i>Do you see evidence that the project is having a positive impact on peacebuilding? (250 words max.)</i></p>	<p>Women spontaneously and massively responded to the actual post-conflict political crisis, organizing themselves to establish and strengthen their political alliances with women in power, to advance their long-standing proposals for state reforms. As per 1325 UNSEC resolution, their leadership in peace-building and peace-keeping could be the foundation for a transformative approach in civil society movements and their dialogue with the state, setting an example of a democratic and non-violent demand to the end corruption and impunity.</p>

	<p>Progress in the Sepur Zarco case is underlining the use of sexual violence as part of the conflict military strategies, inspiring others to come forward and seek justice. The three other GPI supported cases supported are making solid progress, including testimonies from women who are finding the courage to speak out after decades of silence. These enormous acts of courage, testament to their resolve to demand their rights despite the social climate that normalizes violence against women and stigmatizes the victim, contribute to peace building, indicating a shift towards women's empowerment as rights holders, and sends a powerful symbolic message to other women and to society as whole. Guatemalan women took leadership in organizing the 2015 Latin American 1325+15 consultation to prepare for the global review and contribute to the SG report to the UNSEC.</p>
<p><i>Were there catalytic effects from the project in the period reported, including additional funding commitments or unleashing/ unblocking of any peace relevant processes? (250 words max.)</i></p>	<p>The notion of the continuum of VAW as an impediment for regional peace was highlighted by the 2015 Latin American 1325+15 consultation, where experts agreed to rebuild cross-country networks for advancing regional peace, promoting the application of CEDAW General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict. El Salvador initiated demarches for implementing 1325 and SICA has shown interest in adopting a Central American 1325 Regional Plan to adopting common peace-keeping standards from a WHR perspective.</p> <p>At the national level, progress in the GPI's supported sexual violence cases, and the dynamic exchange and discussion of strategies in the coordination roundtable was instrumental in prioritizing these cases for the second phase of the PAJUST program, which commenced in April 2015. This provides continuity to some GPI activities, ensuring greater sustainability and long-term impact. Support to the National Peace Accords Commission motivated the agreement with the Women's Forum to strengthen and increase women's participation in peace-related-decision-making. The advances in the WPS Inter-Institutional Table has motivated its members to develop individual institutional reviews considering the 1325 PAN project. An alternative 1325 PAN proposal was developed by women organizations and shared with the table.</p> <p>At the local level, authorities and indigenous women leaders of six communities have committed to prepare VAW prevention and response plans. USDOS approved an UNWomen project to replicate work with ancestral authorities in other two department affected by conflict.</p>
<p><i>If progress has been slow or inadequate, provide main reasons and what is being done to address them. (250 words max.)</i></p>	<p>This governmental period has been particularly challenging for asserting women survivor's rights to justice, reparation, and participation in peace-related-decision making. The Legislative Agenda for the Advancement of Women was adopted as planned, but only the Electoral and Political Parties Law reforms were passed by Congress, but reducing parity and one-by-one alternance to 30% quota and</p>

