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Somali Peace Line (SPL)



**ENDLINE EVALUATION FOR CONNECTING ACROSS DIVIDES:
YOUTH BUILDING PEACE IN SOMALIA**

EVALUATION REPORT

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List of Acronyms

COVID -19	Coronavirus Disease
FGDs	Focus Group Discussion
KIIs	Key informant Interviews
LPI	Life & Peace Institute
SD	Sustained Dialogue
SPL	Somali Peace Line
UNPBF	United Nations Peacebuilding Fund

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia successfully implemented all planned activities in the four thematic areas benefiting 540 youths (270 young women and 270 young men) beneficiaries. The thematic areas are: (i) Personal Empowerment/ self-actualization, (ii) Inter-group Trust Building and social cohesion, (iii) consensus building and joint action among youth and, (iv) Inclusion of youth in Peace and Conflict Decision making. Among activities successfully implemented were: Sustained Dialogue, motivational events, youth-led dialogues, youth-led peace initiatives and peace actions, town hall meetings, training on advocacy, strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills, project buy-in relationships building, youth summit, exchange meetings, and radio shows.

The project worked to build on the beneficiaries' empowerment and self-actualization by facilitating motivational events and training on strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills. There were nine motivational sessions (3 in each District) connected with TEDx- like platform involving the following number of participants and moderators: 120 (60 female and 60 male) in Abudwak, 240 (120 female and 120 male) in Baidoa, and 180 (90 female and 90 male) in Jowhar. The motivational sessions allowed the youth to present speeches, poems, and plays. Twenty (20) young men and women presented inspirational and motivational topics, drama, and poetry during the sessions. During the sessions, the Sustained Dialogues (SD) participants and guests from different sectors of the society attended the motivational activities. Well known lecturers and motivational speakers made presentations to the participants. As a result, female and male youth gained agency to be peace actors as they gained the right skills in public speaking and advocacy on peacebuilding. They had their self-esteem boosted and became better public speakers as they had the confidence to handle the challenges in their various communities.

To work towards inter- group trust building and social cohesion, the project implemented SD, collaborative peace initiatives, peace actions, and one-off initiative events. LPI implemented SD sessions for a continuous seven-month period in a 5-stage process. There were 630 SD sessions of 45 groups covering the three districts, each having 14 sessions. In Abudwak, there were 10 groups of 120 participants having 14 sessions, totaling 140. In Baidoa, there were 20 groups of 240 participants having 14 sessions, totaling 280. In Jowhar, there were 15 groups of 180 participants having 14 sessions, totaling 210. SD participants reported increased understanding of their cross-clan SD groups and change in stereotypes about other clans, increasing awareness that all people are equal and equipped with skills. At the end of the SD sessions, the moderators reported improved facilitation and communication skills. The moderators could work together irrespective of the clans they belong to, place of origin, gender, or education level.

After collaborative peace initiatives, the diverse SD participants positively transformed their understanding of each other and increased cross-clan collaboration on crucial issues. By the end of the project, there was a total of 66 peace actions(21 Abudwak, 18 Baidoa, and 27 Jowhar) implemented by the SD groups directly targeting elders and local authorities' leadership. During these peace actions, the SD groups discussed which issues to take further through mentorship by the project team. In the end, they identified 15 key thematic issues (5 in each area). The community leaders pledged to support the youth's efforts to solve the issues.

Consensus building and action among youth thematic areas saw implementation of activities such as youth change agents' events, training on strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills, interactive sessions, and youth summit events. During the SD sessions, the groups identified 90 young change agents/representatives (20 in Abudwak, 30 in Jowhar, and 40 in Baidoa) selected based on conflict-sensitive criteria. Each group chose

their representatives to continue communicating about the implementation of responses to the SD youth's issues and to coordinate with other relevant stakeholders, including elders and government officials. A three-day exchange was held between the Kismayo Women Platform and prominent youth peace promoters from Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak. The participants were selected from the SD groups who were trained in advocacy and negotiation skills. They were 33 participants (19 female and 14 male) of whom 25 (12 female and 13 male) were from SD youth and the rest were from Kismayo women platform. The different groups from different towns updated each other on the status of their action plans in their respective areas and the challenges they face. They also shared information about the general context including the situation of COVID-19 in their areas.

There were four interactive sessions held in Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak. In Abudwak one of the sessions was organized for the elders in town. Attendance and participation saw 16 elders involved who were all male and 14 youth (4 female and 10 male) who were SD participants. The interactive session aimed to break the barriers between the youth and the council of elders to enhance working together to resolve misunderstandings between the youth and the local leaders. A three-day youth summit was organized from 15 to 19 September 2021 in Mogadishu, involving the project District's beneficiaries. The meeting brought together 30 participants (15 female and 15 male). During the summit, each group selected four to five experienced and diverse panelists who shared their experience of participation in the project. MOIFAR also made presentations on the national Reconciliation Framework (NRF) process. The Youth Summit had equal representation of male and female youth. Strategic thinking, advocacy, and negotiation had 90 participants (45M, 45F), where 20 Participants were from Abudwak, 40 were from Baidoa, and 30 were from Jowhar.

In the end, the youth from different diverse groups, having been brought together with one agenda - consensus building - for seven months during the project implementation, have managed to understand each other and have formed lasting partnerships. Out of this group, they came up with their groupings, with one of the groups being one dollar (1\$) Youth Foundation, which comprised 30 SD youth from Jowhar. They reached out to vulnerable communities within their districts, and they also did Iftar (evening food for breaking fast) program during the holy month of Ramadhan where they contributed one dollar each to buy food for the vulnerable communities. This is due to the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia.

Inclusion of youth in peace and conflict decision-making was the fourth thematic area of the project. To achieve this, the activities implemented were: (a) project buy-ins and relationship building, (b) training on strategic thinking, advocacy, and negotiation skills, (c) youth-led dialogue, (d) youth-led peace initiatives, and (e) town hall meetings. Four buy-in meetings were held with key government stakeholders to introduce the project and get their approval to build working relationships. There were 121 participants (37 female and 84 male) from the three districts comprising local administration, elders, religious leaders, women groups, youth groups, minority groups, and marginalized groups.

The youth-led dialogues brought together youth with local authorities, including regional members of parliament (MPs), district administrators, the business community, and women organizations. SD group members shared their experiences of the SD process and the impact of key issues for the larger community. On 15 May 2021, the project participants celebrated the Somali Youth Day in the 3 Districts. In the commemoration, 218 people (98 female and 120 male) participated in the events, including the SD youth, other youth in the towns, and Ministry of Youth (MOYS) officials. There were three strategic advocacy town hall meetings conducted that focused on conflict and peacebuilding dynamics in the three Districts. Elders and the local authorities were the key targets of the meetings. Leaders and local authorities attended and shared their perspectives on youth inclusion in peacebuilding and community decision-making. Youth representatives presented their common positions and discussed district and region-based peace and conflict dynamics with

the participants. In Abudwak, 15 elders, religious leaders, and local authorities who attended the interactive dialogue forum strongly emphasized their support and commitment to youth inclusion in peacebuilding and political representation.

In conclusion, the local administration and the clan elders welcomed the idea of working with youth by involving them in the day-to-day affairs of the community. They agreed to engage the youth fully in peace initiatives at clan, community, and even national levels. One of the local administration respondents highlighted that they are tired of endless conflicts and are ready to work with the youth to promote peaceful co-existence.

Even though the implementation of the project activities was successful with all the planned activities being implemented, the Endline evaluation noted some areas that can be explored to inform future peacebuilding projects:

- Scaling up of the project to include Justice component - as is aligned in SDG 16
- Issues of Drug Abuse, Rape, and GBV affect peacebuilding initiatives, and
- Conducting project activities at night.

Based on the findings of the end-term evaluation, the following are the recommendations:

- **Scaling up of the project to include justice component**

In perspective, justice, particularly transitional justice, is a central issue in peacebuilding initiatives. Transitional justice is a set of judicial and non-judicial measures that different countries have implemented to address massive human rights abuses. The measures include prosecutions, truth commissions, reparation programs, and institutional reforms. Through transitional justice, emphasis is put on accountability, redress to victims, recognition, civic trust, and the rule of law.

Through transitional justice, attention will be given to exploring more restorative approaches to justice that do not necessarily include criminal prosecutions. The UN's brief transitional justice policy emphasizes compliance with international laws and standards.

Evaluation findings documented the gains achieved through the implementation of the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia Project, whereby through the peace actions carried out, the participants obtained among many skills, conflict resolution skills which was evidenced by how a rape case that happened was handled. The perpetrator of the rape was held accountable in a manner that emphasized on accountability, redress to victim and exploration of restorative approaches to justice that doesn't necessarily include criminal justice. It is important to note that, holding the rape perpetrator accountable was an indirect benefit resulting from the conflict resolution mechanisms the project was focusing on, thus the need to explore more on the justice component and have it included in the project should there be a scale up.

- **School-based peace education interventions**

Peace education activities aim to produce small, positive effects on the children and adolescents who participate in the programmes based on trust, willingness to participate, willingness to help, and acceptance of diversity. This intervention can be used to promote individual effects on a sense of belonging and help identify negative effects on measures of students' sense of self-efficacy, particularly for girls. This intervention can be used to open students' eyes to the harm of discrimination without making them feel disempowered to address it. School-based peace education will also solve the challenge of conducting activities at night as it was the case in Abudwak where some sessions were conducted at night.

- **Promote young people's participation as an essential condition for successful peacebuilding**

Prioritize regular, systematic, meaningful participation of young people as an essential condition for the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacebuilding efforts. This is of particular importance given that young people constitute a majority of the population. **Promote and abide** by the understanding that the majority of young people strive for peace and stability and that a number of them are actively engaged in peacebuilding efforts; only a minority of young people engage in violence. **Link young people's participation in peacebuilding** to all sectors (social, economic, cultural and political) and levels (family, school, community, local, regional and national governance). **Promote sustainable, long-term and collaborative initiatives** for and with young people, including joint initiatives that build on existing efforts and interventions at scale; Avoid short-term projects that will only benefit a few.

