

Strengthening the role of Women and Youth as Peace Builders to improve Development in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea

MPTF OFFICE GENERIC FINAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: FROM January 2019 TO October 2020

<p align="center">Programme Title & Project Number</p> <p>Programme Title: IRF-255: Strengthening the role of Women and Youth as Peace Builders to improve Development in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Number (if applicable) 113079 • MPTF Office Project Reference Number:³ 	<p align="center">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results²</p> <p>(if applicable) Country: Region Papua New Guinea, Southern Highlands and Hela provinces</p> <hr/> <p>Priority area/ strategic results PEACE PRIORITY</p>						
<p align="center">Participating Organization(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme RUNO UNWOMEN (Convening Agency) RUNO UNFPA RUNO IOM 	<p align="center">Implementing Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations Melanesian Institute Voice for Change Equal Playing field and Catholic dioceses of Mendi 						
<p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: \$1,500,000 MPTF /JP Contribution⁴:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>UN Women</td> <td>\$ 825,498</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UNFPA</td> <td>\$ 398,333</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IOM</td> <td>\$ 276,169</td> </tr> </table> <p>Government Contribution (if applicable)</p>	UN Women	\$ 825,498	UNFPA	\$ 398,333	IOM	\$ 276,169	<p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration (23months) Start Date⁵ (20 November 2018)</p> <p>Original End Date⁶ (31 May 2020) Actual End date⁷(31 October 2020)</p> <p align="right">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
UN Women	\$ 825,498						
UNFPA	\$ 398,333						
IOM	\$ 276,169						

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.
² Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;
³ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).
⁴ The MPTF/JP Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁵ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁶ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.
⁷ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).

Other Contributions (donors)
(if applicable)

TOTAL: \$1,500,000

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.

Evaluation Completed

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Evaluation Report - Attached

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Have agency(ies) operationally closed
the Programme in its(their) system?

Expected Financial Closure date⁸:

April 2021

Report Submitted By

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- Title: Deputy Country Representative/Head of Office
a.i
- Participating Organization (Lead): UN Women
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⁸ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In ½ to 1 page, summarise the most important achievements of Programme during the reporting period and key elements from your detailed report below. Highlight in the summary, the elements of the main report that you consider to be the most critical to be included in the MPTF Office Consolidated Annual Report.

A critical mass of peace champions (237 peace advocates in total, 134 males and 103 females) spreading the message of ‘peace for development’ have created a momentum for maintaining peace in the Highlands. Of these 24 (11 females, 13 males) are now certified as peacebuilding trainers. This has been achieved through training in advocacy skills, completion of training of trainers, and sensitization on normative frameworks such as UNSCR1325 and UNSCR2250.

About 26,000 people have been reached with peace messages through use of multiple methods including use of videos, sports, social media, story-telling and community marches.

Women have negotiated peace in 15% of the conflicts that have taken place in the project sites. A youth movement called the Grassroot Peace Advocates Team GPAT has been created and formally registered in Mendi and Tari.

Five communities have experienced inclusive community planning resulting in 5 Community Peace and Development Plans (CPDP). Implementation of these plans has been started with completion of 5 multi-purpose community halls in the 5 participating villages that developed CPDPs. Through collective mobilization, communities sourced local materials to construct the community halls which are being used for discussion and mediating peace between fighting groups.

There is improved institutional capacity for mediating and promoting peace. 64 duty bearers from a range of state and non-state actors have capacity to negotiate for peace and support survivors of violence to access services.

Despite the absence of a strong public administrative system, closer collaboration between stakeholders has been fostered. The project strengthened the relationship between the UN, the church, community and government in fighting tribal fights and sorcery. This set a firm foundation for the UN Joint Highlands Area based programme.

Project implementation was hampered by several contextual challenges such as delayed onboarding of project staff, weak implementing partner capacities, tribal tensions and increased operational costs to mitigate the security risks. The COVID – 19 pandemic further slowed down the pace of delivery, hence a no cost extension for the project.

I. Purpose

The main goal of the project was to foster and sustain women and youth inclusive peace-building in the Highlands region to reduce conflict and improve development. The program continued the UN’s engagement in the conflict area and built expertise in operating effectively in the complex environment, while anticipating a wider and longer term program that would be designed over the life of the GYPI program.

