

## PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT



**COUNTRY:** SRI LANKA  
**TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:**  
 ANNUAL  
**YEAR OF REPORT:** 2022

**Project Title:** Countering hate speech through education and advocacy for improving social cohesion in Sri Lanka  
**Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** 00129535 PBF IRF

<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>
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**Date of first transfer:** 01 December 2021  
**Project end date:** 01 June 2023  
**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):**

- Please enter the total amounts in US dollars allocated to each recipient organization
- Please enter the original budget amount, amount transferred to date and estimated expenditure by recipient.
- For cross-border projects, group the amounts by agency, even where transfers are made to different country offices. You can provide the detail in the attached budget.

Recipient organisation	Budget Allocated (\$)	Amount Transferred to date (\$)	Amount spent to date (\$)
UNDP	\$ 2, 000, 000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 150,645
UNICEF	\$ 1, 000, 000	\$ 600,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 3, 000, 000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 150,645

Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget:

**\*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\***

The budget templates are available [here](#)

**Gender-responsive Budgeting:**

Indicate what percentage (%) of the budget contributes gender equality or women's empowerment (GEWE)? 30%

Indicate dollar amount from the project document to contribute to gender equality or women's empowerment: US\$ 896,017

Amount expended to date on efforts contributing to gender equality or women's empowerment:

**Project Gender Marker: 2**

**Project Risk Marker: 1**

**Project PBF focus area: 2.3**

**Report preparation:**

Project report prepared by: UNDP, UNICEF, UNRCO

Project report approved by: Respective Agency Representatives and the Resident Coordinator

Did PBF Secretariat review the report: YES

### ***NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:***

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
- *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*
- *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

### **PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

Briefly outline the **status of the project** in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):

All preliminary activities necessary for achieving project outcomes have been successfully completed. A work plan has been finalized and approved with input from UNDP, UNICEF, and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO). A joint action plan, with a specific focus on peace and social cohesion, prevention of hate speech, and ending violence against children, was developed by UNICEF and is now being rolled out. Preliminary discussions with the Ministry of Mass Media have been completed. However, frequent changes to the administration at the Ministry have affected project engagement.

Orientation meetings have been held to introduce the project to key implementing partners. UNDP introduced the project and approach to 20+ participating civil society organizations in a meeting to establish a Community of Practice on Hate Speech. UNICEF held program orientation/planning meetings with the respective Divisional Secretariats (DS) and relevant government officers resulting in the selection of 102 government officers across all five districts to be trained as master trainers on hate speech prevention. Thus far, UNICEF has trained 86 religious leaders on the effective use of social media and established two district-level religious leader forums.

A Monitoring and Evaluation plan has been developed and a consultant has been recruited to further develop the M&E framework and the baseline study. Recruitment of key project staff (Project coordinator and Media specialist roles) is near completion. UNDP has signed agreements with respective implementing partners and institutions, including with SecDev for digital ecosystem mapping and training.

**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):

Not applicable.

### **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: Systematic research and evidence provide the foundation for the countering of online hate speech for effective advocacy and preventive action (UNDP)**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track**

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

**Output 1.1 aims to improve access to data on hate speech (HS).** Baselines for hate speech trends on Facebook have been set through monthly datasets and reports produced under a prior UNRCO and UNDP engagement with a local social media monitoring institution, Hashtag Generation. UNDP contracted an international research institution, SecDev, to conduct a ‘digital ecosystem mapping’ exercise to expand research into regional and gendered dimensions of hate speech (HS) on platforms not previously monitored for HS, such as YouTube, Tiktok, and open Instant Messaging (IM) platforms. SecDev has submitted the concept note which outlines methodological foundations for their research. The methodology focuses on using two distinctive methods to identify channels and content relevant to the research: actor specific (studying existing lists of channels and social media handles of known problematic actors) and content-specific tracking (using HS keywords). SecDev will also be developing analytical reports and creating a dataset of documented HS, that explores the impact of these spaces on social cohesion. SecDev will conduct training for identified civil society partners on effective tools for monitoring HS.

**Output 1.2 aims to strengthen civil society capacities on countering hate speech.** A meeting was organized with 22 participating civil society partners to establish a Community of Practice (CoP) on Monitoring and Countering Dangerous Speech in Sri Lanka. Responding to a survey circulated following the meeting, 20 of the 22 organizations expressed interest in being part of a CoP, and 9 expressed interest in serving as CoP Chair on a rotational basis. Knowledge sharing, identifying priorities for advocacy, and engaging with external stakeholders were among the functions a majority of respondents indicated the CoP should serve.

