

PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: Somalia
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:
 semi-annual
YEAR OF REPORT: 2020



Project Title: Connecting across divides: Youth building peace in Somalia Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: IRF 119317													
If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund: Multi-party Trust Fund-Office	Type and name of recipient organizations: RUNO Life & Peace Institute (LPI) (Convening Agency) please select Somali Peace Line (SPL) please select please select												
Date of first transfer: 18 December 2019 Project end date: 16 June 2021 Is the current project end date within 6 months? No													
Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project													
Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization): <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Recipient Organization</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Life & Peace Institute</td> <td>\$ 1000000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">Total:</td> <td>\$ 1000000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 12% *ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE*</p>		Recipient Organization	Amount	Life & Peace Institute	\$ 1000000.00		\$		\$		\$	Total:	\$ 1000000.00
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Life & Peace Institute	\$ 1000000.00												
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Total:	\$ 1000000.00												
Gender-responsive Budgeting: Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: \$438352.79 Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: \$43421.67													
Project Gender Marker: 2 Project Risk Marker: Medium Project PBF focus area: 2.3 Conflict Prevention/Management													

Report preparation:

Project report prepared by: Life & Peace Institute (LPI)

Project report approved by:

Did PBF Secretariat review the report:

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 status of the project is on track, however due to the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent directives from the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), World Health Organisation (WHO) and internal contingency planning, a number of activities were postponed (See Annex 1: Adaptive Programming). Preliminary activities such as due diligence, establishing the operational budget, developing project plan, recruitment of project staff in the project sites, and signing the contractual agreement with the project implementing partner (Somali Peace Line - SPL) were carried out. In February and March the project was launched in Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak with buy-in meetings involving key government stakeholders (See Part 2). Community sensitisation and buy-in meetings were also conducted in the 3 districts with representatives of youth groups, women groups, key elders and representatives from marginalised and minority groups. A committee composing of representatives of youth, women, elders, marginalised groups and led by the respective local administration and Ministry of Youth & Sports (MOYS) were formed in each district to select project participants following the set criteria. The selection of a total of 540 female and male project participants including 90 moderators was done the project baseline was also designed and data collection is being carried out.

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):

No youth related activities outside the project is anticipated for the next six months, however SD kick-off event will be conducted depending on the pandemic situation. Each target area will have a separate kick-off event involving the project participants and key government and community stakeholders. The main purpose of the event is introducing the project to the participants and broader stakeholders and kick-off the dialogue sessions.

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize the **main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500 character limit):

N/A

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

The project focuses on complementing bottom-up peacebuilding approaches that invests heavily in the personal and relationship aspect of local conflict transformation actors. The project focuses on nurturing and building trust, confidence, and relations among deeply divided youth, with the aim of impacting positively on their personal lives and that of their communities.

While the project is at its inception phase and tangible positive impact is not yet visible, key government stakeholders consulted reiterated the importance and timeliness of the project - particularly its focus on strengthening trust and relationships across divided youth. During the buy-in meeting with the Abudwak District Commissioner, he thanked LPI and SPL for initiating such a project in the area. “ This project is essential to reaching a long-lasting peace and stability in Abudwak which has in the past seen massive intra-clan conflict. Bringing this divided youth together, building their relationships and trust is a vital step taken to end the recurrent intra-clan conflict and forging a beautiful future for the youth of this district. Therefore, I am happy to offer all the necessary support the project needs.” Abudwak District commissioner

In addition, the inclusion of different community level stakeholders such as women and youth, was appreciated during the community-wide buy-in and sensitisation meetings, while at the same time offering the project enhanced visibility. “Women and youth have been marginalised in peacebuilding initiatives and other development related projects. We have been in the periphery and today I am happy that LPI and SPL are launching this project that will bring youth including young female together in building their relationships, trust as well as building their skills of dialoging which is an integral component of peace and stability,” said a member of Baidoa Women's Group.