Building on the human-rights based approach to peace building, it was expected that the project would contribute to the following outcomes that led to the achievement of the overarching goal:

Outcome 1: Targeted subnational institutions are inclusive of women and youth to prevent and respond to inter-group conflict

Outcome 2: Women and young people effectively engage in community-level peace-building mechanisms to prevent and respond to inter-group conflict.

II. Assessment of Programme Results

- This section is the **most important in the Report** and particular attention should be given to reporting on **results / and changes** that have taken place rather than on activities. It has three parts to help capture this information in different ways (i. Narrative section; ii. Indicator based performance assessment; iii. Evaluation & Lessons learned; and iv. A specific story).

i) Narrative reporting on results:

The project achieved its objective of laying a foundation for a wider and longer term program by (i) shifting communities from being passive victims of conflict to active agents of peace; (ii) building the requisite skills among community members for inter-tribal negotiation and mediation and intra-tribal promotion of peace; (iii) establishing a consciousness within the community on the benefits of peace, thereby creating a demand for peaceful resolutions to disputes and grievances; (iv) bringing provincial government, churches, civil society and civic leaders closer together to begin to find solutions to the challenges of service delivery through use of more inclusive and participatory methodologies for planning and implementation.

Outcome 1: Targeted subnational institutions are inclusive of women and youth to prevent and respond to inter-group conflict

Awareness raising activities reached an estimated 26,000 people, representing 91.2% of the project's target reach. 64 duty bearers comprising ward councilors, government officials, 20 youth leaders within the project sites (Hela Province: Komo, Puren, Walete, Hoyabia, Koroba; and Southern Highlands Province: Bosavi, Topa, Pombreal, Kumin, Semin, Pimaga) were trained on key aspects of peace building and peace resilience. This capacity building initiative led to the localization of UNSCR2250 on increasing the role and influence of young people in the peacebuilding processes.

A structure to integrate youth voices in peace building was established with the creation of Grassroot Peace Action Team (GPAT). The focus of GPAT is delivering conflict transformational activities. As a transition to continue the peacebuilding work from GYPI, GPAT was registered with Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) on the 16 Sept 2020. The membership comprised of 100 grassroots peace advocates from Hela and SHP. To complement the peacebuilding efforts, 18 solar kits were installed at hotspot locations within Longo-Kave and Tepe villages. This in turn built community trust and confidence. There has been a request to expand the reach into other neighbouring communities.

Short videos and IEC/BCC materials for youth as agent of Peace and Gender equality (i.e. Men Engage initiatives (UNFPA) have been effective in amplifying peace building initiatives. As part of the Digital story telling workshop trainings Youths have created short awareness video on the "a world they want" "promoting peace within their communities. The videos were also placed on social media platform, Facebook, Instagram. In addition to that, the project supported the GBV and Peace campaign with creation of local IEC materials for information and awareness at the provincial level.

One hundred (50 female, 50 male) community mobilizers were trained to use Social Mapping, Cultural Audit and Conflict Analysis to diagnose conflict triggers. The community mobilizers reported that the workshops equipped them with advocacy skills which they were using to mediate peace and conduct community awareness. The outcome of these workshops resulted in development of Grassroots Peace Building Tool Kit for all the grassroots peacebuilding activities.

Outcome 2: Women and young people effectively engage in community-level peace-building mechanisms to prevent and respond to inter-group conflict.

The aim of the project was to bring more women and young people to become active advocates for peace building in their communities. The project strengthened the capacity of 237 peace advocates (134 males, 103 females) with advocacy skills to promote peace in their respective communities. Of these 24 have become competent peace advocates (11 females, 13 males) certified as peacebuilding trainers. The trainers further recruited and trained 86 community mobilizers and carried community peace awareness activities and mediated conflicts.

Peacebuilding awareness and conversations complimented by behavioral change and capacity building trainings targeting young people, villages councilors, leaders, such as youth self-management clinics, youth leadership and conflict resolution and male advocacy brought positive impacts in project target communities. Tribal violence related incidences went down and contributed to peaceful council elections. The awareness activities resulted in reviving community by-laws such as no drinking alcohol in public places, no taking of weapons, and no fighting.