UNDP continues to strengthen the identification of HS by seeking the possibility of establishing a real-time incident tracking system. Discussions were held with the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), a leading peacebuilding and human rights civil society organization, on developing an online application to promote sharing of verified information on critical socio-economic and political developments and promote informed advocacy for accountable governance in the country. Additionally, an extensive set of datasets have been purchased which will be used by the Crisis Risk Dashboard to provide real-time analytical insights on the ongoing economical and political tensions being mapped.

The Hashtag Generation—with support from [UNRCO](#)<sup>1</sup>—compiles monthly reports monitoring hate speech and dangerous speech narratives across Facebook, Youtube and Tiktok in Sinhala, Tamil and English to better understand online conversations and the dynamics vis-a-vis offline events. Monitoring of Facebook posts commenced in March 2020, and was expanded to Youtube and Tiktok in April 2022. The National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL) also maintains a [quarterly report](#) analysing religiously motivated violent incidents against Christians to inform partners. Incidents included in the quarterly reports, alongside some additional incidents of religiously motivated violence

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<sup>1</sup> Link to RCO report: <https://mailchi.mp/def087e6af04/online-hate-speech-sri-lanka-5832159?e=9a207e942c>

towards non-Christian religious minorities are recorded in a dataset maintained by NCEASL and updated on a monthly basis.

A ToR has been developed and shared for the purpose of recruiting youth and women's organizations to promote dialogue around responding to hate speech as well as on crisis preparedness, response, and recovery under the present circumstances.

**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)*

This project strongly recognizes the disproportionate negative impacts of hate speech on women and as such, all advocacy and project efforts have specifically gender-focused components supported by gender-disaggregated data. Under Output 1.1, Sec Dev will pay special attention to gender-disaggregated data collection and gendered problem analysis under the digital ecosystem mapping of hate speech. Additionally, reports generated on online hate speech include gender-disaggregated data and identify issues surrounding gendered hate speech. The project will also engage and develop the capacities of youth and women's organizations and a ToR has been developed to recruit such organizations to promote dialogue around responding to hate speech and strengthen social cohesion.

**Outcome 2: National stakeholders actively engage in and lead early action to prevent and address hate speech and to support social cohesion through producing online and offline alternative narratives (UNDP and UNICEF)**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track**

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

**Output 2.1 aims to increase capacity of national stakeholders on countering hate speech (UNICEF and UNDP)**

UNICEF continued its close engagement with religious leaders at national and regional levels through an inter-religious platform involving the four largest religions in the country. UNICEF is presently working with these leaders to increase their awareness of critical issues for children, including peace building, social cohesion, and hate speech, allowing them to disseminate such information to their congregations and increase the engagement of young people. UNICEF trained 86 religious leaders on the effective use of social media and established two district-level religious leader forums. A joint action plan was developed and is now being rolled out.

UNDP is presently developing a digital storytelling campaign on social media to promote positive narratives and generate content that encourages social cohesion. A prominent media organization has been selected to implement the campaign. UNDP will facilitate communications between the selected partner and social media monitoring partners to help identify baselines and targets for monitoring the campaign.

**Output 2.2 aims to train media personnel on countering hate speech (UNDP)**

UNDP together with the Citra Social Innovation Lab developed a comprehensive training program for journalists. The program will train 250 journalists, activists, and youth participants on nonviolent and empathic communication, digital citizenship, and ethical reporting. The training program is expected to be implemented together with the Sripalee Campus of the University of Colombo.

UNDP has also engaged in discussions with the Centre for Investigative Reporting (CIR) regarding training for journalists building on the previous UNDP-EU regional intervention on preventing violent extremism.

### **Output 2.3 targets adolescents and youth in countering hate speech (UNICEF)**

UNICEF expanded its work with adolescents and youth on hate speech to hotspots in five districts in the targeted provinces. Relevant government officers, including 102 Child Rights Promotion Officers (CRPOs), Youth Service Officers (YSOs) and Divisional Secretariats (DS) officers, across all five districts were selected as master trainers on hate speech prevention. Three orientation sessions were conducted to introduce them to the hate speech programme and effective use of social media and online communication tools. Once trained, these officers will lead the training of children and adolescents in the targeted children's and youth clubs. Going forward, the Department of Probation and Childcare Services (DPCS) will mainstream the training curriculum into their on-the-job training programme for CRPOs.