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: Inter-group trust-building and social cohesion: Strategically selected young women and men from diverse backgrounds have positively transformed their understanding of each other and increase cross-clan collaboration on conflict issues.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On Track

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

During this reporting period, 4 buy-in meetings with key government stakeholders such as Hirshabelle and South West MOYS, Deputy Governor of Middle Shabelle and respective District Commissioners in Abudwak, Baidoa and Jowhar were conducted. The purpose of the buy-in meetings was to introduce the project to the stakeholders, get their consent/approval, develop better working relationships as well as to formulate mechanisms to involve them in

the process. During the meetings, they shared their satisfaction and echoed their full support to the project. In addition, community-wide buy-in and sensitisation meetings with different levels of community stakeholders were conducted in the 3 target areas. A total of 121 participants - Jowhar 43 (12F, 31M), Baidoa 40 (27M, 13F) and Abudwak 38 (12F, 26M) - comprising of representatives of local administration, elders religious leaders, women groups, youth groups and minority and marginalised groups. The main objective was for the project to get community acceptance and approval as well as to gain visibility.

Committees constituting representatives from different sectors of the society and spearheaded by the MOYS and respective local administration was established in all the 3 areas in order. The mandate of the respective committees was to select project participants based of the set criteria such as age, gender, clan representation, inclusion of minority and marginalied groups and others. Inclusion of different sectors of the society in the selection process was agreed in the buy-in meeting for transparency and legitimacy of the project participants. A total of 540 (270 M, 270 F) project participants were selected based on diversity and conflict sensitivity set criteria.

The Baseline is under process - the baseline tools have been designed and translated into Somali for easy administering and accuracy, sampling has been done, data collection is on-going amid covid-19. The data collection is being done in line with Somalia government and WHO regulations of social distancing and wearing personal protective. Data is being collected through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) rather than focused group discussions (FGDs), to avoid group gathering.

Owing to the Covid-19 dynamics, the next steps of training dialogue moderators, orientation and launching the project kick-off with the Sustained Dialogue (SD) participants has yet to take place. However, in May, representatives from LPI's Somalia team and SPL, together with representatives from LPI's Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan programmes, underwent a virtual 3-day training conducted by long-term partner the Sustained Dialogue Institute in the US to explore options for carrying out virtual training and dialogue in the various contexts where LPI is working. Depending on the direction of the spread of the pandemic, options for virtual dialogue are being explored while also considering safe ways to move the dialogue process forward through physical convening.

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)

Gender equality and women empowerment are a central focus of the project. Operating in a country and culture where women and men are often in distinct physical space, narrowing such space and bringing more women onboard requires lobbying and engagement with the whole community. Under this outcome, gender equality has been mainstreamed in the project activities. During the community sensitisation and buy-in meetings in the 3 districts, 37 women and female youth (30% of the participants) from different levels of the community were invited and participated actively in the discussions. In addition, a total of 270 young women were successfully selected as the project participants totalling 50% of the project participants. This will give equal chance and space for female youth to dialogue with male youth on issues that are affecting them all as well as building trust, confidence and strengthening relations.

Outcome 2: Young women and men have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On Track

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

Activities under this outcome are expected to begin from moderator training and kick off of the dialogue sessions.

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 above

Outcome 3: *Consensus building and joint action among youth:* Young women and men develop a shared agenda and strategy to increase youth influence in peacebuilding in their area.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On Track

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

Activities under this outcome are expected to begin after the dialogues have been launched.

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 above

Outcome 4: *Inclusion of youth in peace and conflict decision-making:* Clan Leaders and Administration demonstrate increased willingness to create space for youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

As mentioned above, the acceptance by the various local authorities and broader community stakeholders for the project to go ahead shows initial acceptance for space for youth inclusion in community peacebuilding processes.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:

(1000 character limit)

The project team ensured that women and young women were also included in the community sensitisation meetings (30% of the participants) and during the selection process of participants

to the project it was also accepted by the local authorities and broader community members that 50% of the participants should be female, as set out in the selection criteria.

PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

<p><u>Monitoring:</u> <i>Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)</i></p> <p>The project team conducted field monitoring during the buy-in with relevant stakeholders who included key government officials and ministries, elders, religious leaders, women groups and youth leaders and selection process in Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak.</p> <p>There was joint development of monitoring tools to be used in the project period and the selection criteria for project participants was carried out by LPI in collaboration with SPL.</p> <p>The project team took part in, and monitored, the interview process for moderators selection in the project sites based on the set criteria.</p> <p>Virtual workshops have been conducted on development of the baseline tools, translation of the tool to Somali, and piloting of the tool.</p> <p>Baseline data collection was carried out in the 3 project sites. The field staff have administered the baseline tool to 90 respondents (20 Abuduak, 40 Baidoa, 30 Jowhar) and still collecting data from other respondents.</p>	<p>Do outcome indicators have baselines? please select Yes. <i>Some of the outcomes will have baseline values but data collection is still ongoing. Once data collection is completed, analysis will be done and the values shared.</i></p> <p>Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?</p> <p>Yes. A baseline survey questionnaire was developed jointly by LPI and the the partners. The tool was designed to give insight into the outcome indicators that needed baseline values (Outcome 1a, c; 2a) at the onset of the project. The questionnaire has both open and closed-ended questions to allow respondents freely share their views. The rest of the indicators will be tracked as the project will be rolled out. Initially, the questionnaire was to be administered to the project participants and moderators during the orientation and kick-off but due to the Covid-19 situation and the government directives of people maintaining social distancing, this was not possible. Instead, the project staff in each of the project sites have conducted one-on-one KIIs as they maintain social distancing. Data collection has been done for 90 respondents (20 Abuduak, 40 Baidoa, 30 Jowhar) and more respondents will be interviewed. Given the prevailing circumstances, the team aims obtain data from 30% of the respondents who will be engaged in the project.</p>
<p><u>Evaluation:</u> <i>Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?</i></p> <p>No</p>	<p>Evaluation budget (response required): N/A</p> <p>If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations <i>(1500 character limit)</i>: N/A</p>
<p><u>Catalytic effects (financial):</u> <i>Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project.</i></p>	<p>Name of funder: Amount:</p>

Other: *Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organisations? (1500 character limit)*

Outcome Harvesting is a practice that LPI is familiar with and has been employed by the team in past projects. Seeing how beneficial this methodology is in evaluating impact, LPI has found it necessary to train the partners on how to carry out outcome harvesting in the field. This is currently being designed and rolled out by LPI Nairobi Office MEL Advisor in collaboration with the Director of Knowledge & Learning and a Programme Advisor in LPI's head office in Uppsala.



Contingency Plan COVID19 (as of 24 March 2020)

Connecting across divides: Youth building peace in Somalia

Life & Peace Institute and Somali Peace Line

1. Risk analysis

As of 19 March 2020, Somalia confirmed the first patient positively diagnosed with corona virus – a Somali returning from China early March. The person has been in isolation since arrival together with 3 others. The government has consequently closed international borders effective on 18 March for the following two weeks. On 30 January 2020, the government established Covid-19 multisectoral taskforce that included some FMS and other key stakeholders from amongst the donors and line ministries. The taskforce developed a contingency plan for March to June 2020. Radio especially Radio Ergo was used to disseminate information about the virus in Somali language. Nationally, four medical laboratories were assessed and found adequately equipped to diagnose the virus. These are in Mogadishu, Hargeisa, Bossaso and Garowe. Isolation wards have been established in Martino hospital in Mogadishu near the port, Garowe hospital in Puntland and Hargeisa group hospital in Somaliland. Ministry of Health staff have been trained and deployed in all the 23 officially designated points of entry by land and air into Somalia to screen passengers. Weekly coordination meetings are held to update the public, follow up plans, mobilise resources and develop communication strategy.

Somali Medical Association in Mogadishu is active in preparedness. They have shared leaflets about the virus and the numbers they can be contacted on +252855688 or +252855 and email email@sma.com. Somali NGO consortium has set up WhatsApp group for sharing information on the Covid-19 in Somalia.

The Federal Government of Somalia has issued guidelines to control the spread of the virus. They have directed against large gatherings, but it is not clear what maximum numbers of participants are restricted to.

