PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: Sri Lanka
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:
SEMI ANNUAL: 22 NOV 2019 - 31 MAY 2020
YEAR OF REPORT: 2020

Project Title: Promoting Women's Engagement in Waste Management to Prevent Conflict in Sri Lanka **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** 00118836	
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:** UN Women **(Convening Agency)** UNOPS

Date of first transfer: 22 November 2019
Project end date: 25 May 2021
Is the current project end date within 6 months? No

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**

UN Women $ 1,000,000
UNOPS $ 500,000

                Total: $ 1,500,000

Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 9.64%
ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE

Gender-responsive Budgeting: 52% (within current reporting period - 'project inception')

Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: USD 1,204,915.52 (80%)
Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment:

Project Gender Marker: GM 3
Project Risk Marker: 1
Project PBF focus area: 2.3 Conflict Prevention/ Management

Report preparation:
Project report prepared by: UN Women and UNOPS

Project report approved by:
1) Mohammad Naciri
   Officer in Charge, UN Women - Sri Lanka
   Regional Director, UN Women Office for Asia and the Pacific

2) Sudhir Muralidharan
   Country Manager a.i. Sri Lanka and the Maldives
   UNOPS - Sri Lanka

3) UN Resident Coordinator

Did PBF Secretariat review the report: Yes

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 has completed its inception stage, with key staff (project officers/M&E focal point/field officers) being recruited by UN Women/UNOPS and the main CSO implementing partner (Chrysalis) being contracted by UN Women.

Preliminary activities were undertaken during the period of January-March 2020, including the development of a consolidated activity plan (Annex 1), revision of the project results framework (Annex 2) and the development of a communications toolkit (Annex 3). The project implementers are establishing a shared office-space in Puttalam, to ease coordination with key stakeholders.

Orientation meetings were conducted with key stakeholders at the district-level, including the local authorities in Puttalam and Mannar. Public officials connected to the Solid Waste Management (SWM) system were introduced to the project and its scope. Going forward, the involvement of these local government officials will be instrumental to the implementation of activities under both outcomes 1 and 2.

In March, the project was well-positioned to commence the baseline data collection, that would effectively feed into the designing process of the perception survey, the conflict/gender analyses, the stakeholder-mapping and the value chain analysis on SWM. Given that the collection and tabulation of baseline data requires physical visits to the field, as well as one-on-one interactions with key stakeholders/beneficiaries, these efforts were hampered as the country went into a lockdown from 16 March onwards due to Covid-19. As the findings of these studies were to shape the progression of activities under outcomes 1 and 2, the project has not moved forward since the lockdown (currently in effect).

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 project will commence implementation in the coming quarters while taking into consideration the safety and security of project personnel in light of Covid-19.
As a first step, the implementers will commence the baseline and perception surveys, the conflict/gender analyses, the stakeholder mapping and the value chain analysis on SWM.

In parallel, the project will be reoriented to local government stakeholders, thus setting the stage for the establishment of 'Praja Mandalas' (i.e. a sustainable community governance model, mandated by Local Government authorities) so as to carry forward project interventions in the target districts.

Public visibility campaigns against littering and the relevance of effective SWM are scheduled to take place in the upcoming quarter, with the participation of the Urban Councils in the target project districts, as well as the Central Environmental Authority (CEA).

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):

Given the lapse in implementation, it is not possible to summarise any structural, institutional or societal level changes achieved by the project. Provided below is a succinct description of key achievements under both outcomes within this reporting period:

Outcome 1:
The respective methodologies to undertake the baseline and perception survey, the conflict/gender analyses, the stakeholder mapping and the value chain analysis on SWM are currently being developed. Implementation has not taken place from 16th March 2020 to date, due to the Covid-19 lockdown. At present, scenario-based planning exercises are underway, in an attempt to rework the project's implementation strategy within a post-Covid 19 context.

Outcome 02:
Preliminary meetings organized with stakeholders have increased their awareness and commitment to support upcoming project activities. Planning meetings were conducted with local government stakeholders in Puttalam, to identify gaps in the current waste management system and explore development needs to sustain service-delivery.
However, the Presidential election (in November 2019) coupled with the Covid-19 lockdown from March 2020 onwards has caused a significant delay towards the project's initial implementation. Despite the delays incurred, the project is due to complete its preparatory work in the upcoming quarters in compliance with national safety and security regulations.

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):

It is still too early in the project cycle to elaborate on this aspect. However, the orientation and planning workshops conducted at Urban Councils (Puttalam district) have garnered a strong commitment to the project and its proposed interventions from officials connected to the SWM process.