- **Inclusion of the persons with disabilities (PWDs) in future projects.**

There is a need to strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the project design. Just as Gender aspect was well incorporated in this project's design, disability inclusion also need to be given much attention. In the project, there were disabled people included in the project but more can be done. In the event that the project is scaled up, the disability aspect should be a set criteria for selection of the beneficiaries. This criteria should be aligned to the UN standards on disability inclusion in development projects. The PWDs input in peacebuilding is critical as it will help in contributing to attainment of SGD16, which advocates for total inclusion of community members in peacebuilding initiatives. Ultimately, they are part of their communities and they need to be heard too.

- **Inclusion of local Authorities in peacebuilding processes**

The results from the project indicate that local authorities proactively support peacebuilding processes and that they are one of the most important links to the achievement of a peaceful society. Local authorities should be engaged through tailored capacity development, relationship-building, and evidence sharing by partners, and these peacebuilding platforms should carefully assist in resolving structural tensions when feasible. **In this case**, the local authorities would deepen their experience of non-violent conflict management. This may subsequently contribute to the development of proactive strategies to address conflict, focus on the long-term political gains, consider all clans in the area and become open to inclusivity. This is because capacity enhancement will respond to self-identified expressed needs and change mindsets in a safe learning environment.

The state should create and facilitate safe communication spaces for youth and between youth and policymakers to foster intergenerational learning and mentorship and ensure that youth express and engage on concerns and grievances that affect them.

- **Support Interventions combining workshop-based peace education with intergroup contact and economic support**

These interventions aim to trigger three mechanisms to build intergroup social cohesion: 'seeing the other', 'talking with the other' and 'working with the other.' Compared to other groups, interventions included in this category tend to be of larger scope, both in geographic coverage and in intensity of the interventions. The peace education component can be delivered through workshops or training sessions to adult community members, often targeting local leaders. As participants build skills designed to strengthen intergroup cohesion, the interventions then provide platforms through which intergroup contact and dialogue may be facilitated. Finally, the interventions provide a form of economic support to trigger 'working together', in which both groups are given the opportunity to collaboratively design and implement projects that will support both communities, such as small infrastructure projects.

- **Supporting youth visioning exercises (identifying priorities)**

By nature, conflict analyses identify vast ranges of key conflict factors and resources for peace – far too many for any single programme or project to address. Moreover, some key drivers of conflict may be so harmful that they require other kinds of change to lay the groundwork before progress can be achieved. By undertaking a visioning exercise to identify the big picture, we can pinpoint strategic priorities that can help us decide which programming directions will be the most effective for achieving that vision. Launching a visioning exercise requires us to contemplate what a more peaceful context would look like 5, 10 or even 20 years down the road. Given these time horizons, youth's future is being decided on in such exercises. Including youth in visioning exercises, however, not only recognizes young people's right to have a say in defining their own future but – equally important – supports them in the positive roles they play today to realize that future. However, in practice, young women and men struggle to get a seat at the strategic planning table. Strategic priorities may include broad topics, such as support for the security sector or security sector reform, increasing employment, access to transitional justice, peace negotiations, DDR and tackling corruption.

- **Investing in inter-generational partnerships in young people's communities**

Increase dialogue, understanding and opportunities for cooperation among children, young people, parents and elders, to collaborate to prevent and resolve violence and transform conflicts; **Work with adults so that they see the empowerment of young people** as a positive change, not a threat to their power and position; **Recognize and promote the role of local**, regional and national governments to support young people's participation in processes and decisions which affect their lives.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 Background on the project

Connecting Across Divides: Youth building Peace in Somalia was a 21-month long project implemented by Life & Peace Institute (LPI) and Somali Peace Line (SPL) that aimed to bring in new innovative methods by seeking to effect both relational and socio-cultural change (social cohesion), thereby contributing to the sustainable transformation of local conflicts and Youth inclusion in local peace and conflict decision making processes in the target areas.

The project aimed to transform the deeply personal, psycho-social and non-material factors behind clan and identity-based local conflicts in three Federal Member States of Somalia (Baidoa in South-West, Jowhar in Hirshabelle and Abudwak in Galmadug), by building meaningful relationships among young men and women across diverse socioeconomic, political, religious and clan identity lines. The project deviated from traditional peacebuilding approaches in two ways: one, it included interventions towards personal transformation and self-efficacy/ self-actualization of participants as agents of peace (i.e., beyond skills building); and two, it brought conflicting communities together not only in times of violent conflict to end hostilities but also in times of greater stability to build relationships. It is built on the belief that once people respect and appreciate their relationships they can amicably resolve differences that may otherwise erupt in a non-violent manner.

The project directly targeted 540 strategically selected female and male youth (18-30 years of age) in and around Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak towns. Residents of these three cities – approximately 47, 000 in Jowhar, 129,000 in Baidoa, and 41,500 in Abudwak – were secondary targets of the project.

1.2 Evaluation Purpose

The purpose of the final evaluation was to provide evidence and analysis on the extent to which the project (Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia) has contributed to the sustainable transformation of local conflicts and enhanced youth inclusion in peace and conflict decision making processes in the target areas (Baidoa, Jowhar, and Abudwak).

The evaluation also explored the effectiveness of the Sustained Dialogues that were carried out and their contribution to sustained conflict transformation locally and nationally.

1.3 Evaluation outcomes

The evaluation was guided by the following 4 outcomes

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 increased cross-clan collaboration on conflict issues.

Outcome 2: Personal transformation young women and men have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors.

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.

Outcome 4: 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

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The Endline evaluation of Connecting across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia Project employed a mix of qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques, including desk review, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focused Group Discussions (FGD), and beneficiary survey.

Field data collection took place in the three project Districts of Baidoa, Jowhar, and Abudwak. Pioneer consulting used physical data collection during the beneficiary survey, FGDs and KIIs on clan elders, local administration and SPL team, and remote data collection on KIIs to LPI and UNPBF team.

The data collection took place between 27/11/2021 and 2/12/2021

2.1 Desk review

The desk review phase of the evaluation gathered all documentation received from LPI, focusing on the baseline survey report, progress reports, mid-term report, partner reports, and end-of-the-project report. The desk review findings are used in this report to complement the findings obtained through beneficiary surveys and the interviews and to triangulate data to ensure the validity of findings. The desk review is of particular importance when assessing the alignment of the project with the Somalia Development Plan, National Reconciliation Framework (NRF), Wadajir frameworks and the UN Peacebuilding mandate, and the SDGs, particularly SDG 16, as well as the comparison between Baseline Survey and Endline Survey findings.

2.2 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

These were conducted with key individuals involved in the project. For this reason, purposive sampling was utilized to ensure that the selection of key informants was appropriate to collect the most relevant information required to achieve the goals of the end-term evaluation. Pioneer Consulting conducted interviews with UNPBF staff, Somali Peace Line Team, LPI team, Local Administration, and clan elders in each of the three Districts.

There were 25 participants for the KII distributed among the three Districts. Baidoa had 8 participants (7 male and 1 female), Jowhar had 8 participants (7 male and 1 female) for the KII, and Abudwak had 9 participants (7 male and 2 female) for the KIIs. The table below highlights the number of KIIs conducted in each of the three Districts of Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak. The key informants' participants included the clan elders, local administration officials, LPI team, SPL team, and UNPBF. It is noticeable that the male participants were dominant in all the 3 districts, this could be attributed to the fact that in Somalia, most of the clan elders and local administration leaders are predominantly male. The female participants were from UNPBF and LPI

Table 1: KII per District

Baidoa		Jowhar		Abudwak	
Interviewee	Number	Participant	Number	Participant	Number
SPL Team	2	SPL Team	1	SPL team	2
Local Administration	1	Local Administration	2	Local Administration	2
Clan elders	2	Clan Elder	2	Clan elders	2
UNPBF and LPI Representatives					

2.3 Focused Group Discussions (FGDs)

FGDs were conducted with key groups involved in the project. For this reason, purposive sampling was utilized to ensure that the selection of FGD participants were appropriate to collect the most relevant information required to achieve the goals of the end-term evaluation. Pioneer Consulting conducted group interviews with male and female moderators, youth participants both male and female, civil society groups, and Youth participants both male and female.

There were 18 FGDs in all three Districts. 6 in Baidoa, 6 in Jowhar and 6 in Abudwak. The number in an FGD was 10 participants, per District distributed as below;

Table 2: FGDs Distribution per District

Baidoa	Participant s in group	No of FGD s	Jowhar	Participant s in group	No of FGD s	Abudwak	Participant s in group	No of FGD s
Women moderators	10	1	Women moderators	10	1	Women moderators	10	1
Men moderators	10	1	Men moderators	10	1	Men moderators	10	1
Female youth participants	10	1	Female youth participants	10	1	Female youth participants	10	1
Male youth participants	10	1	Male youth participants	10	1	Male youth participants	10	1
Female civil society	10	1	Female civil society	10	1	Female civil society	10	1
Male civil society	10	1	Male civil society	10	1	Male civil society	10	1
Total	60	6	Total	60	6	Total	60	6

2.4 Quantitative Data (Survey)

The source of the quantitative data presented in this report is a survey conducted with target communities in Baidoa, Jowhar, and Abudwak. This survey collected data on a variety of components that are related to outcomes 1 and 2.

However, even though the survey collected information related to outcomes 1 and 2 only and included the project participants only, its findings were complemented by the information gathered from the KIIs and the FGDs, thereby resulting in very rich findings.