Socially, Imams in all the mosques are preaching on what Islam teaches about outbreaks such as Covid-19, emphasising on trust in Allah and keeping hygiene. The religious leaders concur that Prophet Muhammad advocated for quarantine. He is reported to have advised his disciples that when a plague breaks out in a land where you are, do not leave that land and if it breaks in another land, do not enter that land. Somali social media also has robust information and discussion about the outbreak, although also mis-information.

As the current dynamics are rapidly changing, Life & Peace Institute (LPI) and its partners in Somalia are closely following the situation and will be regularly updating the contingency plan.

Risk Level Assessment

Severity Level	Description	Key triggers that activate each Level	Present Level? ✓
	Severe/High	Epidemic: Sustained pandemic in Somalia. Confirmed fatalities. Government Response: Limited movement, country shutdown, localised shutdown, state-imposed curfew, public gatherings ban, international and national travel restrictions, quarantine/forced isolation.	
	Moderate	Epidemic: 1+ confirmed cases in the country/ localised cases. Government Response: International travel restrictions, social distancing, self-isolation, restricting large gatherings, potential county/country-imposed curfew.	✓
	Low	Epidemic: No positive case confirmed, no deaths confirmed in the country. Government Response: e.g. Preventive measures around travel, quarantine centres, public health awareness, ban of international conferences.	

2. Impact on operations, programming and funding in Somalia

The impact of Covid-19 will become clearer as the situations develop. Under a severe/high risk scenario, movement restrictions and limitations on gathering would entail a slow-down of programming, and thus spending across projects in LPI's broader Somalia Programme, while LPI will be able to upkeep operational functions through distance work, including financial and other reporting.

As LPI and its partners are considering the risks, there is also a strong awareness of how the impacts of Covid-19, particularly secondary impacts linked to economic hardship, social distancing, fear of others, possibly will accentuate the peacebuilding needs in the country. Therefore, LPI is seeking to proactively consider options to find creative programming strategies, including how to support programme stakeholders, potentially, with mitigating tensions and conflict which may be aggravated. This will require a flexible approach and close dialogue with donors.

Below, we include a more detailed adaptive programming plan for the Connecting across divides: Youth building peace in Somalia project.

3. Mitigation measures in current situation (moderate risk level)

Operational measures

Nairobi

- LPI's Nairobi Office staff that support the Somalia Programme, have been working from home as of 16 March 2020 until there is more clarity on the situation. A contingency plan is in place for Nairobi office.
- LPI's Somalia Country Manager is a member of LPI's Nairobi Office Senior Management Team (SMT) comprising Kenya Country Manager/ Head of Office, Finance & Administration Manager, Director of Programmes, Director of Global Policy, with guidance provided by a Safety & Security Advisor (consultant for 6 months). The SMT liaises with LPI's global Covid 19-Crisis Management Team (CMT).

Somalia

- LPI's Country Manager returned to Nairobi on 18 March and is in quarantine for 14 days.
- It has been approved for LPI's Somalia Programme staff to remain in Mogadishu. As of 15 April, all programme staff in Somalia will be living in their own apartments/ houses in Mogadishu. Evacuation covers have been arranged with Amref Flying Doctors. Contact +254731811811 should the need arise and if possible, depending on government regulations around flights.
- Consistent flow of information to staff via phone calls, email, staff WhatsApp group, updates in weekly staff meetings, within Somalia team as well as Nairobi Office team.
- All staff given small hand sanitiser, increase office stocks of detergents etc., buy office head thermometer, disinfect the office if such service is available locally, weekly office deep clean, daily cleaning the office.
- If staff don't feel well, they must inform line manager, stay home and follow government advice on seeking medical assistance.
- Advise staff to limit their social interactions and encourage staff to buy staples for their homes.
- In the case that staff go to the office in this period, all staff and guests must wash hands when they come to office and LPI will facilitate staff transport using hired vehicle as usual.
- Only essential national travel on behalf of LPI or SPL – to be decided on a case by case basis.
- From preparedness perspective, LPI and SPL will consider staff working from home and what this will entail.
- LPI and SPL to not convene external meetings of more than 15 people. The exact number will be determined on a case-by-case basis, following advice of local authorities and the government.
- SPL staff encouraged not to attend external meetings of more than 15 people.
- LPI and SPL team to be in regular communication around the contextual updates and resulting adaptive programming.