	<p>alternance every two positions. The Bill required the Constitutional Court dictum, which ruled positively, except for these changes. A long Congress silence period followed the CC ruling for a review to 50% representation. The actual political crisis places greater pressure to reform public and political power, thus increasing the chances for various GPI supported Bills before the September 2015 electoral exercise. GPI continues supporting women's movements' coordinated advocacy and has established an alliance with the Congress Human Rights Commission, which is crucial for this last semester.</p> <p>Hearings in the Sepur Zarco case suffered delays, due to vexatious litigation tactics employed by the defense to obstruct and delay progress towards trial. These tactics are common in many cases relating to the internal armed conflict. To learn from experiences, Sepur Zarco prosecutors and plaintiffs supported by GPI are invited to participate at the UNDP convened Human Rights bi-monthly roundtable, which include other human rights cases currently under investigation.</p> <p>DEMI's planning process has taken longer than expected, particularly in relation to criteria and mechanisms for community selection. However, once this obstacle was addressed, six communities are ready to commit to prevention and response to VAW, including sexual violence.</p>
<p><i>What are the main activities/expected results for the rest of the year? (250 words max.)</i></p>	<p>Leadership of women peacebuilders in addressing the actual political crisis will be potentiated. The Sepur Zarco case will go to trial and a guilty verdict might be achieved against two indicted perpetrators. One additional case' evidence base will be sufficiently strengthened to enable indictments against perpetrators before the end of year. The Sepur Zarco experience will be documented and shared at the national and international level, contributing to strengthen gender jurisprudence.</p> <p>The 8th and 9th CEDAW country report will be submitted to CEDAW Committee and the investigation to document human rights violations against conflict-widows will be finalized and shared with peace institutions. The WPS e-course for public functionaries and human rights defenders will be implemented.</p> <p>DEMI's model to support indigenous women survivors of VAW and sexual violence will be strengthened and the first face of the model for community response will be evaluated to incorporate main recommendations. The six communitarian prevention processes will be finalized and four other communities will adopt security plans that address the continuum of VAW from the internal armed conflict to the actual post-conflict situation. 1325 + 15 review will incorporate women's inputs and recommendations to the Security Council and the Secretary General.</p>

	GPI's contributions will be evaluated and documented and disseminated with relevant parties.
<i>Is there any need to adjust project strategies/ duration/budget etc.? (500 words max.)</i>	First year's revision allowed for the decrease of GPIs indicators from 21 to 9. This exercise was useful to concentrate UN recipient organisms' coordinated actions in key strategic actions with consequent good results in achieving objectives. However, as approved by national planning instance, SEGEPLAN, signed PRODOC shows an implementation period of 24 months from date of signature whereas IRF's usual support period is set for 18 months. To properly implement GPI's strategy and workplans, which were designed considering January 24, 2016 as the project end date. This next six months are crucial for achieving set goals. Thus, a non-cost extension request is to be submitted by SC to PBSO.
<i>Are there any lessons learned from the project in the period reported? (500 words max.)</i>	<p>The fragility of the peace process was evident during the actual post-conflict political crisis. Support to peace building goes beyond the adoption of peace agreements and may take longer term support by the international community to conflict-affected countries. Investing in women's leadership and gender equality is key to advance transformative processes that set the basis for peace. The GPI as an initiative that promotes specific and direct investment in women are crucial for that transformation. National peace processes should be linked to regional and international peace keeping and peace building. Guatemalan experience boosted the regional interest in addressing conflict from a regional perspective, setting common standards to respond to common and interrelated problems. Coordination mechanisms to boost organized women-state institutions dialogue and collaboration is key to advance women's rights and women's leadership in peace-building and peace-keeping. 1325 and related UNSEC resolutions on WPS combined with CEDAW Committee's General Recommendation 30 enforce women's human rights compliance in a post-conflict situation.</p> <p>Ensuring effective coordination is also key to avoid potential duplication or conflicting actions. The willingness of multiple actors to lend technical support to conflict related sexual violence cases represents an enormous opportunity to create strong legal precedents, however if effective coordination is not established it may instead place risks to the cases.</p> <p>DEMI's strengthening is crucial for indigenous women's access to justice. The strengthening of their record-keeping on VAW is key to ensure the involvement of community leaderships and authorities in VAW prevention, denounce and to support and strengthen DEMI's response.</p>
<i>What is the project budget expenditure to date (percentage of allocated</i>	As of June 15, US\$372,458 are recorded as expenditures (37%), US\$428,361 have been committed through signed agreements, POs or services contracts and US\$199,201 are pending the formalization of commitments (20%).

project budget expended by the date of the report) – preliminary figures only? (250 words max.)	
Any other information that the project needs to convey to PBSO (and JSC) at this stage? (250 words max.)	

INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: *Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation in the qualitative text above.*

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 1.1 The capacities of the relevant Congress Commissions have been strengthened to design, negotiate, promote and monitor implementation of laws on women's fundamental rights and freedoms.	Indicator 1.1 Number of proposals contained in the Legislative Agenda for the Advancement of Women and the elimination of gender and ethnic discrimination in compliance with CEDAW, CERD, and UNSC Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889 on women peace and security	2008-2012 Legislative Agenda for the Advancement of Women: 18 initiatives for the harmonization of the national legal framework with international human rights standards; 10 (55 percent) approved by Congress. Seven of remaining 8 initiatives have favorable dicta (88 percent)	The 2012-2015 Legislative Agenda for the Advancement of Women has been developed by the end of the first year and implemented throughout the GPI period	2012/2015 Legislative Agenda for the Advancement of Women includes 8 initiatives; 2 with favorable dictum; 0 approved: 1. Reforms Electoral and Political Parties Law, including parity: favorable dicta by Congress and CC; 2. Reform Law against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and trafficking in persons with favorable dictum; 3. Implementation of the Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court; 4. Increase Age for marriage. 5. Convert Municipal Women's	The political crisis set an accelerated pace to a set of legal reforms that include the electoral and political parties law; the civil service law and the law on public procurement. The Security and Justice mixed SCO-Congress table has gained momentum and will concentrate in already advanced law reforms, including age of marriage; immediate search for disappeared women and the justice reform laws. Thus, the crisis may provide an opportunity to overcome setback experienced during the 2012-2015 period	N/A

				<p>Offices into Departments; 6. Immediate Search of Disappeared Women; 7. Creation of Women's Ministry; 8. Through the Security and Justice Table and the Human Rights Commission 4 proposals, 2 with favorable dicta, 0 approved; 9. Migrant Children; 10. Public Order; 11. Forced Disappearance with favorable dictum; 12. Consultations to Indigenous Peoples with favorable dictum. Total: 12 proposals; 4 with favorable dicta; 0 approved</p>		
Indicator 1.2 Number of public reports by the Women's Commission	During the 2008-2011 legislative period, the Women's Commission institutionalized a yearly public reporting exercise	One reporting exercises have been developed by parliamentarian women.	Periodic reporting at the technical table on the bills promoted by the Congress Commission on Women	Priorization of reporting themes on going. TORs for documentation of WHR's Legislative Agenda pending approval.	Indicator adjusted in November 2014	

		to inform their advances, challenges and pending agenda				
	Indicator 1.3 Number of training processes and/or exchanges between congresspersons on the application of a human rights and gender approach to the legislative processes	There has been systematic training and lessons learned exercises on the application of a human rights, gender and diversity approach to the legislative processes for congresspersons	At least one training process and one exchange on regional good practices and parliamentary experiences has been undertaken	5 training processes and one exchange on 1325		+ 4
Outcome 2 The state capacities have been strengthened to investigate, prosecute, trial, provide adequate support to conflict and post-conflict related						Indicators were set at the output level

sexual violence cases .						
Output 2.1 Strengthen the capacities of the General Prosecutor's Office to investigate prosecute and trial human rights violations related to sexual crimes committed during conflict and post-conflict, in collaboration with civil society as third parties and in the provision of psychosocial support to women	Indicator 2.1.1 Number of cases presented by the Public Prosecutor's Office which go to trial	As of 2011, one conflict-related sexual violence penal process was opened which is waiting to initiate the trial.	At least three indictments in cases of conflict related sexual violence against women presented, of which at least one case goes to trial	One indictment presented (Sepur Zarco); One case where testimonial evidence from 36 victims was strengthened and a hearing date set for the transferal of the case to a High Risk Tribunal (Achi); two cases for which expert military evidence was obtained (El Jute and Ixil).		N/A