Profile of Respondents

Districts, gender, and education level

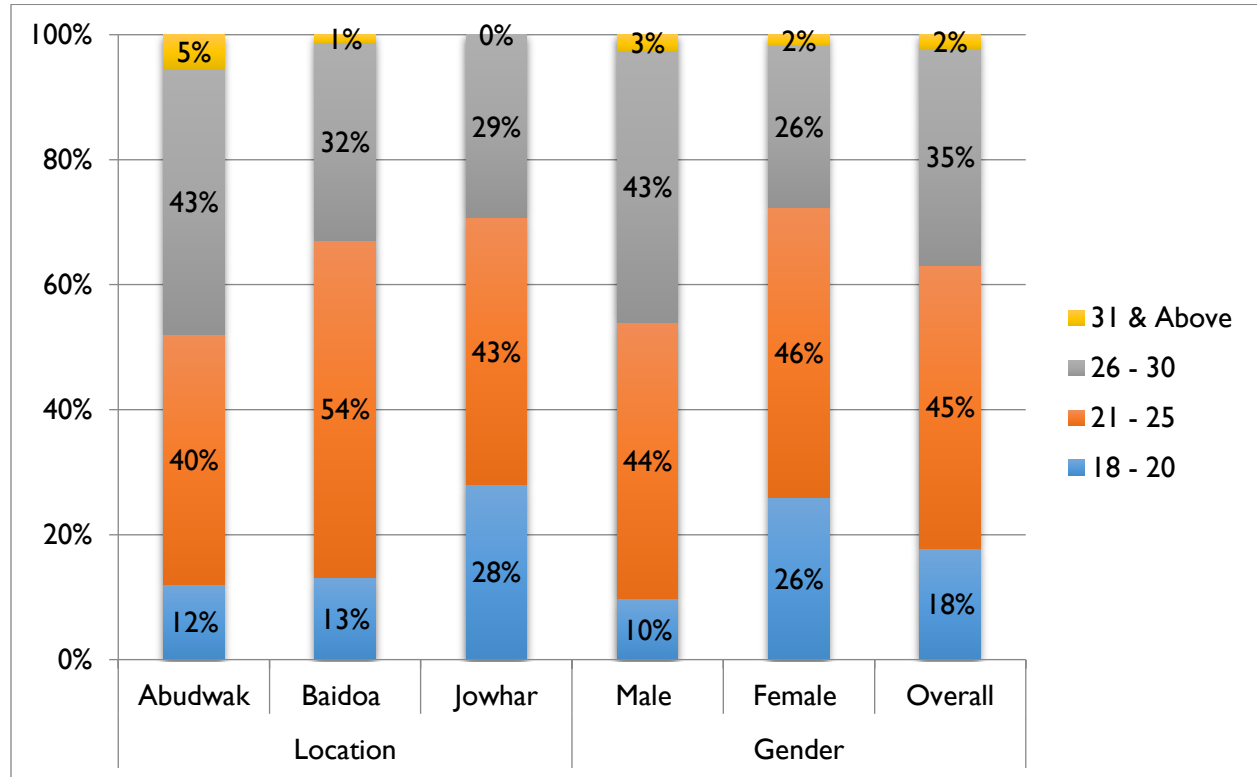
A total of 225 respondents (sampled through 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error from the total beneficiaries of 540) were surveyed. The sample consisted of 113 (50.2%) male respondents and 112 (49.8%) female respondents. The respondents were from 3 districts: Baidoa, Jowhar, and Abudwak. The proportion of respondents was equal in the three Districts, i.e., 75 respondents per District.

Table 3: Number of participants per District

Location	Male	Female	Total
Abudwak	40	35	75
Baidoa	37	38	75
Jowhar	36	39	75
Total	113	112	225

Overall, 45% of the participants in the evaluation survey were aged between 21 – 25 years; 35% were aged between 26 – 30 years; and 18% were aged between 18 – 20 years. Only 2% of the survey participants were aged 31 & above years. In terms of location, more (54%) of the survey participants from Baidoa were aged 21 – 25 years as compared to other locations – 43% in Jowhar and 40% in Abudwak. In terms of gender, more females (46%) were aged between 21 – 25 years as compared to their male (44%) counterparts of the same age bracket.

Figure 1: Age group by Gender per District



Over half (53%) of the survey participants had a university level of education and over a quarter (28%) had a secondary level of education, and 14% had a primary level of education. In terms of location, Baidoa had the highest (77%) of university graduates participating in the survey as compared to other locations, 51% in Jowhar and 32% in Abudwak. In terms of gender, more males (60%) were university graduates as compared to their female (46%) counterparts.

Table 4: Level of education by Gender and Location

Education	Location			Gender		Overall (n=225)
	Abudwak (n=75)	Baidoa (n=75)	Jowhar (n=75)	Male (n=113)	Female (n=112)	
Madrasa	3%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%
Primary	24%	1%	17%	11%	18%	14%
Secondary	37%	19%	28%	26%	30%	28%
College	4%	0%	0%	2%	1%	1%
University	32%	77%	51%	60%	46%	53%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Migratory status by location and gender

Overall, nearly all (96%) of the participants in the survey evaluation were residents. Only 1% (n=2) of the survey participants were IDPs, and 3% (n=7) were returnees interviewed.

Table 5: Migratory status by Gender and Location

Migratory status	Location			Gender		Overall (n=225)
	Abudwak (n=75)	Baidoa (n=75)	Jowhar (n=75)	Male (n=113)	Female (n=112)	
Resident	92%	96%	100%	97%	95%	96%
IDP	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Returnees'	7%	3%	0%	2%	4%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

2.5 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations were integral to the whole process of data collection (FGDs and KIIs) and data management during the evaluation. Pioneer Consulting team sought the consent of all the participants; no person was compelled to participate in the FGD and KIIs, nor were they made to remain if they wanted to leave/stop participating in the interviews. We also provided a clear statement of the purpose of the Focus group and KIIs; we allowed participants to make an informed decision. Besides, we ensured the information collected is used for the intended purpose and that it would not be disseminated to any other place. Moreover, we ensure confidentiality to protect the views of the participants during and after the interviews and that their information will not be divulged.

2.6 Conflict Sensitivity.

During the interview, we ensured the cultural sensitivity and beliefs of people were respected. The interviewers took into consideration all the sensitive issues and areas that have arisen due to conflict in the recent past and as much as possible did not invoke emotions that made the participant relive the past experiences. We upheld the principle of ethics in research and ensure data collected was accurate and objective.

2.7 Challenges to evaluation methodology

Getting the same respondents that participated in the baseline survey was a little challenging. The busy schedule of the SPL team resulted in the scheduled KII delays by two days. The busy schedule of the local authorities' personnel also resulted in one not being interviewed in Baidoa. The personnel kept postponing the interview time until the data collection time elapsed. The training of enumerators took an extra day, this affected the data collection schedule. In Abudwak FGDs were conducted at night because the youth attend school during the day. The youth were mostly college students. Having these in mind, it is safe to mention that the evaluation did not face major challenges that could have jeopardized the process. The few issues encountered were addressed and the evaluation exercise concluded as per the schedule.

EVALUATION FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

Based on the evaluation criteria, some findings were reached and analysis developed from the evaluation as discussed below.

3.1 Relevance

Under this evaluation criteria, the evaluation seeks to find justifiable answers to the following questions:

Any congruence with any global development tools/policies?

The project is aligned to SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 16, which outlines peaceful coexistence. The project was fully compliant with a 50-50 gender balance, with the primary target beneficiaries being 540 (270 male and 270 female). Out of the 540, there were 90 moderators (45 male and 45 female). The project was also in line with UN 2250, Somali National Development Plan, National Reconciliation Framework (Pillar 2 and 4, which deal with relationships and trust-building), and Wadajir Framework (security and job inclusion).

Is there congruence with the UN Peacebuilding mandate and specifically SDG 16?

The project met SDG 16, which advocates for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. There was an inclusion of youth and young women who are often left out of peacebuilding initiatives. There were behavioural changes in the institutions, such as the local administration and the clan elders committing to involve the youth and young women in peacebuilding initiatives. The project did not satisfactorily address the justice component in the SDG 16 goal. This could be because the project did not delve much into it as it was not an area of focus during the project design. This is one area that LPI can look at further for project improvement.

Any coherence to Somali peacebuilding goals and the challenges at the time of the PBF project design

On SDG 5 and 16; the project was fully compliant with a 50-50 gender balance with the total primary target beneficiaries being 540 (270 male and 270 female). Out of the 540, there were 90 moderators (45 male and 45 female). The project was also in line with UN 2250. It also relates to the Somali Government's National Development Plan (NDP) and its primary objective of creating a secure environment, open politics, and reconciliation. It is in line with the government's objectives of abolishing gender and clan-based discriminatory, exclusive political process and stimulating vibrant civil society.

The project's focus on inter-group relationship building and dialogue is aligned to the fundamental objectives of the National Reconciliation Framework (Pillar 2 and 4, which deal with relationships and trust-building). The project also aligns with the social reconciliation and civic engagement components of the Wadajir Framework—as participants of the project will engage with local authorities on issues of their own choosing.

Did the interventions address the conflict drivers and factors for peace identified in the conflict analysis and baseline findings?

The conflict drivers such as revenge killings and counter revenge killings in Abudwak as an active conflict zone had the youth sidelined in the past. Still, with the impact caused by the project, the youth currently take an active role by organizing peaceful demonstrations condemning the killings.

Drug abuse is another conflict driver. Through training in strategic thinking, advocacy, and activity, the youth have undergone awareness training on drug and substance abuse impacts.

Do the project outcomes address identifiable problems?

The project outcomes identified problems that are key to peacebuilding. The problems include rape, gender-based violence, and early marriages. These are some of the same issues that were identified in the baseline.

Did the project address pertinent issues for Somali youth according to the NDP, UNCF, and the project conflict analysis?

Under the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus, the Somali NDP advocated building national capacity if sustainable development is to be a reality. The NDP 9 outlines development interventions to be undertaken by the Somali governments and the Somali people. According to NDP 9: empowerment is the characteristic of a society where members have the voice and the agency to pursue goals they value. A lack of empowerment is evident when one has no voice to change things and when significant barriers exist to prevent access to necessities of life. One such mark of lack of empowerment is uneven access to justice.

The project addressed the issues for Somali youth by providing them with platforms for peace actions, interactive dialogue sessions, and strategic advocacy, one-off initiatives where the youth presented pertinent issues to them, their local administrations, and clan leaders. There was a total of 66 peace actions (21 Abudwak, 18 Baidoa, and 27 Jowhar) activities directly targeting elders and authorities implemented (themes include security, discrimination, youth and women participation in politics and peace). Three (3) interactive dialogue sessions targeting elders and authorities as community stakeholders, one-off initiatives addressing youth inclusion in peacebuilding and other decision-making processes, and 3 strategic advocacy town hall meetings focused on conflict and peacebuilding dynamics in the 3 districts.

3.2 Effectiveness

The extent to which the approaches were undertaken has contributed to the intended outcomes.