4. Impact on project Implementation and adaptive programming

As the context is fluid, LPI and SPL are currently working within a March-June period for adaptive programming. LPI and SPL will continuously review the situation by maintaining close communication and information sharing with communities and government administrations. The situation is expected to evolve, and our approach may likely need to change accordingly. Decisions will be made based on analysis and review of the situation and new government directives, in close consultation with SPL. This will be regularly revisited and discussed with UNPBF.

Key constraints for programming

- SPL will maintain close contact with project participants and authorities regarding the implementation of the project – through SPL's project focal points in each of the three main locations, which are supported from SPL and LPI staff in Mogadishu. SPL will discuss and monitor risks and risk mitigation measures. LPI and SPL will assess the situation closely and follow government guidelines. Before any activity is undertaken, SPL will consult with local authorities to get their approval to carry out the activity.
- SPL project team site visits will only be done if this is considered essential – in consultation with the local authorities. This is to avoid potential transmission – both from SPL staff and to SPL staff travelling. LPI staff will not accompany partners outside Mogadishu under the current situation, but will be fully available for preparation and debriefing in Mogadishu.
- Under the current scenario it is expected that the training, SD sessions kick off and baseline survey can still be undertaken, however, in smaller groups than initially foreseen. SPL will consult with the authorities to carry out these activities as soon as practical. This decision will be

reviewed regularly. Provisions for personal hygiene and social distancing during any gathering will be given.

- When project activities reach target groups, making use of an up-to-date information sheet sources from WHO and government information, the project will provide space for a discussion among participants about Covid-19 and what should be done so that participants can jointly care for one another. This is also to address a lot of mis-information currently being spread on the virus in various social media channels.
- If it is possible to launch the SD dialogue sessions, they can contribute to social cohesion and form small solidarity cells in view of the fear the Covid-19 epidemic is causing. Participants may even use this space to identify how they could support communities – especially people particularly effected – of course in safe ways.
- Therefore, with small flexibility and close follow up from SPL office, the project can serve to function as a useful platform for information sharing, collaboration and networking.

Adaptive Programming considerations

In contexts such as Somalia, there is a potential link between the Covid-19 epidemic and increased risk of violence. Populations in conflict-prone areas are already vulnerable and at potentially significant new risk. This could be related to government restrictions in a context where many community members depend on a daily income, pastoralist movement restrictions, and broader AMISOM/SNA-AS dynamics, for example. As such, there is a strong need for peacebuilding actors to continue engaging with communities in creative and flexible ways in order to mitigate these potential dynamics.

The below options have been developed based on the current scenario as well as for a worsening of the situation. In that case, there might be a need to suspend project activities that bring people together for a period. There will be a need to continue to jointly assess the situation with SPL, communities and government. For such a deterioration, LPI Somalia team is currently discussing with the Knowledge and Learning Unit on different modalities for convening and carrying out a number of the activities.

Options include virtual engagement or re-directing support to prevention or response measures to groups reached in the programme, and LPI and SPL in this case would seek early discussion with UNPBF.

Description	March to June activities – under present scenario	March to June activities – under worst case scenario
Activities that continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of SD moderators in 3 locations March – April in smaller batches of acceptable numbers. • Kick-off (but in smaller numbers) – done on local level already. • Baseline (focus on surveys, smaller FGDs) • Sustained Dialogue sessions. • Peace Actions to be done in smaller-scale activities, avoiding gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess whether training can be conducted in small batches. • The baseline would be done during the training through the individual moderators or online option developed. • SD sessions – feasibility to be assessed. • Peace Actions – feasibility to be assessed, possibly through other means.
Activities that are to be postponed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activity is postponed as at now. Partners will consult with local authorities before conducting any activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All activities requiring bringing together groups of people.
Activities to add to respond to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using opportunities to spread accurate information about Covid-19 prevention measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely monitor the situation and engage with community stakeholders on risks of more violence.

the current/COVID situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Actions emerging from SD groups may address need for solidarity and social cohesion, aggravated through Covid. • Closely monitor the situation and engage with community stakeholders on risks of more violence. 	
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5. Current Expenditure Level

LPI has started implementation based on plans concretized in a meeting done in the second week of January. Based on costs already incurred and estimates from the team currently in the field, we can conservatively aggregate about US\$ 60,000 to have been incurred from project inception to-date. This translates to about 6% of the total funding.