survivors during the judicial processes.						
Output 2.2 Expanding State capacities to address violence against women, especially conflict related sexual violence, in two areas affected by the conflict.	Indicator 2.2.1. Number of institutions that have incorporated into their comprehensive care models, the care for indigenous women survivors of conflict-related sexual and gender violence, including protection services and psychosocial support.	Comprehensive care models lack specific processes for identification, care and psychosocial therapy for indigenous women victims and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence crimes committed during the internal armed conflict	One institution has incorporated the comprehensive care for indigenous women victims and survivors of sexual crimes into their models	DEMI has strengthen two field offices social and legal teams to provide specialized support to VAW survivors in the two prioritized departments and its coordination at the local level with one civil society organization and six community authorities.	On track, however insecurity and violence against women`s crisis demands greater attention affecting the quality of services provided by all responsible parties.	Set of indicators reorganized as per 2014 end year report
Output 2.3 Strengthening of the Human Rights Ombudsperson's field offices and	Indicator 2.1.3. Number of women`s human rights violations that have received institutional support, have been monitored	The Human Rights Ombudsperson's field offices have not provided institutional support, monitored or documented cases of women`s	One case of women`s human rights violations has received institutional support, has been monitored and has been documented	Preparations include HROO's Women's Office leading metropolitan referral network trained more than 100 partners in addressing sexual violence. Monitoring		See above

<p>Women's Defense Bureau's capacities , particularly through the support for the management and supervision of cases on women's human rights violations in the two areas of intervention</p>	<p>and have been documented by the Human Rights Ombudsperson's field offices.</p>	<p>human rights violations.</p>	<p>by the Human Rights Ombudsperson's field offices.</p>	<p>to be developed during last semester of 2015 will allow to determine number of assisted cases</p>		
<p>Outcome 3 The leadership of women human rights defenders and women in politics, their organizations , and their supra-national</p>						<p>Indicators set at the output level</p>

networks has been strengthened for the construction of peace, justice, security, and democracy, in collaboration with State parties.						
Output 3.1 Strengthen the capacities of women human rights defenders and women in politics, their organizations , and their supra-national networks and their collaboration with State parties for	Indicator 3.1.1 Number of civil society organizations participating in dialogue, conflict resolution and peace-building mechanisms with government institutions	Eleven civil society organizations and four government institutions participated in the First Women, Peace and Security Exchange in March 2011 and defined a common action plan to advance the peace, justice and security agenda	One regular dialogue and coordination mechanism on women, peace and security has been established amongst civil society organizations and government institutions to advance the peace, justice and security agenda	One coordination mechanism MIMPAZ - with six civil society women organizations established. One women organization - Foro de la Mujer - has established an alliance with CNAP to monitor Peace Accords. Two mechanisms/7 women SCO	+ 1	+ 1

the consolidation of peace, justice, security and democracy.						
Output 3.2 Strengthen women's political participation and their capacities to exercise public positions	Indicator 3.2.1 Number of national exchanges that actualize knowledge on public businesses. Number of women of the Municipal Women's Office that assist to those exchanges.	Five municipal encounters have been coordinated by the Inter-institutional Commission for the Strengthening of the Municipal Women's Office	At least two national knowledge exchange and actualization exercises for the Municipal Women's Office has taken place with the participation of at least 60% of the existing women`s municipal offices	Two regional exchanges with participation of 30 % of existing women's municipal offices (126/334)	Limited capacities of the National Women's machinery, SEPREM, and weakened coordination mechanisms with civil society women organizations supporting WMOs has hampered the smooth implementation of this activity. It is unlikely to comply with expected results.	- 30%
Output 3.3 Strengthen the collaboration and joint actions between the citizens and the local authorities to comply	Indicator 3.3.1 Number of territories that have developed the Ministry of Interior's initiative on Territories Free of Violence Against Women	The Ministry of Interior has satisfactorily developed the initiative on Territories Free of Violence Against Women in Nahualá and Sacanilla, to respond to the	The Ministry of Interior's initiative on Territories Free of Violence Against Women has been developed in at least two new territories, one in each priority area of the GPI intervention	3 territories in Polochic Valley, the Verapaces and 2 territories in Ixcán, Quiché. DEMI promoted 6 communitarian prevention processes.	Increased need to address VAW from the recognition of its continuum fed by impunity of internal armed conflict women's human rights violations. DEMI's strengthening allowed for a stronger coordination with and commitment of communal	+ 9

with national and international commitments on women, peace, and security		Secretary General's Campaign UNite to End Violence against Women			authorities to prevent and respond to VAW	
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