1 Enhanced relationship between the elders and the youth.

Through this project, the clan elders have embraced working together with the youth to realize the important part the youth play in peacebuilding initiatives in their various communities. One of the elders stated: “as an elder, I perceive that the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building peace Project has been implemented well and I realize that the project has played a big role in the peacebuilding in the district. The project united the youth in the district and it has also brought the elders and youth together at one table to discuss matters that pertain to peace in the country as a whole”¹

As a result of this enhanced relationship between the clan elders and the youth, 72 SD Youth in Abudwak were invited to attend an inter-clan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clans. The Marehan Ugas invited the youth to participate in an inter-clan peacebuilding event on the border of Ethiopia and Somalia.

In Abudwak, the Gurti (council of elders), has allocated 10 positions (5 females and 5 males) for the youth to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms.

2 Youth collaborations in government programmes

Since the project's inception, the youth have been involved in undertaking various activities that promote their partnership with the government authorities.

The Youth collaboration in government programmes played a big role in the Jowhar flood emergency response. The youth helped in building the gabions along the river banks to prevent the river from bursting into the adjacent communities. The government authorities applauded these efforts.

¹ KII Clan Elder Jowhar

In Baidoa, the Ministry of labour has engaged the youth who participated in the project to formulate the TVET policy. This is a step towards ensuring the voice and issues of the youth are captured in government policy formulations by various departments.

The Ministry of Youth is recognising the Baidoa Youth chairperson who is a beneficiary of the project and he is active in the political arena as he gets to speak at public events.

In Abudwak, an SD youth participant has been appointed a District Commissioner. In this position, the youthful Commissioner can now focus and champion the issues that affect the youth in his district and beyond. From the evaluators lens, this appointment is very beneficial to the youth and the community at large as it has allowed them to sit at the table where security and peacebuilding initiatives are drafted.

3 Enhanced relationships among the youth from the different clans

The youth participated in this project for 21 months and, as a result, they formed relationships with each other continuing even after the project. For instance, 30 SD youth from Jowhar have formed a One-Dollar Club whereby they reach out to vulnerable community members within their clans. They contribute one dollar each to buy food for the vulnerable communities. Poverty has a way of driving individuals to join rebel groups because they are offered money in exchange for their cooperation. The intervention by the Jowhar youth is a game-changer as it will motivate the vulnerable by showing them that people in society cares for them.

The youth have also participated in peaceful demonstrations voicing their concerns against revenge killings in Abudwak.

As a result of the consensus-building, youth are also creating awareness on the effects of drugs and substance abuse.

4 Personal self- empowerment

The youth reported having gained the necessary skills to boost their self-esteem and improve their self-empowerment. They can speak well publicly and lead in developing their respective clans through the mentorship skills they acquired.

"I had no confidence to sit with the elders, youth and local administration to collaborate on Peacebuilding regardless of the clan, but now I am active and able to sit with them and managed to improve my communication skills".²

The following evaluation questions guided research on the effectiveness criteria.

To what extent did the project achieve its intended objectives?

The project's main objective is to transform the deeply personal, psycho-social, and non-material factors behind clan and identity-based local conflicts by including the youth and young women in the decision-making process in their respective communities.

The project achieved its objective by involving the youth who were the major target of the project and achieving the gender balance. Overall, 45% of the participants in the evaluation survey were aged between 21 – 25 years, 35% were aged between 26 – 30 years and 18% were aged between 18 – 20 years. Only 2% of the survey participants were aged 31 years and above. In terms of location, more (54%) of the survey participants from Baidoa were aged 21 – 25 years as compared to other locations – 43% in Jowhar and 40% in Abudwak.

To what extent were outputs and targets achieved?

² FGD female youth

The targets were achieved, as outlined below.

Output 1.1. the Target was to reach 270 female and 270 male beneficiaries of broad diversity, have 45 groups and conduct 14 SD sessions over 7 months. A total of 630 sessions should have been conducted, 280 in Baidoa, 210 in Jowhar, 140 in Abudwak,

By the end of the project. There were 10 groups in Abudwak, 15 groups in Jowhar, 20 groups in Baidoa. Each group had 12 members (6 female and 6 male). In the respective locations, the following pertained:

- Abudwak conducted 14 sessions for each group giving 140 sessions,
- Baidoa conducted 14 sessions for the 20 groups resulting in 280 sessions and
- Jowhar conducted 14 sessions each for the 15 groups giving 210 sessions.

This resulted in a total of 630 sessions with 540 participants (225 female and 225 male) and 90 moderators (45 female and 45 male).

Output 1.2. the end project target was for (i) moderators to experience growth in their facilitation skills and quality throughout the process and (ii) participants to experience SD as a safe space where young women and men can express themselves and listen, and where barriers (gender or otherwise) for participation are eliminated.

The moderators through their FGD pointed out that they had undertaken training on peacebuilding and moderation skills, people interaction, conflict resolution and community development, which are key in achieving peacebuilding. The women were given equal opportunity to be moderators (45 female and 45 male).

All the moderators who were youth have taken part in peacebuilding in their communities more than three times. They are prepared to be peace agents as they have acquired the peacebuilding knowledge.

The moderators are qualified. They have developed skills like public speaking which has boosted the confidence of the ladies who were very shy before the program and couldn't speak in public. They have also developed skills in advocacy.

Output 2.1. The target was to reach 540 young women and men to help them develop a can-do attitude, self-confidence and feel empowered.

There were 9 motivational sessions (3 in each area) connected with a TEDx-like platform held in each project location involving participants and moderators 120 (60 female and 60 male) in Abudwak, 240 (120 female and 120 male) in Baidoa and 180 (90 female and 90 male) in Jowhar. The participants reported having developed skills such as public speaking which has boosted their self-esteem.

"I had no confidence to sit with the elders, youth and local administration to collaborate on Peacebuilding regardless of the clan but now I am active and able to sit with the them and managed to improve my communication skill".³ Female FGD participant

Output 3: had a **Target** of 80% participating youth having learned from each other and women peace builders about negotiating space.

The Endline evaluation findings indicate that 100% of the participating young men and women, as well as women peacebuilders who participated in the exchange visit, have enhanced their influence in engaging community issues, increasing interaction and networking. Some of the impacts that have been created as a result are explained in detail at the end of this criteria.

Output 4. 2: the target was for 75% of the youth to feel that they have been heard to some extent by the end of the project. This target was met. Evaluation findings report that 100% of youth representatives reported

³ FGD female youth

that their positions have been received, listened to, and welcomed by both the elders and local administrations. This can be attributed to how the elders and the local authorities have been involved in the implementation of peace actions and the receptiveness in attending youth-led activities.

Are some components better achieved than others?

The project achieved the set components in equal measure. As was envisaged, the implementation saw the undertaking of all the activities including SD sessions, peace actions, radio shows, one-off initiatives, exchange meetings, and mentorship training. A comprehensive result is annexed as progress towards indicators.

To what extent did the project contribute to its strategic vision?

Strategically, the project envisioned to explore new innovative methods by seeking to effect both relational and socio-cultural change (social cohesion), to contribute to the sustainable transformation of local conflicts in the target areas (Baidoa, Jowhar and Abudwak), and inclusion of youth in local peace and conflict decision-making processes. In so doing, the project employed a range of participatory approaches and methodologies to achieve these results, such as coaching and mentoring; Sustained Dialogue; community service; collaborative action; creating safe spaces; and engagement and training. All these activities that are necessary to the achievement of the strategic vision were implemented. The results are documented in this report.

Are there adequate arrangements for indicators and monitoring?

There were adequate arrangements indicators and monitoring. There was an indicator tracking matrix that was used to track the progress on the indicators. The indicator tracking progress is outlined in table 8 below.

There were different activities performed that informed monitoring of the project. LPI/SPL conducted a baseline survey to assess the status of beneficiary perceptions before the project evaluation. There were two reports annually submitted to the funding partner UNPBF and the team kept constant communication. An SD monthly moderator reflection meeting, activity reporting by the partner (SPL), an outcome harvesting activity and annual reporting were all done internally.

To what extent did the PBF Project contribute to gender mainstreaming and support of gender response to peacebuilding?

The project was very keen on maintaining equal participation of male and female participants. Even though the project activities such as Sustained Dialogues were held together for all the participants, there was equal participation of both male and female beneficiaries. The female youth participants had the opportunity to voice their concerns and address issues that affect them.

The moderators explained that the project brought up the issues of drug abuse and GBV and how they affect peacebuilding. Through the project, they acquired skills that helped in creating awareness towards the effects of drug abuse, rape and GBV. Since the commencement of the project, the cases surrounding these issues have been reduced and the perpetrators held accountable.

Peace actions were addressing GEWE with a total of 4 out of the 15 thematic issues developed by the participants addressing GEWE. This includes SGBV, early marriages, female youth employment, male and female participation in politics and other decision-making processes.

The Endline survey had a total of 225 respondents (113 male and 112 female); an equal representation of both gender at the evaluation stage. In terms of gender, more females (46%) were aged between 21 – 25 years as compared to their male (44%) counterparts of the same age bracket.

To what extent did the youth in the project feel that the interventions positively transformed their relationships with each other?

From the beneficiary survey, a majority (79%) of the survey participants reported *always* as the extent to which they have appreciated other individuals and want to work with them. Seventeen percent (17%) mentioned *often*, 3% indicated *sometime* and few (1%) reported *rarely* as the extent to which they have appreciated the other individuals and want to work with them. A majority (85%) of residents of Jowhar as compared to Abudwak (83%) and Baidoa (63%) reported *always* as the extent to which they have appreciated the other individuals and want to work with them. More males (80%) as compared to females (76%) reported *always* as the extent to which they have appreciated other individuals and want to work with them.