### **Output 2.4 engages secondary school students on media literacy and hate speech (UNICEF)**

Following deliberations with the government on the implementation strategy, an agreement was reached to mainstream the integration of skills for critical thinking and digital citizenship, including media and information literacy, into the Civic Education and Media subjects. This will be done through the ongoing education reforms led by the State Ministry of Education Reforms (SMoER) and the National Institute of Education (NIE). Currently, a detailed work plan is being prepared by the NIE. With the support of PBF, UNICEF has committed to developing new learning materials for grades 7, 9 and 11, training of provincial resource teams and piloting in 107 selected schools in the targeted provinces prior to national roll-out in 2024.

### **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)*

UNICEF will ensure that both girls and boys are equally represented in life skills training programmes and engage in social action projects as possible. In the ongoing support to integrate digital citizenship skills and media information literacy into selected subjects, UNICEF ensures that a gender lens is applied to avoid the perpetuation of stereotypes and biases and promote values related to gender equality. UNDP will address key issues around gendered dimensions of hate speech and prioritise balanced gender representation as a key target indicator during the capacity building of media personnel, social media influencers, and CSOs. UNDP will support the selected research think tank, hate speech monitoring agencies and the media partner for the digital story-telling campaign to mainstream gender in their interventions. In addition, all TORs developed place high importance on gender mainstreaming.

### **Outcome 3:**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit) N/A*

**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)*

**Outcome 4:**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit) N/A*

**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)*

## **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 the outcome 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)

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
Outcome 1: Systematic research and evidence generation supporting the countering of online hate speech for effective advocacy and preventive action (UNDP).	1a Number of social media companies committing to, and undertaking actions to strengthen hate speech moderation approaches and engaged on their public policy for Sri Lanka influenced by national stakeholders (including CSOs recommendations).	Baseline: 1 (Facebook)	Target: 3	No progress to report	Preliminary discussions with the social media companies are planned with the support of the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub and the UNRCO.	

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	1b Number of newly tracked gender disaggregated indicators on social cohesion (defined by data generated under Outcome 1) by national partners.	Baseline: 0	Target: 3	No progress to report	The first round of reporting is expected in July	
	1c Number, diversity & type of national stakeholders actively using data and evidence generated in practice, policies, and programming to address hate speech and support social cohesion efforts	Baseline: 1 organization (very few organizations are currently using or have the technical capacities to use data to address hate speech and support social cohesion).	Target: 5 organizations supported and accompanied to effectively use data, including at least one media organization, one youth led organization and one women-led organization	Two TORs have been developed first to recruit a local agency to capacitate 03 grassroots organizations in systematically monitoring the spread of hate speech and disinformation and the second to engage four youth and women-led civil society organizations to create safe spaces for dialog on preventive action. In addition, two CSOs will be capacitated by SecDev on monitoring social media for hate speech and actively using data generated.		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