Clarifications

Project Title: *Connecting Across the Divides: Youth building Peace in Somalia (Project Number 00119317)*

June 2020

UNPBF Feedback	LPI's Response
<p>1. The narrative only reports on Outcome 1. Outcomes 2,3,4 are not reported on.</p>	<p>The project has so far managed to carry out inception phase activities which are under Outcome 1 (hence reporting only on Outcome 1). This was due to the impact of Covid 19 as projected in the Covid 19 adaptation programming plan submitted in March this year. With no domestic flights and restrictions on convening, we could not carry on with the SD training, orientation and kick-off which are the main activities before starting the SD sessions. Despite the challenging context however, we also managed to do a baseline survey by adopting a new methodology which is described in point 5 below.</p>
<p>2. All of the preliminary, inception phase activities such as community buy in are in place. However, all of the subsequent activities have yet to be initiated, which is worrying even though this is due to covid. The projects deliverables are almost wholly comprised of or connected to holding sustained dialogues and because of covid, the project has not been able to carry this out.</p>	

<p>3. It is good you are looking at virtual options for dialogue, but given some of the remote locations, would there be some limitations in this? If so, are there other ways to still continue the SDs physically whilst adhering to social distancing measures, i.e. limiting participants, using ppe etc- especially in areas where there's no evidence of covid outbreak? Since the whole projects premise are SDs it is difficult to have a functional project without it.</p>	<p>In case the domestic flight restrictions are not lifted, the staff of our partner SPL in Baidoa and Jowhar who are already trained, can conduct the moderators training with virtual support from Mogadishu. The major challenge is in Abuwaq because we do not have trained staff on the ground. The team will first train the locally recruited SPL staff in Abudwaq virtually but as soon as airspace opens, this area will be priority for refresher and follow up. So far Abudwaq has not reported any covid case so it might be easy to visit. Since the numbers of moderators to be trained vary from 40 to 20, each area will split the participants so that physical distancing can be adopted easily (including PPE etc). Like in Baidoa where we have 40 to be trained, they can be split into three or four batches depending on the space available.</p> <p>Once the training is conducted, the SD sessions will be easy to carry out as the numbers are already small. 12 participants in each session should be fine with physical distancing adopted. SPL and LPI team in Mogadishu, will draw up a new plan to start training in July.</p> <p>We continue exploring the virtual option. A key challenge is connectivity and communications costs.</p>
<p>4. Reviewing the results framework is a bit miserable. No activity results have been reported at all. But given covid this understandable. Hopefully in the next reporting period, and with nc extension granted, a kick off in activities is realized.</p>	<p>This is noted and we share the same concern. However, we are confident that with the measures described in Point 3 above, coupled with an improved Covid 19 situation, we will be able to accelerate implementation and cover considerable ground between now and the next time of reporting.</p>
<p>5. The project is currently conducting the baseline evaluation- this is good. Is the baseline evaluation being conducted by the project team only or do you have some external support? Also, will you be submitting a baseline report?</p>	<p>The baseline evaluation is being conducted by the project team (SPL and LPI staff). Given the realities brought about by Covid 19, the data collection process has been done by reaching out to the respondents on phone and in some cases through one-on-one interview sessions as opposed to the original plan where the questionnaires were to be administered during orientation. Data entry is in progress, and this will be followed by data cleaning, analysis and report writing. The report will be submitted to UNPBF as soon as it has been finalised.</p>

6. I commend the plans to employ outcome harvesting, reading about it, I think it's a good way of capturing specific contextual changes which can feed into overarching outcomes especially in the community and personal transformative work you're doing.

Thank you for your positive opinion on the outcome harvesting approach which we shall continue to use to capture changes in peoples life and practice that can be attributed to the intervention.

Signature:.....

Date: 26 June 2020

Name: Judy McCallum (Executive Director)