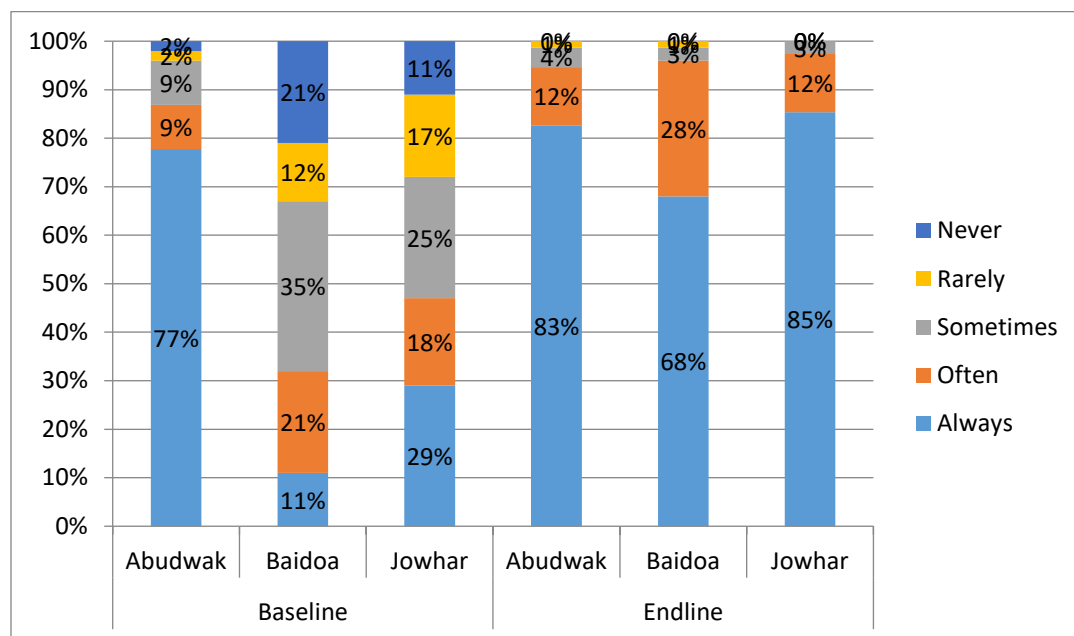


Figure 2: Participants transformation towards each other- Endline survey

Table 6: Comparison of Participants understanding of each other and wanting to work with them- Baseline and Endline Survey

	Location					
	Abudwak - Baseline	Endline	Baidoa- Baseline	Endline	Jowhar- Baseline	Endline
Always	77%	83%	17%	68%	29%	85%
Often	9%	12%	21%	28%	39%	12%
Sometimes	9%	4%	35%	3%	0%	3%
Rarely	2%	1%	12%	1%	0%	0%
Never	2%	0%	21%	0%	0%	0%

Total	100%	100%	100%
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Comparison between Baseline and Endline data concerning young women and youth understanding of each other and wanting to work with them indicates that there is a lot of positive change that has happened since the project implementation.

In Abudwak, in the baseline survey, 77% of respondents always understood each other and were ready to work with them. During the Endline survey, 83% of the same respondents recorded that they always understand each other and are ready to work with them. This indicates that after the project implementation there was a 6% positive change in the perception of the beneficiaries on their understanding of each other and collaboration to work together. It is also important to note that the Abudwak respondents' perception of each other was high even before the project. The project has however increased the perception by 5%. The same trend of positive change is noted in Baidoa where there was a 51% positive change (17% baseline survey and 68% Endline survey) and in Jowhar there was a 50% positive change (29% baseline survey and 79% Endline survey). With 51% and 50% respectively, Baidoa and Jowhar have shown the most transformation.

In Abudwak, in the baseline survey, 2% of respondents said they never understood each other and were not ready to work with others. In the Endline survey, none of the respondents strongly disagreed to not understanding each other and are not ready to collaborate to work with them. After the project there was a 2% positive change in Abudwak in perception. In Baidoa, the perception change was 20% positive (21% Baseline Survey never agree and 1% Endline survey strongly disagree). In Jowhar the respondents' perception did not change, as none of the respondents was recorded during the baseline survey as having a never response to understanding each other and not working with them. Similarly, in the Endline survey, none of the respondents was recorded to have strongly disagreed opinions to understanding each other and working with them.

The compared data from the baseline and Endline shows that there was a measure of positive change in the perceptions of the respondents. All of the respondents in the Baseline and Endline survey were project beneficiaries. This shows that the implemented project activities indeed have an impact on the participants and the community by extension.

To what extent was youth cross-clan collaboration achieved in the three districts?

The data from the surveyed participants indicate that, overall, 64% of the survey participants strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans. Similarly, 33% of the survey participants also agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of the youth from other clans. Abudwak had the highest proportions (87%) as compared to Jowhar (61%) and Baidoa (47%) of the residents who strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans. More males (66%) as compared females (63%) strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans.

Table 7: Understanding each other and cross clan collaboration- Baseline and Endline Survey

	Location
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	Abudwak- Baseline	Endline	Baidoa Baseline	Endline	Jowhar – Baseline	Endline
Strongly agree	77%	87%	11%	47%	29%	61%
Agree	9%	13%	21%	47%	18%	39%
Disagree	9%	0%	35%	1%	25%	0%
Strongly disagree	2%	0%	12%	1%	17%	0%
Neutral	2%	0%	21%	4%	11%	0%
Total	100%		100%		100%	

What evidence is there and measure the effectiveness of whether youth supported through this project have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors?

Based on the achievement of the effective criteria deliverables highlighted, it is safe to say that the project connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia met its intended objective of building meaningful relationships among young men and women across diverse socioeconomic, political, religious and clan identity lines. There are established relationships among the beneficiary youth, clan elders and local authorities that are geared towards maintaining peaceful communities and Somalia at large. The benefits of the project are spreading as evidenced below.

Seventy-two (72) SD Youth were invited to attend an inter-clan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clans where the Ugas of Marehan invited the youth to participate in the event. The event took place at the border of Somalia and Ethiopia.

In Abudwak, the Gurti (council of elders), has allocated 10 positions for the youth to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms. The positions include 5 males and 5 females.

Thirty (30) SD youth from Jowhar have formed a One-Dollar Club whereby they reach out to vulnerable communities’ members within their clans. They contribute one dollar each to buy food for the vulnerable communities. Hunger has a way of driving individuals to join rebel groups because they are offered money in exchange for their cooperation. The intervention by the Jowhar youth is a game-changer as it will motivate the vulnerable in that it shows them that people in the society cares for them.

Youth collaboration in government programmes played a big role in the Jowhar flood emergency response. Building of Gabions along the river banks to prevent the river bursting into the adjacent communities.

4.1 Efficiency

In this section we examine the evaluation questions used to measure evaluation criteria.

Are outputs and outcomes achieved within expected cost and time?

Data from the project reports indicate that all the outputs and outcomes were achieved in the stipulated time. Connecting across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia was a 21-month project. The project started on 18th December 2019 and ended on 30th September 2021. This is in line with the 21 months long designed timeline.

Did any issues emerge? Which issues?

There were no major issues that arose from the project implementation. However, there was the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic that hit the whole country and the world at large. Due to the pandemic, implementation of the activities was halted for some time because of the resultant restrictions. LPI managed to apply for non-cost extension of which they were granted. Thereafter, they used the time to expedite the implementation of the remaining activities without jeopardizing the quality of work and finally, the project was completed as planned.

How effective are project management (planning, design, implementation, supervision) and monitoring systems? And how did they contribute to the achievement of the project results?

Response for the KII indicated that the project was implemented as planned, with all the activities undertaken as planned. For example, all the stakeholders in the districts were involved, the selection of beneficiaries was done by the local authorities, community leaders, and youth groups/umbrellas. Youth Summit was held in Mogadishu integrating youth within the country from different states and the youth even participated in the 15th of May, Somali Youth Day and World Peace Day on 21st September 2021.

The strong coordination between project partners and the donor organization allowed the donor to be informed of the progress of the project promptly, allowing for adjustments to the project to respond to conditions on the ground such as the insecurity and COVID-19 pandemic.

Was the project managed as planned? Were there any challenges encountered and how were they addressed?

Information collected from the implementing partners LPI/SPL through KII indicates that the project had access to sufficient financial and human resources for the implementation of its planned activities. Therefore, resource shortages were not among the challenges faced by the project. LPI also reported that the project management structure was efficient at achieving expected results. A key feature in the project management structure that supported efficient project implementation was the sequencing of activities and their associated documents.

The project started with the buy-in from the stakeholders, followed by the SD beneficiary selection, training of the moderators, kick-off induction meetings and finally the actual SD sessions. The project management structure was clear and coordination between SPL and all other stakeholders was very effective. This is especially true in that during the Endline evaluation there was total cooperation among all the stakeholders and even the beneficiaries.

How were the communication between the project team and the implementing partners, stakeholders, and project beneficiaries?

KII with the UNPBF highlighted that the project was very smooth in implementation both the LPI and SPL team were very transparent and that the reporting was consistent and good. The respondent felt the project was focused exclusively on sustained dialogue and felt everything was perfect e.g., consistency in progress reporting.

4.2 Outcomes/impact

How many young women and men have positively transformed their understanding of each other and increased their cross-clan collaborations on conflict issues?

Analysis from the beneficiary survey points out that, 64% of the survey participants strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans. Similarly, 33% of the surveyed participants agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans. Abudwak had the highest (87%) proportions of the residents as compared to Jowhar (61%) and Baidoa (47%) who strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans.

More males (66%) as compared females (63%) strongly agreed that they have increased their understanding and acceptance of youth from other clans. Baidoa is standing out for having low percentage numbers of young men and men who have positively transformed their understanding of each other. This should be an area to explore further.

The participants in the FGD also pointed out that they have learnt a lot about each other for the 7-month period they have been together and are looking forward to working together.

Table 8: Youth understanding of each other- Endline survey

	Location			Gender		Overall (n=225)
	Abudwak (n=75)	Baidoa (n=75)	Jowhar (n=75)	Male (n=113)	Female (n=112)	
Strongly agree	87%	47%	61%	66%	63%	64%
Agree	13%	47%	39%	31%	35%	33%
Disagree	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Strongly disagree	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Neutral	0%	4%	0%	2%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The outcome target was to decrease by 5% points for the rarely and never categories and increase for always and often categories combined by 10%. The Endline survey indicates that the feeling that one is understanding others has increased for very much and much combined by 38% point, and decreased to 19% points for the little. This shows that the end of the project target was achieved.

Similarly, nearly three quarters (71%) of survey participants strongly agreed that as a result of the project, they can collaborate with youth from other clans. A quarter (25%) also agreed on the same. A majority (93%) of residents of Abudwak strongly agreed as compared to Jowhar (63%) and Baidoa (56%). And more males (78%) as compared to females (63%) strongly agreed that as a result of the project, they can collaborate with youth from other clans.