<p><b>Output 1.1</b> Improved access to dynamic data and analytical tools for national stakeholders to systematically track online hate speech, social cohesion indicators, tracking and alongside related key SDG 16 targets to as a basis for engaging in evidence-based advocacy and targeted responses</p>	<p>1.1.1 Improved and applied understanding of digital ecosystem around hate speech dynamics on social media platforms.</p>	<p>Baseline: Mapping of Facebook based hate speech dynamics completed.</p>	<p>Target: ‘Digital ecosystem mapping’ of all major social media platforms operating in Sri Lanka completed and validated by national stakeholders.</p>	<p>UNDP has contracted an international research institution, SecDev, to conduct a ‘digital ecosystem mapping’ of Tiktok, Youtube and Open IM platforms, following a competitive selection process. SecDev has submitted a methodological report (first deliverable) outlining key approaches.</p>		
	<p>1.1.2 Number and quality of monthly reports systematically monitoring for hate speech on social media platforms and generating real-time gender disaggregated data.</p>	<p>Baseline: Monthly report on Facebook based hate speech.</p>	<p>Target: A minimum of 12 monthly reports produced with gender disaggregated data monitoring increasing gradually in scope to at least three social media platforms for hate speech</p>	<p>Hashtag Generation submit monthly reports monitoring hate speech and dangerous speech narratives across Facebook, Youtube and Tiktok in Sinhala, Tamil and English which includes gender disaggregated data. Monitoring of Facebook began in March 2020, and was expanded to include YouTube and TikTok in April 2022.</p>		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	1.1.3 New quantitative and qualitative data generated on at least two new SDG 16 targets and applied to understanding hate speech and social cohesion dynamics in the country (e.g. correlations relating to reporting of violence, incl. Online harassment)	Baseline: N/A	Target: New pilot studies and/or surveys provide data on at least two new SDG 16 targets and explored linkages with hate speech and social cohesion.	No progress to report		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
<b>Output 1.2</b> Strengthened civil society capacities for early identification of spread of hate speech, building community resilience and strengthening social cohesion and advocacy with social media platforms	1.2.1 Key national CSOs, identified as having the highest potential to influence and engage communities (online and offline) have the knowledge and skills to effectively identify and monitor hate speech, social cohesion and related indicators through ongoing capacity development.	Baseline: 1 CSO already engaged.	Target: 4 – including 2 women-led CSOs	A TOR has been developed and shared to recruit youth and women’s organizations to promote dialogue around responding to hate speech. 2 CSOs will be capacitated by SecDev on monitoring social media for hate speech and actively using data generated.		
	1.2.2 Civil society establishes an advocacy platform for convening key national stakeholders with social media platforms.	Baseline: 0	Target: 1 CSO platform established	Preliminary meeting convened and survey conducted to gauge interest of 20+ organisations in forming a Community of Practice (CoP) for Monitoring and Countering Hate Speech, that will enable cross-fertilisation of knowledge and conduct advocacy with national stakeholders around responding to hate speech. 20 organisations have expressed interest in being CoP members.		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	1.2.3 Civil society organizations directly engaged in the project (disaggregated by type) organize a minimum of 3 advocacy interventions (e.g. joint memos with other national stakeholders) to seek improved content moderation commitments from social media platforms.	Baseline:0	Target:3 (at least one women's network/ youth network led intervention)	No progress to report		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> National stakeholders actively engage in and lead early action to prevent and address hate speech and to support social cohesion.</p>	<p>2a % and diversity of national key stakeholders targeted by the project reporting actively engaging in preventing and addressing hate speech and supporting social cohesion (disaggregated by stakeholder profile (CSO, youth networks, social Media platforms, authorities etc.), location, and in the case of individuals age and gender, including case study examples of directly addressing or preventing hate speech.</p>	<p>Baseline: TBD through scoping exercise</p>	<p>Target: 60% of faith leaders; 80% of CSOs: 3 case study examples.</p>	<p>A TOR has been developed to engage a grassroots network of civil society and faith leaders for early identification and response to the drivers of the spread of hate speech and disinformation as well as promoting social cohesion</p>	<p>Baseline data collection to commence soon.</p>	