The Community Peace and Development Plan (CPDP) pilot initiatives contributed to the people's understanding on their own responsibility and voluntary actions for peace and social cohesion with specific provisions to improve the security and status, and roles of women, girls and youth. The multi-purpose community halls erected by the people in 5 target communities⁹ ensured safe drinking water systems, fully furnished community halls with solar lighting. The multipurpose community hall became a beacon of justice, peace and harmony as it is being utilized freely by community members particularly women and youth for many community meetings. The community listed proposed community projects in each CPDP as solutions for peace and sustainable development. The proposed activities will be used as reference for further multi-sectoral joint interventions for peace and development.

The process of developing the plans was inclusive and enhanced partnership among participating UN agencies, local government authorities, churches, and target communities. This built a mutual sense of responsibility for maintaining peace for development. The printed CPDPs were widely circulated to the local government authorities and councillors who may take actions to meet community development aspirations on the CPDP utilizing the District Service Improvement Program. The list of proposed community projects included in each CPDP are solutions to identified risks to conflict and insecurity.

There is evidence of community ownership of the developments. Community members talk with respect and pride of the positive changes happening in their community such as the road maintenance work that was delivered by the community mobilizers. There has been reduction of drug and alcohol abuses in the Kumin and Humba-Topa communities. Among these positive initiatives is the allocation of a land to construct the community hall and a school and the installation of septic tank, water pump and solar fittings at Longo-Kave village.

Self-help community activities such as cleaning, road maintenance, and addressing sorcery related violence continue to ignite positive results. In Tari Hoeibia LEP centre mobilized the community on 14 August 2020 to march against tribal fights. In Mendi, Topa, the community marched against sorcery related violence on 12 July 2020 which was widely covered in the media. A positive outcome has been the provision of safe shelter for victims of sorcery related violence in Pombreal LEP Centre.

⁹ Humba-Topa, Semin, Kumin, Pombreal and Daga-Pimaga.



Humbra-Topa women, youth, men and children celebrate completing of the multi-purpose community hall. © IOM/ Peter Murodera

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document / AWP**s - provide details of the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why.

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 1¹⁰ Indicator: Baseline: Planned Target:			
Output 1.1 Indicator 1.1.1 Number of communities in which short videos are developed and disseminated for engagement of men and youth Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 11	5 communities	The operational challenges made it difficult to develop the videos in all the targeted communities.	Community reports Video clips produced
Indicator 1.1.2 Number of Provincial and LLG community leaders engaged Baseline:0 Planned Target: 5,000	100	The target set was based on a 100% coverage of the provinces hence far higher than the project could reach given the operational costs.	Activity reports, registers
Output 1.2 Indicator 1.2.1 % increase in the proportion of female mediators who participate in formal and informal peace negotiations Baseline: Planned Target:		Baseline report does not have any baseline to measure the increase. However progress being made where active women peace mediators are now being engaged in peace negotiations and mediations both in Hela and SHP.	Mediation Reports, Registers.

¹⁰ Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be as outlines in the Project Document so that you report on your actual achievements against planned targets. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

<p>Indicator 1.2.2 Number of Male Advocates trained and participating in inclusive peace building processes. Baseline: Planned Target: 15,500 (including 8,000 young men)</p>	<p>Progressive total of male advocates trained and beneficiaries reached</p>	<p>Report to Matrix - reference info</p>	<p>Activity registers and reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.2: Number of conflicts reported in the crowdsource conflict mapping tool Baseline: 0 Target: 5</p>	<p>7 (1 Pureni, Walete 1, Hoiebia 2, Komo 3)</p>		<p>Conflict mapping tool and LEP reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.3a: Highland Centre for Peace & Reconciliation (HCPR) and running Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>The idea of a Centre has been reconceptualized in line with the emerging realities in the community. The new thinking has been carried over to the successor Highlands Area Based Programme.</p>	<p>Workshop reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.3b: Successful delivery of end-of-project Peace Conference led by women and young people</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Only end of project reflection workshops held</p>	<p>Reflection workshop report.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.4 Proportion of women and youth in decision making roles participating in justice and security sector mechanisms in conflict-affected/prone communities (quality of participation) Baseline: 0 Target: 5%</p>	<p>5% (increased involvement of women in decision making particularly in mediation, conflict negotiation)</p>		<p>LEP register and reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.3 Percentage of D-LOC; district /village courts equipped to respond to conflicts, address cases of violations of women's and girls' human rights, with due attention to survivor' security (including</p>	<p>20%</p>		<p>Activity reports.</p>