Table 9: Cross-clan collaborations

	Location			Gender		Overall (n=225)
	Abudwak (n=75)	Baidoa (n=75)	Jowhar (n=75)	Male (n=113)	Female (n=112)	
Strongly agree	93%	56%	63%	78%	63%	71%
Agree	7%	32%	37%	17%	34%	25%

Strongly disagree	0%	3%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Neutral	0%	9%	0%	4%	2%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

How many young women and men have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors?

A majority (69%) of survey participants strongly agreed that they see themselves actively involved in Peacebuilding processes in future with another 26% agreeing on the same. In terms of location, more (80%) of Abudwak as compared to Jowhar (76%) and Baidoa (51%) strongly agreed they see themselves actively involved in Peacebuilding processes in future. In terms of gender, more males (72%) as compared to females (65%) strongly agreed they see themselves actively involved in Peacebuilding processes in future. Based on these statistics it would be beneficial to find out why there is a low number of women in Baidoa (51%) who have strengthened their agency as Peacebuilding actors as compared to the two districts, Jowhar and Abudwak respectively as well as explore their position nationally.

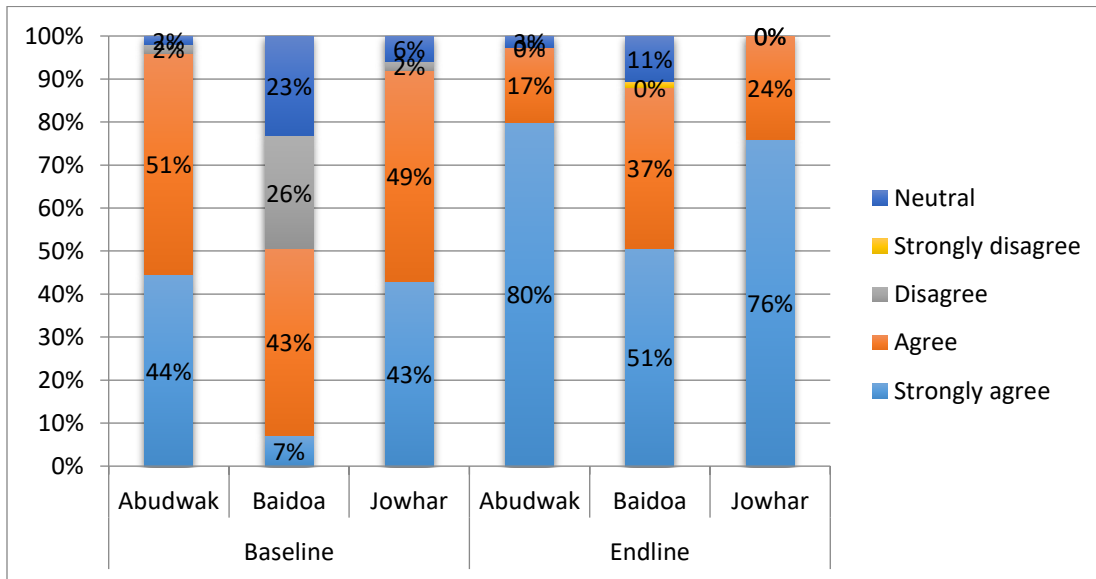


Figure 3: Agency as peacebuilding actors- Endline

Table 10: Agency in future peacebuilding- Baseline and Endline Survey Data

	Location					
	Abudwak-Baseline	Endline	Baidoa-Baseline	Endline	Jowhar-Baseline	Endline
Strongly agree	44%	80%	7%	51%	43%	76%

Agree	51%	17%	43%	37%	49%	24%
Disagree	2%	0%	26%	1%	2%	0%
Strongly disagree	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Neutral	2%	3%	23%	11%	6%	0%
Total	100%		100%		100%	

Data comparison between the baseline and Endline survey shows that the project implementation has resulted in positive perception change concerning young men and women involved in peacebuilding processes in future. In Abudwak for example, the number of young women and men who strongly agree that they would get involved in peacebuilding in future has increased by 36% (44% in Baseline to 80% in Endline Survey. Baidoa has a 44% positive change (7% Baseline to 51% Endline). Jowhar has a positive change of 33% (43% in Baseline to 76% in Endline survey).

In addition, in Baidoa the percentage of respondents who were neutral concerning their participation in future peacebuilding has reduced by 12% (baseline 23% to 11%). This shows that with continuous SD sessions coupled with other activities like training on advocacy and strategic thinking, the probability of changing the young women and men perception is very high.

How many young women and men have developed a shared agenda and strategy to increase youth influence in peacebuilding in their area?

Overall, 67% of the survey participants strongly agreed that they have things to teach others on how to build peace and would be comfortable doing so. Similarly, 26% of survey participants also agreed. Baidoa had the lowest (55%) proportion of survey participants strongly agreed as compared to Abudwak (73%) and Jowhar (73%). On the other hand, more males (73%) as compared to females (62%) strongly agreed that they have things to teach others on how to build peace and would be comfortable doing so.

Table 11: Young Women and Men with shared agenda on peacebuilding

	Location			Gender		Overall (n=225)
	Abudwak (n=75)	Baidoa (n=75)	Jowhar (n=75)	Male (n=113)	Female (n=112)	
Strongly agree	73%	55%	73%	73%	62%	67%
Agree	20%	32%	27%	22%	30%	26%
Disagree	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Neutral	7%	12%	0%	4%	8%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Have Clan Leaders and Administration demonstrated increased willingness to create space for youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes?

The local administration representative pointed out that the project was very useful to the youth because it is the youth who are perceived to always cause conflict in the country and, therefore, giving them capacity building will promote love, peace and coexistence among them and there will be prosperity in the nation.

The local administration and the clan elders welcomed the idea of working with youth by involving them in the day-to-day affairs of the community. They agreed to take the initiative of engaging the youth fully in peace initiatives held in the clans, community and even the country at large. One of the local administration respondents highlighted that they are tired of endless conflict as such they are ready to work with the youth to promote peaceful co-existence in the country.

The clan elder explained that the project has contributed to the youth a lot for example, in the integration of the people, they now participate in the political issues of the government. It has also created the connection between the youth and the local administration as well as elders of the community.

Are the project's benefits spreading?

The benefits of the projects are spreading in the communities. The community leaders are embracing the youth as they are ready to listen and work with them. In Abudwak, the Gurti (council of elders), has allocated 10 positions for the youth to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms. The positions include 5 males and 5 females.

The youth participants in Baidoa have been allowed by the Ministry of Labour to participate in the formulation of the TVET policies. This is a milestone for the youth involved. It clearly shows that through the project they have been heard and are being consulted on key issues that affect them.

The Baidoa Youth chairperson who is a beneficiary of the project is also being recognised by the Ministry of Youth and he is currently active in the political arena and does get chances to speak at public events.

Unintended positive outcomes from the project implementation

i. Awareness on effects of drug abuse;

A corroborated narrative from the FGDs indicates that drug abuse has been an issue that affects peacebuilding. Through the project, the beneficiaries have been able to discuss more concerning the issue and are now at the forefront of creating awareness on the effects of drug abuse for young addicts.

ii. Employment creation

One of the success stories has a male youth beneficiary who has managed to start his own business and is currently employing others. He attributes his motivation to start the business to the skills he acquired through motivational events. His self-esteem has improved thus he feels empowered.

The measurement of all the indicators necessary for the achievement of the outcomes/impact indicates that Baidoa had a low number of findings in all the quantifiable data. It will be of major importance to explore why this is so and address the underlying issues for sustainability purposes.

4.3 Sustainability/ownership

The evaluation addressed the following questions to ascertain the sustainability/ ownership of the project.

Are the project's benefits sustainable?

This question was qualitatively discussed with KII participants and the FGDs participants and the feedback were all affirmative. All the respondents/participants agreed that the benefits of the project will be sustained.

The youth respondents believed that skills achieved such as public speaking and advocacy can be applied in other community development projects.

The moderators pointed out that they have undertaken training on Peacebuilding and moderation skills, people interaction, conflict resolution and community development which are key in achieving peacebuilding. Additionally, all the youth moderators who were project beneficiaries have taken part in Peacebuilding in their communities more than three times and they are ready to be peace agents as they have gotten the knowledge for Peacebuilding and they are ready to take care of their community.

The benefits are sustainable, particularly the impact on relationship building, trust and confidence-building among the youth from different diverse groups and clans. Their interaction will continue even after the end of the project. The skills acquired are valid such as public speaking and advocacy. The beneficiary youth are already meeting on their own after the end of SD sessions; the youth in Jowhar have already formed a One-Dollar Foundation to help vulnerable community members⁴.

There is an increase of interest of the youth in political offices as evidenced by two ladies vying for lower house parliamentary seats in Jowhar.

There is a change of perception of leaders and elders on youth participation in the Peacebuilding process.

Are the state and non-state stakeholders committed to sustaining the results of the projects?

The state and non-state stakeholders are committed to sustaining the results of the project. The clan elders and local administrative leaders have already started involving the youth in Peacebuilding initiatives.

Which are some of the results that the stakeholders are committed to sustaining?

The clan elders and local administration are committed to attending the peace actions organized by the youths in their various communities. This will help them continue listening to their issues. They have also committed to the inclusion of the youth in Peacebuilding initiatives in the communities.

Has the PBF funding been used to scale up to other peacebuilding work or has it helped to create broader platforms for peacebuilding?

The fund has not been used to scale up to other peacebuilding work. However, it has been used to create broader platforms for peacebuilding. The project has managed to attract the attention of local leaders who are now taking strides in involving the youth in Peacebuilding initiatives. The project has elicited conversation on the importance of the inclusion of women in peacebuilding initiatives. As a result of the project, conversations around SGBV, early marriages are now being discussed on how they impact peacebuilding initiatives.

4.4 Coherence

To what extent did the project complement the work of other national stakeholders in Somalia including the UN?

The project was in line with the UN Peacebuilding mandate as it had a strong Peacebuilding core. A respondent pointed out that the project was strong of SDG 16, however, she was not sure justice component in the project. In her opinion, she felt the justice component was missing and so it is an aspect that can be looked further into.⁵

How were the stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?