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	2b % of sample stakeholders (disaggregated by gender, age, location etc.) demonstrate behavioral shifts in likelihood to share hate speech	Baseline: TBD	Target: 50% of sample stakeholders demonstrate behavioral shifts in likelihood to share hate speech	No progress to report		
	2c # and types of platforms/ forums (including representing women's and youth groups) engaged in inter-ethnic dialogue and exchanges on hate speech dynamics and trends and response of participants engaged.	Baseline: 3 (Inter-university platform, Youth Gaming Platform and CSOs working group – few such platforms currently exist and these are the most prominent/ relevant)	Target: 10 in total 58(this represents a significant increase – over 3-fold over duration of project)	Preliminary meeting with 20+ CSOs held and survey circulated to gauge interest in forming a Community of Practice (CoP) on Monitoring and Countering Dangerous Speech. 20 CSOs responded to the survey, expressing interest in being a member of the CoP.		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
<b>Output 2.1</b> Increased capacity of national stakeholders including local governance actors, community leaders, civil society and youth to prevent and address hate	2.1.1 # of religious leaders, including young leaders (disaggregated by religious adherence, gender, age, location etc.), demonstrating increased skills to identify and counter hate speech (increased digital literacy and story-telling skills, increased dissemination of positive images/stories)	Baseline: 50	Target: 250 (at least 20% female)	A draft proposal has been developed to be presented to the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) to train and capacitate senior government officials of local government institutions on the issue of addressing the spread of hate speech and disinformation  Around 86 religious leaders have been trained on the effective use of social media		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
speech (UNDP and UNICEF)	2.1.2 Reach, relevance and quality of content and messaging on hate speech developed and used by CSOs (online and in dialogue)	Baseline: N/A	Target: Social media metrics - 30,000 engagements with high quality content generated 500, 000 users reached 100000 engagements with high quality content generated 1 million users reached Gaming platforms - 25,000 downloads/users. User time of over 30 minutes average by 70% of users.	<p>A leading media organization has been recruited to implement a digital storytelling campaign targeted at reducing hate speech by improving social cohesion and promoting positive counter-narratives. The media company will work closely with CSOs and hate speech monitoring agencies to enhance the impact of the campaign and its relevance for CSO advocacy efforts.</p> <p>A TOR has been developed and finalized for launching a comprehensive program targeted at creating safe spaces for dialog on multiple media platforms to discuss issues around the drivers of conflict and violence, hate speech, and disinformation with the participation of civil society, faith leaders, women, and youth leaders and the academics</p>		
	2.1.3 Reach and quality of content and messaging on gendered hate speech developed and used by CSOs (online and in dialogue)	Baseline: N/A	Target: Social media metrics - 30,000 engagements with high quality content generated 500, 000 users reached	No progress to report		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	2.1.4. % of target groups directly engaged in training and capacity development and initiatives (representatives of CSOs and women's networks, faith leaders, adolescents and youth) disaggregated by stakeholder type, gender age and location) that have encountered hate speech on social media who a) indicate they do not identify with, believe in or accept these narratives (for individual) b) took steps to seek removal, e.g., reporting to moderators (for organizations)	Baseline: TBD age and location	Target: 70% disaggregated by stakeholder type, gender	<p>Around 86 religious leaders have been trained on the effective use of social media and 2 district-level religious leader forums were formed.</p> <p>A joint action plan with a specific focus on peace and social cohesion, prevention of hate speech and ending violence against children was developed and roll out has commenced under this project.</p> <p>Two ToRs developed to engage two youth and two women organizations to address spread of hate speech</p>		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
<b>Output 2.2</b> Journalists and other media personnel are trained in promoting ethical and more cohesive media and communications for countering hate speech and supporting social cohesion (UNDP)	2.2.1 # of media personnel (disaggregated by gender, location, media outlet) that report increased capacity on the ethical and responsible use of digital spaces and media organizations (including women's and youth networks) engaged in promoting ethical digital citizenship and countering spread of online hate speech.	Baseline: 100 media personnel	Target: 100 additional media personnel, 50 online content creators (50% female)	No Progress to report		
	2.2.2 # of national journalism training institutions (e.g., university media departments) adopt NVC training modules	Baseline: 1	Target: 3	A proposal developed by UNDP and Citra Social Innovation Lab to build on UNDP existing training programme for journalists building targeting 250 journalists, activists and youth participants		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
<b>Output 2.3</b> Adolescents and youth have the skills to engage in responding to the drivers of harmful or dangerous speech and conflict	2.3.1 # of adolescents and youth from diverse backgrounds that demonstrate increased media and digital literacy and storytelling skills	Baseline: 300 adolescents and youth (50% girls and 50% boys) from diverse backgrounds engaged in the pilot initiative.	Target: 2,000 (50% girls and 50% boys)	2000 children were selected, ensuring inclusion of girls and boys, children from rural and urban areas and all ethnicities. The programme will be rolled out during September 2022.		
	2.3.2 Number and Type of adolescent/youth led social action projects to counter hate speech and produce positive narratives	Baseline:2	Target: 10	Social action programme will commence after the training of children's club members.		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	2.3.4 # of Child Rights Promotion Officers (CRPOs) and Youth Service officers (YSOs) that report increased knowledge & skills on preventing hate speech and promoting digital literacy (disaggregated by gender and location) and using those skills with youth platforms	Baseline: 0	Target: 100	Training curriculum is completed and ready for roll out. 102 officers were selected and oriented on the programme. Training will be rolled out during July 2022.		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
<b>Output 2.4</b> Secondary students in targeted schools have the required media/digital literacy and soft skills to help prevent and counter hate speech (UNICEF and UNDP)	2.4.1 # of secondary students (50% girls and 50% boys) that have the media/digital literacy skills to identify harmful content and produce positive counter narratives.	Baseline: 0	Target: TBD		Due to changes in the government, frequent school closures and the revised implementation strategy, this component has not yet entered into its implementation phase. UNICEF is working with the SMoER and the NIE to develop a detailed implementation plan which will also enable target setting. Baseline data collection in each of the pilot schools will tentatively commence in September 2022.	The target needs to be revised in-line with the government's plan for piloting, including the number of schools and students covered. The target is yet to be decided.