The planning workshops also opened-up a dialogue in relation to how SWM-related interventions can be used as a unique vehicle for uniting communities on a common issue, thus providing a brief glimpse into the community's reaction to the project's wider objectives.

The Chairperson of the Puttalam Urban Council expressed his determination to work together with the project team to make *"Puttalam clean by 2023"* (Annex 4). The Chairman further noted that the orientation meetings conducted by the project implementors signified a *"momentous occasion",* as it was the first time that staff and officials connected to the entire SWM process (bottom-up), met together in order to conceptualise solutions for the betterment of their community (Annex 4).

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: Women, across ethno-religious communities in target districts, are empowered to undertake critical leadership roles in community decision-making to diffuse local triggers of conflict.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Off track

Progress summary: *(3000 character limit)*

Given that the project has not witnessed any significant implementation due to the delays detailed above, the implementors are unable quantify any difference made at the outcome level during this reporting period.

The implementors will aim to initiate the baseline and perception survey, the conflict/gender analyses, the stakeholder-mapping and the value chain analysis in the upcoming quarter.

In light of the current volatile political climate and the prevailing restrictions to internal mobility due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the project's timeline, sequencing of activities, methodology and implementation strategy is being revisited to deter any adverse effects impacting the overall implementation of the project.

While these setbacks have affected the project's implementation in the foreseeable future, interventions to tackle SWM through the mobilisation of women remains relevant. From a socio-economic perspective, it is envisioned that the fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic could trigger inter-communal disharmony, rooted particularly in economic distress. Moreover, the extended lockdown period may have an impact on effective waste management due to the backlog of waste collection, distribution etc. The project target district of Puttalam, which constitutes a multi-ethnic population is particularly vulnerable, given that it was classified as a 'high risk' area for the spread of the pandemic, thus facing extended curfew regulations. The proposed interventions of the project therefore, become significant as they aim to bridge communal divides by bringing together communities to address a common issue (i.e. SWM).

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)*

Going forward the project will be structured within a rights-based framework of empowering women through economic skills development, leadership capacity development and the enhancement of skills pertaining to conflict prevention and resolution.

The project takes into consideration the gendered roles that position women within families and communities to influence the motivations that drive individuals to support intolerant ideologies. It also considers the gendered division of household labour that results in women being mostly responsible for waste management, hence they play critical roles in responding to environmental degradation at the community level.

The project recognises that women's political engagement results in greater responsiveness to citizens' needs, while women's economic empowerment has long-lasting impacts aimed at countering violent extremism. Therefore, any solutions related to waste management, and communal tensions, require the meaningful participation of women.

Outcome 2: Communities (with a specific focus on women) are effectively engaged and empowered through strengthening of SWM systems focusing on resolving conflicts related to SWM.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track

Progress summary: *(3000 character limit)*

Given that the project has not witnessed any significant implementation due to the delays detailed above, the implementors are unable quantify any difference made at the outcome level during this reporting period.

However, within the implementation window prior to the Covid-19 lockdown, the capacity building of one local authority in Puttalam was initiated. As a result, 37 public officials were empowered to address SWM related issues and conflicts (Annex 4). The capacity building session also facilitated the participation of 43% women to be engaged throughout the planning process of service delivery and developmental needs in relation to upcoming project activities (Annex 4).

Further, the project has assisted the above local authority in Puttalam to improve SWM planning processes aimed at effective and equitable service delivery. Gaps in service delivery are identified through an ongoing gap analysis and will be utilised to further refine upcoming activities, including the replication of this capacity-building model in three other local authorities across the project 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)*

As documented above, women's participation in the planning processes related to SWM is currently noted at 43%. The project aims to build on this momentum, as such participatory planning processes and close collaborations are key to improve SWM systems, while satisfying stakeholders including wider communities.

PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Monitoring: Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit) The project will be monitored in accordance with the revised Project Results Framework (Annex 2), jointly developed by UN Women, UNOPS and Chrysalis. It should be noted here that the Results Framework attached to the original Project Document has been revised and further streamlined to accommodate the risks associated with in the current operational context (Annex 2). Further, UN Women has requested regular progress updates from implementing partner (Chrysalis) on quarterly, bi-annual and annual basis (Annex 5).	Do outcome indicators have baselines? No. This will be determined upon completion of the baseline survey. Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? No. The launch of the perception survey was postponed due to the Covid-19 lockdown.
Evaluation: Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? No. Processes related to the evaluation will take place within the last 6 months of the project.	Evaluation budget (response required): Estimated $ 21,000 If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: N/A
Catalytic effects (financial): Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project.	Name of funder: Amount: N/A N/A
Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(1500 character limit)*	The onset of the Covid-19 global pandemic and the State imposed islandwide curfew has led to the suspension of all planned activities in the field since mid-March 2020. This was particularly detrimental towards the completion of the baseline surveys that would have set the tone for most activities to be carried forward under Outcomes 1 and 2. In response, UN Women, UNOPS and the main implementing partner, Chrysalis have continued to operate remotely by exploring a risk-mitigation strategy aimed at implementing within a post-Covid-19 situation in the country (Annex 6). Similar to the delays encountered in November 2019 following the Presidential election, the project is expected to be impacted by the upcoming General Elections that were postponed due to the developing Covid-19 situation. As the Parliament continues to be dissolved post Presidential elections, the Government's priority upon the pandemic subsiding would be to announce the General

	Elections. This in turn would impact the project's progression, especially the activities that rely on local-government partnerships. These scenarios have been explored in the attached risk log, with potential mitigation strategies (Annex 6).

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)

*As documented above, the original Results Framework attached to the Project Document has been revised, in line with the evolving context and revised implementation strategy to better reflect project risks. The revised results framework is provided in Annex 02. The revisions are also reflected below under the column 'Reasons for Variance/Delay (if any).'

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Outcome 1 Women, across ethno-religious communities in target districts, empowered to undertake critical leadership roles in community decision-making to diffuse local	Indicator 1.1 % of trained women who can cite examples of positively influencing their families/communities and diffusing conflicts	TBD	At least 50%	TBD	Indicator revised and replaced.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 1 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: 1.1: % of women in leadership and decision-making roles in local councils and Praja Mandala in target communities. • The new indicator will be updated as per the frequency, once the baseline survey is conducted.
	Indicator 1.2 % of sensitized women who feel they are more	TBD	At least 50%	TBD	Indicator revised and replaced.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 1 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic.

triggers of conflict.	open-minded and trustful about other communities.					• <u>Revised indicator</u>: 1.2: % of perceived prevalence of ethno-religious tensions in target communities • <u>Revised indicator 1.3</u>: % have confidence that women leadership can influence diffusing local triggers of conflict • The new indicator will be updated as per the frequency, once the baseline survey is conducted.
	Indicator 1.3 % of trained women who are engaging in community-based governance mechanisms.	TBD	At least 50%	TBD	Indicator revised and replaced.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 1 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • <u>Revised indicator</u>: 1.4: % of the perceived inclusivity of community-based mechanisms to address critical issues such as solid waste management in target communities. • The new indicator will be updated as per the frequency, once the baseline survey is conducted.
Output 1.1 Increased knowledge and capacities among women to identify and respond to emerging conflicts within/	Indicator 1.1.1 # of community-identified solutions implemented following the multi-stakeholder dialogues	0	At least 2 interventions per dialogue	TBD	Indicator revised. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • <u>Revised indicators</u>: 1.1.1: # of community-based solutions identified for implementation through multi-stakeholder dialogues 1.1.2: # of identified community-based solutions provided with implementation support

amongst communities.						• Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 1.1.2 # of women community leaders trained to analyse and diffuse conflicts within their communities.	0	TBD	TBD	Indicator revised and replaced. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted.	• Activities under the Output postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Revised indicator: % of trained women community leaders who report increased capacity to identify and diffuse conflicts and reduce ethno-religious intolerance in their communities • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 1.1.3 # of women, men and young people capacitated on and sharing alternative narratives and promote tolerance amongst communities.	0	At least 200	TBD	Indicator revised. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start.	• Activities under the Output postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Revised indicator: 1.1.4: # of target community members capacitated on peacebuilding, social cohesion and community development issues, including solid waste management.
Output 1.2 Increased women's engagement with local municipalities related to policy and decision-	Indicator 1.2.1 # of Praja Mandala and Women's Caucuses established/strengthened and capacitated to	TBD	40 Praja Mandalas (10 per division, 30 in Puttalam, 10 in Mannar)	TBD	Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.