⁴ KII LPI Team

⁵ KII UNPBF Team

SPL program team did community engagement in peacebuilding and interactions with the community at large. The project target was to involve the youth in peacebuilding in their various communities.

The project started with the buy-in from the stakeholders, followed by the SDS beneficiary selection, training of the moderators, kick-off induction meetings and finally the actual SD sessions. The project management structure was clear and coordination between SPL and all other stakeholders was very effective. This is especially true in that during the Endline evaluation there was total cooperation among all the stakeholders and even the beneficiaries.

4.5 Conflict sensitivity

Did the PBF project have an explicit approach to conflict sensitivity?

The project did have an explicit approach to conflict sensitivity. LPI/SPL through a code of ethics that governs project implementation, such as respecting the cultural beliefs of the communities, ensured that no harm was done to any participant knowingly or not.

Were RUNOs and NUNOs' internal capacities adequate for ensuring an ongoing conflict-sensitive approach?

LPI/SPL are NUNOs' (Non-United Nations Organisation). Both the organizations' have working research ethics and a code of conduct that governs project implementation.

Both SPL and LPI have developed rapport with clan elders, local government authorities, and civil society leaders in the target areas through previous peacebuilding engagement. There has been positive feedback from various stakeholders during the evaluation process. The project team are also very experienced in peacebuilding having implemented similar projects in the past.

Was the project responsible for any unintended negative impacts?

Data and information from the Endline beneficiary survey and the qualitative interviews respectively, indicates that there were no unintended negative impacts caused by the impacts. On the contrary, the project impact has created an unintended impact that is economic empowerment.

"I am now a stable person as a result of the on-the-job training I received. I have launched my shop in the district selling sports clothing and have employed two ladies who work for me, which I enjoy very much".⁶

Were an ongoing process of context monitoring and a monitoring system that allows for monitoring of unintended impacts established?

The project underwent continuous internal monitoring and reporting. LPI/SL undertook outcome harvesting per activity and progress reporting thus any unintended impacts would easily be detected. SPL also undertook activity reporting that was necessary for identifying any unintended impacts.

4.6 Risk tolerance and Innovation

Was the project characterised as high risk, and were the risks adequately monitored and mitigated?

Information collected from the review of project documents indicates that the project was not characterised as high risk. The Project had a Risk Marker: 1

How innovative was the project?

⁶ FGD male youth

The project managed to bring out new approaches to peacebuilding. Through it, the youth have a boost in their self-esteem and enhanced abilities in public speaking and address. They can mediate between conflicting groups and enable them reach amicable solutions.

What are some of the lessons that can be drawn and applied to inform similar approaches elsewhere?

1. Creating a space for the youth and community (breaking barriers relationship building, interactive forums)

Through the peace actions, it was clear that the youth have pressing issues, which need to be heard. Therefore, giving them space through peace actions activities goes a long way in involving the youth in peace initiatives in their communities and beyond.

2. SD is a very effective method of peacebuilding not only among the youth but it can be used among adults too

It is an efficient method in addressing existing challenges among the youth and even adults. In addition, it is a noble method for creating community cohesion. The effectiveness of SD is credited with the fact that it is a continuous process, thus the more the participants stay together the more they gain interest in each other resulting in socially cohesive individuals.

GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS

- **Strong coordination with the donor allows for project flexibility and responsiveness to the volatile context of Somalia.**

Coordination between project partners and the donor organization was very strong and reporting to the donor was done regularly. This allowed for the donor to be informed of the progress of the project promptly, allowing for adjustments to the project to respond to conditions on the ground such as the insecurity and COVID-19 pandemic. When COVID-19 hit the country resulting in to halt of project activities, LPI applied for a no-cost extension of the project. This was granted by the funding partner UNPBF and the activities ended in September as planned.

The UNPBF through KII with their staff reported that the project was very smooth in implementation in that both the LPI and SPL team were very transparent and that their reporting was consistent and good. The staff stated that the project's main interventions were sustained dialogues and felt interventions went according to plan based on the reports from the project and communications with the teams.

SPL explained that the project was implemented as planned with all the activities undertaken according to plan. For example, all the stakeholders in the districts were involved, the selection of beneficiaries was done by the local authorities, community leaders and youth groups/umbrellas, Youth Summit was held in Mogadishu integrating youth within the country from different states and the youth even participated in the 15th of May, Somali Youth Day and World Peace Day on 21st September, 2021.

Coordination with stakeholders was also beneficial for the project implementation when the country was in an election mood in early 2021. The social cohesion that has been built among the youth made them come together to ensure the implementation of the activities.

- **Strong coordination with other stakeholders and beneficiaries resulted in the complete ownership of the project which will result in effective sustainability**

The local government representative pointed out that the project was very useful to the youth because it is the youth who are always perceived to cause conflicts in the country and so building their capacities will promote love, peace and coexistence. The local administration and the clan elders welcomed the idea of working with youth by involving them in the day-to-day affairs of their communities. They agreed to take the initiative of engaging the youth fully in peace initiatives held in the clans, community and even the country at large.

The clan elders explained that the project has contributed to the youth a lot for example in the integration of the people; the people now participate in the political issues of the government. It has also created the connection between the youth and the local administration as well as elders of the community

- **Positive interactions between different groups in target communities are highly effective approaches in enhancing social cohesion.**

The surveyed beneficiaries reported experiencing higher levels of social cohesion as a result of the project. It is likely that while formal decision-making might not be inclusive, positive interactions between diverse community members on platforms awareness campaigns and radio broadcasts had significant impacts on social cohesion.

From the surveyed beneficiaries, a majority (79%) of the survey participants reported always as the extent they have appreciated for the other individuals and want to work with them. Seventeen percent (17%) mentioned often, 3% indicated sometime and few (1%) reported rarely as the extent to which they have appreciated other individuals and want to work with them. A majority (85%) of residents of Jowhar as

compared to Abudwak (83%) and Baidoa (63%) reported always as the extent to which they have appreciated other individuals and want to work with them. More males (80%) as compared to females (76%) reported always as the extent to which they have appreciated other individuals and want to work with them.

- **The development of capacity-building, advocacy and mentorship programs plays a role in providing beneficiaries with knowledge on sustainable solutions**

The youth reported having gained the necessary skills that have boosted their self-esteem and empowerment. They can speak well publicly and lead in the development of their respective clans through the mentorship skills they acquired.

“I had no confidence to sit with the elders, youth and local administration to collaborate on Peacebuilding regardless of the clan but now I am active and able to sit with the them and managed to improve my communication skill”.⁷

One of the lessons learnt from the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia Project was self-empowerment through skills such as public speaking is the key to effective peacebuilding and overall development in any given community.

- **Inclusion of women in peacebuilding initiatives**

The project was very keen on maintaining equal participation of male and female participants. The activities were all held inclusively for both men and females and the participation of females was highly encouraged. The female youth participants had the opportunity to voice their concerns and address issues that affect them. It is from the female participants that issues such as Rape, Drug abuse and Gender-Based Violence came into the limelight and how they are drivers of conflicts in the communities.

⁷ FGD female youth

CHALLENGES

The following are some of the challenges that were experienced during the project implementation

- **COVID-19 Pandemic**

The pandemic caused the implementation of activities to halt for some time. LPI then applied for a non-cost extension which they were granted and resumed the implementation of project activities in September. The pandemic also affected the collection of qualitative data during the baseline survey. Because of the pandemic, only quantitative data were collected during the baseline survey. To mitigate this, LPI ensures that during the external evaluation, the data collection included both qualitative and quantitative to improve the quality of information gathered through triangulation.

- **Somalia National Election**

During election time the mood of the country changes and it comes with some form of violence which brought fear to the participants. They were however assured of their security and they participated in the activities.

- **Al Shabaab attacks in Baidoa**

The insurgence of Al Shabaab is always a security threat to the whole country. The violence caused by the insurgent group results in communication breakdown affecting communication with the field team

- **Inter-clan conflict in Abudwak; fear of revenge killing among the SD participants led to a suspension for some few months.**

During the activities, there was an incidence of inter-clan conflict in the Abudwak District. This elicited fear among the participants because of the fear of revenge killings. This led to the suspension of the SD sessions for a few months. The activities then resumed also the conflict receded.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The project was effectively implemented. The project design was relevant to the implementation context. The project conducted a range of activities to facilitate the inclusion of youth and peacebuilding initiatives and the design enabled the attainment of most of the specific objectives. The activities conducted include; sustained dialogue, mentorship, peace actions, youth-led peace initiatives, town hall meetings, training on advocacy, strategic thinking, and negotiation skills, exchange meetings and motivational events. The project achieved its purpose through the implementation of the activities. At the end of the project, the beneficiaries are left well-equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to take up the peacebuilding roles in their respective communities.

Relevance

The project addressed the drivers of conflict among them drug abuse, SGBV, early marriages and revenge killings. The youth underwent awareness training on drug and substance abuse. As a result of the project, the youth in Abudwak raised their voice through peaceful demonstrations condemning the killings and revenge killings in their community.

Apart from the project contributing to SDG 5 which advocates for gender equality, the project ensured gender sensitivity was maintained at all times with the beneficiaries having equal representation of male and female participants (270 female and 270 male). This practice was emulated throughout the implementation of the activities. The project also contributed to SDG 16 which advocates for the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

The project: Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia's intervention logic was hinged on the Sustained Dialogue for women and youth to provide them with the opportunity and space to engage with each other across clans and other dividing lines; which, in turn, improved their interactions and enabled them to develop a better understanding on issues affecting them and their broader communities. Thus, experiencing personal transformation in their attitudes towards each other and their skills enable them to collaborate to implement strategic problem-solving actions relevant to peacebuilding and politics; reinforce confidence, and increase the understanding of the roles they play in peacebuilding, and political decision-making. Hence, strengthened their motivation for engagement in peacebuilding and politics, and improved their relationships with other stakeholders, thus creating openness for their more meaningful participation.

Efficiency

The project was implemented as planned with all the activities implemented as scheduled. There was stakeholder involvement in the project and all activities about it were undertaken as planned. For example, all the stakeholders in the districts were involved, the selection of beneficiaries was done by the local authorities, community leaders, youth groups/umbrellas and youth summit was held in Mogadishu integrating youth within the country from different states and the culminating with the youth the 15th of May, and the participants also participated in the Somali Youth Day and World Peace Day on 21st September 2021. Coordination of all the stakeholders including beneficiaries to undertake training in Mogadishu shows a high level of planning and coordination by LPI/ SPL indicating how efficient the project was run from the start to end.