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>	<b>Adjustment of target (if any)</b>
	2.4.2 # and types of school- led initiatives to prevent and counter hate speech	Baseline: 0	Target: TBD		Due to changes in the government, frequent school closures and the revised implementation strategy, this component has not yet entered into its implementation phase. UNICEF is working with the SMoER and the NIE to develop a detailed implementation plan which will also enable target setting. Baseline data collection in each of the pilot schools will tentatively commence in September 2022.	The target needs to be revised in-line with the government's plan for piloting, including the number of schools and students covered. The target is yet to be decided.
	Output Indicator 2.4.3 # of schools using a new digital platform to teach civic values, including digital literacy skills	Baseline: 0	Target: 200		Indicator to be removed. Since the work under output 2.4 has adopted a revised implementation strategy by supporting the government-led curriculum integration at national level, this indicator has become no longer valid.	



### **PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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):

UNDP is planning on implementing the below interventions in the next 6 months:

- Capacity building of journalists and content creators of media ethics
- A network of 150 media personnel and 200 civil society members covering all 9 provinces to be mobilized together with a renowned civil society organisation for data collection and creating a grassroots level response mechanism
- Roll out of a small grants program targeting civil society organisations for promoting dialogues around social cohesion and crisis response throughout the 9 provinces
- Launch a CSR project in collaboration with a CSO partnering with a private sector organisation, focused on providing sustainable solutions to reduce the potency for violence in the future

UNICEF is planning on implementing the below interventions in the next 6 months :

- Master training of selected government officers on hate speech prevention and digital literacy.
- Roll out of the programme in the targeted Children’s Clubs.
- Strengthen religious leader forums and roll-out training programmes on digital literacy and hate speech prevention.
- Capacity building of the NIE curriculum developers.
- Design and launch of the baseline survey in selected pilot schools.

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):

At this stage of project implementation, it is not possible to analyse the real human impact of the project as activities are in the early orientation / implementation phase.

You can also upload upto 3 files in various formats (picture files, powerpoint, pdf, video, etc..) to illustrate the human impact of the project and 3 links to online resources

OPTIONAL

<p><b>Monitoring:</b> Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)</p>	<p>Do outcome indicators have baselines? Yes</p> <p>Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?</p> <p>A draft M&amp;E plan has been developed to effectively monitor progress and impact of the project. An international consultant from the UNDP roster has been recruited to develop baseline indicators, address any gaps in the results framework and strengthen the M&amp;E plan for the project.</p>
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<p><b>Evaluation:</b> Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?</p>	<p>Evaluation budget (response required): US\$ 411,700</p> <p>If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations (1500 character limit):</p>
<p><b>Catalytic effects (financial):</b> Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project.</p>	<p>Name of funder:            Amount:</p> <p>Through the revised strategy under output 2.4, the project has mobilized UNICEF’s own resources to support the piloting of the new curriculum in the non-PBF-supported provinces.</p> <p>Funding has been secured from OHCHR for monitoring multiple social media platforms to assess and secure disaggregated data on the spread of hate speech, and discriminatory remarks targeting minority groups in SL- US\$16,500</p>
<p><b>Catalytic Effect (non-financial):</b> Has the project enabled or created a larger or longer-term peacebuilding change to occur?  <b>Please select</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No catalytic effect  <input type="checkbox"/> Some catalytic effect  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant catalytic effect  <input type="checkbox"/> Very Significant catalytic effect  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know  <input type="checkbox"/> Too early to tell</p>	<p>If relevant, please describe how the project has had a (non-financial) catalytic effect  <b>Please limit your response to 3000 characters including spaces.</b></p> <p>Joint Programme for Peace (JPP) funds allocated were utilized in 2021/2022 to carry out a review on dangerous content across Sri Lanka’s digital ecosystem across multiple social media platforms. For this intervention, SecDev was recruited based on a competitive selection process to carry out this assignment (\$60,750). As part of this exercise, over 10,000 posts were manually analyzed and over 100,000 posts were checked to ensure the authenticity of the information being captured online. Based on the key findings from the report we were able to identify that Youtube, Telegram channels, and WhatsApp groups are platforms that require rigorous monitoring as hateful speech is widely shared and disseminated through these platforms.</p>
<p><b>Other:</b> Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations?  (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The prevailing volatile political and economic situation in the country has a significant impact on conflict and stability. Hence, reprogramming some of the funding to address broader issues affecting social cohesion and the propensity of youth engagement in the spread of hate speech and disinformation would be useful at this juncture.</p>

**PART IV: COVID-19**

Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SECTION IS OPTIONAL**

1) Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

\$ 0.0

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

3) Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

- Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications
- Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery
- Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management
- Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma
  
- Support the SG's call for a global ceasefire
- Other (please describe):

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)