making on critical issues including SWM.	better address community issues.					
	Indicator 1.2.2 # of local councillors (male and female), local officials and women community leaders capacitated on mitigating existing and potential triggers of conflict and adopting collective leadership principles.	Approx. 35 (UN Women, 2019)	At least 200	TBD	Indicator revised and will be reported once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Revised indicator: # of Praja Mandala level peacebuilding and solid waste management initiatives, implemented with Community Action Grants • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 1.2.3 # of cross-regional exchanges conducted between different groups of communities in the two districts.	TBC	04	TBD	Indicator revised and will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Revised indicator: % of trained local councillors and government officials who report increased capacity to mitigate existing and potential triggers of conflict and adopt inclusive and collective leadership principles. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
Output 1.3 Economically and socially	Indicator 1.3.1 # of women-led initiatives	0	At least 4 (1 per division)	TBD	Indicator revised and will be reported once activities start and	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic

empowered women, changed gender relations, and improved practices of environmental remediation amongst all communities in Puttalam and Mannar.	implemented as solutions on waste collection				the baseline survey is conducted.	• Revised indicator: # of women and youth led solid waste management initiatives designed jointly with LAs and Community stakeholders receives additional support from authorities • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 1.3.2 # of local authorities promoting/providing income-generation opportunities for women	0	At least 4	TBD	Indicator revised and will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Revised indicator: # of local authorities capacitated in promoting/providing income-generation opportunities for women through monetising of was • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 1.3.3 # of households supported in implementing greening initiatives.	TBC	1000 (4 divisions x 10 Praja Mandala x 100 households)	TBD	Indicator slightly revised and will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: # of Households supported in adopting to household level greening approaches in target communities. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
Outcome 2 Communities (with a specific focus on women) are	Indicator 2.1 % of trained Local Authorities who are empowered to address solid waste	TBD	50%	TBD	Indicator replaced.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 2 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: # of mechanisms setup by trained local authorities that

effectively engaged and empowered through strengthening of SWM systems focusing on resolving conflicts related to SWM	management issues					involves the participation of trained women in supporting to resolve/address issues related to waste in their communities. • The revised indicator will be updated as per the frequency. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 2.2 % of trained women who are empowered to address or contribute to address issues related to waste in their communities	TBD	50%	TBD	Indicator replaced.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 2 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. Revised indicator: % local Authority solid waste collected and managed at the facilities (aligned to SDG 11.6.1). • The revised indicator will be updated as per the frequency. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 2.3 Increased volume of waste managed by Local Authorities in targeted locations by the end of the project	TBD	Increase by 30%	TBD	Indicator replaced with an SDG indicator. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start.	• Activities contributing to Outcome 2 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: % waste recycled (aligned to SDG 12.5.1) • The new indicator will be updated as per the frequency. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.

		-	-	-	New Outcome indictor 2.4 added	• Activities contributing to Outcome 2 postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Proposed indicator: % of HH satisfied with public service provision by local authorities in SWM. • The new indicator will be updated as per the frequency. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
Output 2.1 Technical advisory services on SWM to Puttalam district local authorities.	Indicator 2.1.1 % of HH satisfied with public service provision by local authorities in SWM.	40%	60%	TBD	Indicator being elevated to outcome level. New indicator replaced. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • New indicator: # of local authorities provided with Capacity Building and technical advisory on managing and delivering SWM services • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 2.1.2 % of HH with access to public SWM services	40%	60%	TBD	Indicator eliminated.	-
	Indicator 2.1.3 % of generated income through SWM system for operation and maintenance costs of SWM	5%	30%	TBD	Indicator revised. Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: % quantity of compost converted to revenue out of the total quantity of compost produced. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.

Output 2.2 Public education and increased community awareness and knowledge on SWM	Indicator 2.2.1 # of local authorities and Praja Mandalas trained on SWM	10	50	TBD	Progress towards this indicator will be updated once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 2.2.2 # of women champions trained to SWM practices	0	50	TBD	Indicator revised slightly. Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. • Revised indicator: Number of women team leaders/champions trained to SWM practices • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
	Indicator 2.2.3 # of residents made aware of good SWM practices	100	11,000	TBD	Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
Output 2.3 Closure of illegal dumping sites	Indicator 2.3.1 # of illegal dumping sites	TBD	TBD	TBD	Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start and the baseline survey is conducted.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
Output 2.4 Improved Waste Management capacity	Indicator 2.4.1 Number of SWM facilities with composting capacity	01	03	TBD	Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start.	• Activities postponed due to the ongoing pandemic • Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.
		-	-	-	New Indicator added:	• New indicator: Quantity of compost produced

					Progress towards this indicator will be reported once activities start	• Potential adjustments to targets will be informed by the revised implementation plan.