on Do No Harm)			
Indicator 2.a % of conflicts mediated with participation of women and young people as mediators.	15%		Mediation reports. LEP reports
Indicator 2.b Proportion of population satisfied with inclusive mediation processes	TBD	This will be measured in the end of project evaluation.	End of project evaluation
Indicator 2.c Number of active conflicts reported, cumulative	10		Conflict register, reports
Indicator 2.d Number of new conflicts, annual	5		Conflict register and reports
Indicator 2.1.1 Number of youth (young women and young men) in community youth network engaged in conflict prevention and social cohesion activities, by sex and age	4,485		
Indicator 2.1.2 Number of trained youth leaders playing the role of Peace advocates within their communities, by sex and age	100 (50 males, 50 females)		Training registers and reports
Indicator 2.1.3 Proportion of “troubled youths” who attend self-management clinics and exhibit positive behavioral changes, by sex Baseline:0 Target: 50%	20%	Through monitoring implementing partner was only able to determine 20% of the youths had shown positives changes. Due to the Covid 19 Travel restriction, the IP was not able to further determine the progress of the other youths.	
Output Indicator 2.1.4 Number of youths led social, sports initiatives focusing on peace conducted in the project focal areas Baseline: 0 Target: 11	11	The IP, Equal playing field were able to host series of meeting in Hela and initiated 11 sporting initiatives to promote peaceful co-existence. This was followed through with the support of Diocese of Mendi	Activity reports and registers

Output Indicator 2.1.5 Number of communities engage in behavior change through SASA and cross learning exchanges. Baseline: 0 (Sasa is not currently implemented in any project sites) Target: 11	12	A participatory tool adapting the SASA methodology for behaviour change was used to engage communities in behavior change and cross learning exchange activities.	Activity reports
Indicator 2.2.1 Gender ratio of CPDP facilitators (female to male), by age	50%		Community registers
Indicator 2.2.2 Proportion of CPDPs with specific provisions to improve the security and status of women and girls.	100%		
Indicator 2.2.3 Number of CPDPs which focus on initiatives which enhance the role of women and youth in peace-building and social cohesion.	5		CPDP reports.
Indicator 2.2.4 Number of community compacts / by-laws that promote peace and explicitly address the concerns of women.	3		Reports.

iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

- *Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken relating to the programme and how they were used during implementation. Has there been a final project evaluation and what are the key findings? Provide reasons if no programme evaluation have been done yet?*
 - The final programme evaluation is yet to be completed and is planned for early 2021.
 - A high level joint monitoring visit conducted in October 2020 revealed that while there has been strong women and youth voices advocating for peace in the Highlands, the absence of senior administrative staff in SHP and Hela presents a government leadership vacuum.
 - For areas that have successfully managed to maintain peace, recognition must be given through timely implementation of livelihood skills and income generating projects that can motivate youth and women promoting peace. The application of the peace dividend for development will motivate other communities to maintain peace.
 - Given the poor road network and non-availability of accessible lifesaving services at community level, there is need to consider emergency funding that can be accessed by community volunteers responding to cases of sorcery and domestic violence. Victims require safe shelter and medical attention which will not be possible to access within the same locality.
 - Coordination in the selection of implementation sites could maximize the complementarity of UN agency interventions within the same community.
- *Explain challenges such as delays in programme implementation, and the nature of the constraints such as management arrangements, human resources etc. What actions were taken to mitigate these challenges? How did such challenges and actions impact on the overall achievement of results? Have any of the risks identified during the project design materialized or were there unidentified risks that came up?*

The programme experienced delayed onboarding and high turnover of staff. This mainly affected the coordination of the joint programme by the convening agency. This was mitigated through the use of locally recruited consultants and interlocutor who could easily navigate the complex environment. The IPs selected to implement the programme were new to the UN system and its requirements. This placed a higher burden of management to ensure compliance by these partners. This was mitigated through close monitoring and follow up in areas identified for capacity strengthening. Conflict erupted in the programme operational areas which resulted in a complete halt to programme implementation. This was further compounded by travel restrictions imposed with the COVID-19 SoE regulations. The project requested a no cost extension which enabled the completion of activities.

The planned Highlands Centre for Peace and Development was not completed within the life of this project. While the idea was well conceived to promote cohesion between the SHP and Hela, its implementation was challenged by several factors such as the complex operational environment and the time required to build inter-tribal trust. There is need to re-consider the utility of such infrastructure given the mobility challenges within the province. Increasing multi-purpose community centres has more benefit in the immediate and long term.

- *Report key lessons learned and best practices that would facilitate future programme design and implementation, including issues related to management arrangements, human resources, resources, etc. Please also include experiences of failure, which often are the richest source of lessons learned.*

The programme was over ambitious in setting targets on numbers to be reached especially given the contextual analysis that was available and resources available. Given the sensitivities of the

environment, it was important to have provided a more senior level cadre to lead the programme and ensure it was well coordinated and technically coherent during implementation. In rapidly evolving contexts such as the Highlands, there is need for flexible programming as some activities may not be possible although at planning they may seem feasible.

iv) A Specific Story (Optional)

- This could be a success or human story. It does not have to be a success story – often the most interesting and useful lessons learned are from experiences that have not worked. The point is to highlight a concrete example with a story that has been important to your Programme.
- In ¼ to ½ a page, provide details on a specific achievement or lesson learned of the Programme. Attachment of supporting documents, including photos with captions, news items and etc., is strongly encouraged. The MPTF Office will select stories and photos to feature in the Consolidated Annual Report, the GATEWAY and the MPTF Office Newsletter.

Problem / Challenge faced: Describe the specific problem or challenge faced by the subject of your story (this could be a problem experienced by an individual, community or government).

Tribal conflict between Tagali and Pureni on 10 September 2019 led relatives of the tribes to come to Tari to help their families. The wantok cultural system led Samson Alo to abandon his electrician job in Port Moresby to join his relatives in fighting the enemy. A cycle of tribal fights triggered by disputes over pigs and land has been sustained in the region. In Pureni, they adopted a pay back, revenge and compensation system that perpetuates tribal fighting. In recent times, tribal fights have consisted of abuse of women and girls and destruction of infrastructure especially schools and houses.

Programme Interventions: How was the problem or challenged addressed through the Programme interventions?

Samson Alo is a beneficiary of the GYPI project in Hela province. He became involved in the programme through his attendance to the Catholic Church at Pureni Parish, which hosts a Learning, Empowerment and Protection centre (LEP centre). One day he was invited to the LEP centre where a sensitization session on peace building was taking place. The Pureni LEP centre was established during the 2018 earthquake response and has continued to function as a safe meeting place to discuss women’s empowerment, community development and helps survivors of violence to access GBV services. The LEP centres are run by community mobilizers. A community mobilizer is a selected member of the community who has undergone training on how to engage in community public education, interpersonal communication, and refer survivors of violence for services. After this sensitization meeting Samson became interested and signed up as a community mobilizer. This was the turning point for his life. Since then Samson Alo has become an agent of change in his tribe.

Result (if applicable): Describe the observable *change* that occurred so far because of the Programme interventions. For example, how did community live change or how was the government better able to deal with the initial problem?

Simon left his job to join a tribal fight but today has become a devoted peace advocate in Pureni. He has since also recruited Mr. Andrew Kolat and both have mediated peace between the Tagali and Pureni tribes using negotiation skills they have learnt from the programme training workshops. Samson has produced a documentary on the peace mediation activities in Pureni. He is now also using music and the documentary to conduct raise awareness on peace building in Pureni village.



Mr. Andrew Kolat, Community mobilizer mediating peace between two tribal groups in Pureni, Hela Province.

Lessons Learned: What did you (and/or other partners) learn from this situation that has helped inform and/or improve Programme (or other) interventions?

The use of positive role models within tribal groups is effective in negotiating for peace. Samson as a respected member of his community without an elected position was able to mobilize his tribe to change. Interventions that work through these peace advocates within families have the potential to weaken the influence of ‘warlords’ within clans. The church plays a critical role in reaching troubled villages and victim of sorcery. They are aware of the local dynamics which makes it easy to negotiate for peace.



Kumin women, men and children welcome installation of safe drinking water by IOM. © IOM/ Peter Muropera