Different clans coming together to work towards a common goal shows that the project has indeed achieved outcome 1 when was geared towards Inter-group trust-building and social cohesion, whereby strategically selected young women and men from diverse backgrounds have positively transformed their understanding of each other and increased cross-clan collaboration on conflict issues.

Effectiveness

The project achieved its objective by involving the youth who were the major target of the project and also the achievement of gender balance. The youth participant in the project was remarkable. The youth - both female and male - unanimously agreed to be peace actors because they gained the right skills such as public speaking and advocacy on peace issues and conflict resolution among others.

The project was very keen on maintaining equal participation of male and female participants. The activities were held together for both men and women and the participation of females was highly encouraged. The female youth participants had the opportunity to voice their concerns and address issues that affect them. In the Endline survey, in terms of gender, more females (46%) were aged between 21 – 25 years as compared to their male (44%) counterparts of the same age bracket.

Sustainability and ownership

The local administration and the clan elders welcomed the idea of working with youth by involving them in the day-to-day affairs of the community. They agreed to take the initiative of engaging the youth fully in peace initiatives held in the clans, community and even the country at large. One of the local administration respondents highlighted that they are tired of endless conflict as such they are ready to work with the youth to promote peaceful co-existence in the country.

Through the project activities, the issues of drug abuse, rape and GBV and how they affect peacebuilding initiatives came to the forefront. The project also promoted financial empowerment with the beneficiary youth acquiring the right skill to open businesses.

Coherence

At the onset of the project, four buy-in and relationship building meetings were held with key government stakeholders such as the Ministry of Youth Affairs (MOYS) and respective District Commissioners to introduce the project to the stakeholders, get their approval, develop better working relationships and formulate mechanisms to involve them in the process. Community-wide buy-in and sensitization meetings with different levels of community stakeholders were conducted in the three target areas. More than hundred (121) participants (37 female and 84 male) comprising representatives of local administration, elders, religious leaders, women groups, youth groups and minority and marginalized groups participated.

Recommendations

Even though the project activities were implemented as planned, there are some areas of the project that needs improvement. The following recommendations can be drawn from the project.

Relevance

- **Scaling up of the project to include justice component**

In perspective, justice, particularly transitional justice, is a central issue in peacebuilding initiatives. Transitional justice is a set of judicial and non-judicial measures that different countries have implemented to address massive human rights abuses. The measures include prosecutions, truth commissions, reparation programs, and institutional reforms. Through transitional justice, emphasis is put on accountability, redress to victims, recognition, civic trust, and the rule of law.

Through transitional justice, attention will be given to exploring more restorative approaches to justice that do not necessarily include criminal prosecutions. The UN's brief transitional justice policy emphasizes compliance with international laws and standards.

Evaluation findings documented the gains achieved through the implementation of the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia Project, whereby through the peace actions carried out, the participants obtained among many skills, conflict resolution skills which was evidenced by how a rape case that happened was handled. The perpetrator of the rape was held accountable in a manner that emphasized on

accountability, redress to victim and exploration of restorative approaches to justice that doesn't necessarily include criminal justice. It is important to note that, holding the rape perpetrator accountable was an indirect benefit resulting from the conflict resolution mechanisms the project was focusing on, thus the need to explore more on the justice component and have it included in the project should there be a scale up.

Sustainability & ownership

The timeline for activities implementation should be considered beforehand more so if it overlaps with the school calendar. For example, with this kind of project with activity designs that target the youth, project LPI/SPL should consider holding activities in the institutions of learning so as not to miss on important participants and also have the opportunity of engaging the youth where learning critical information is the core mandate. There were instances in Abudwak where project activities and even FGDs were held at night. The reason given by the respondents was that they are in college during the day thus they could not participate in the daytime activities. In as much as attending activities at night is deemed justifiable going by the hot weather in Abudwak, it was not welcomed by all the parents of the female participants. At first, some parents did not permit their female children to participate at night citing insecurity issues but after they were assured of the security of all participants, they let the female youth participate.

This fact shows that there could have been other female youth in Abudwak that would have wished to participate but because of night activities, they could not. In context, in Baidoa, for example, the Ministry of Labour engaged Baidoa youth in the formulation of TVET policies. TVET Training is designed to build on the skills of the learners as well as promote self-reliance. For the Ministry of Labour to engage the Baidoa youth, it shows that the benefits of the project are spreading and the Ministry of Labour, for example, has experienced these benefits of the peacebuilding initiatives implemented through the project and this promotes the sustainability of the project. This is evidenced by the fact that they have taken the step of involving Baidoa Youth in TVET Policy formulation. As a result, for long term peacebuilding initiatives in Somalia, RUNOs and NUNOs should consider working with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour and all other relevant Ministries to have the key activities geared toward achieving a peaceful Somalia in cooperated in the Co-curriculum activities in the schools. This will go a long way in fostering peaceful co-existence in Somalia.

Effectiveness

Drug abuse, Rape and GBV cases were very conspicuous in the responses and from the contributions. There seems to be a correlation between the three issues and peacebuilding. As such more research should be carried out to find out the best approach to address the issues.

Young women participation was recommendable thus moving forward they should be involved more as they have shown the willingness to also be peace actors by getting involved in their community development.

From the evaluation lens, to determine the full impact of the project, it is important to include community-level respondents in the survey including those who did not participate in the project or were not beneficiaries. This group of respondents are critical in determining the impact of the project at the ground level. They can give objective information concerning the project.

The above recommendations are broadly explained as below.

1. Scaling up of the project to include justice component

In perspective, justice, particularly transitional justice, is a central issue in peacebuilding initiatives. Transitional justice is a set of judicial and non-judicial measures that different countries have implemented to address massive human rights abuses. The measures include prosecutions, truth commissions, reparation programs, and institutional reforms. Through transitional justice, emphasis is put on accountability, redress to victims, recognition, civic trust, and the rule of law.

Through transitional justice, attention will be given to exploring more restorative approaches to justice that do not necessarily include criminal prosecutions. The UN's brief transitional justice policy emphasizes compliance with international laws and standards.

Evaluation findings documented the gains achieved through the implementation of the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia Project, whereby through the peace actions carried out, the participants obtained among many skills, conflict resolution skills which was evidenced by how a rape case that happened was handled. The perpetrator of the rape was held accountable in a manner that emphasized on accountability, redress to victim and exploration of restorative approaches to justice that doesn't necessarily include criminal justice. It is important to note that, holding the rape perpetrator accountable was an indirect benefit resulting from the conflict resolution mechanisms the project was focusing on, thus the need to explore more on the justice component and have it included in the project should there be a scale up.

2. School-based peace education interventions

Peace education activities are aimed at producing small, positive effects on the children and adolescents who participate in the programmes on trust, willingness to participate, willingness to help, and acceptance of diversity. This intervention can be used to promote individual effects on a sense of belonging and help identify negative effects on measures of students' sense of self-efficacy, particularly for girls. This intervention can be used to open students' eyes to the harm of discrimination without making them feel empowered to address it. School-based peace education will also solve the challenge that comes with conducting activities at night as it was the case in Abudwak where some sessions were conducted at night.

3. Promote young people's participation as an essential condition for successful peacebuilding

Prioritize regular, systematic, meaningful participation of young people as an essential condition for the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacebuilding efforts. This is of particular importance where young people constitute a majority of the population; **Promote and abide** by the understanding that the majority of young people strive for peace and stability and that a number of them are actively engaged in peacebuilding efforts; only a minority of young people engages in violence; **Link young people's participation in peacebuilding** to all sectors (social, economic, cultural and political) and levels (family, school, community, local, regional and national governance); **Promote sustainable, long-term and collaborative initiatives** for and with young people, including joint initiatives that build on existing efforts and interventions at scale. Avoid short-term projects that will only benefit a few.

4. Inclusion of the persons with disabilities (PWDs) in future projects.

There is a need to strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the project design. Just as Gender aspect was well incorporated in this project's design, disability inclusion also need to be given much attention. In the project, there were disabled people included in the project but more can be done. In the event that the project is scaled up, the disability aspect should be a set criteria for selection of the beneficiaries. This criteria should be aligned to the UN standards on disability inclusion in development projects. The PWDs input in peacebuilding is critical as it will help in contributing to attainment of SGD16, which advocates for total inclusion of community members in peacebuilding initiatives. Ultimately, they are part of their communities and their inclusive voices need to be heard too.

5. Inclusion of local authorities in peacebuilding processes

The results from the project indicate that local authorities proactively support peacebuilding processes and that they are one of the most important links to the achievement of a peaceful society. If local authorities, are engaged through tailored capacity development, relationship-building, and evidence sharing by partners, and peacebuilding platforms and these peacebuilding platforms carefully assist in resolving structural tensions when feasible, then the local authorities will deepen their experience of non-violent conflict management, and may develop proactive strategies to address conflict, focus on the long term political gains, consider all clans in the area and become open to inclusivity because capacity enhancement will respond to self-identified expressed needs and allow for changing mindsets in a safe learning environment.

The state should create and facilitate safe communication spaces for youth, and between youth and policy makers to foster intergenerational learning and mentorship as well as ensure that youth express and engage on concerns and grievances that affect them.

6. Support interventions combining workshop-based peace education with inter-group contact and economic support

These interventions are aimed to trigger three mechanisms to build intergroup social cohesion: ‘seeing the other’, ‘talking with the other’ and ‘working with the other’. Compared to other groups, interventions included in this category tend to be of larger scope, both in geographic coverage and in intensity of the interventions. The peace education component can be delivered through workshops or training sessions to adult community members, often targeting local leaders. As participants build skills designed to strengthen inter-group cohesion, the interventions then provide platforms through which inter-group contact and dialogue may be facilitated. Finally, the interventions provide a form of economic support to trigger ‘working together’, in which both groups are given the opportunity to collaboratively design and implement projects that will support both communities, such as small infrastructure projects.

7. Supporting youth visioning exercises (identifying priorities)

By nature, conflict analyses identify vast ranges of key conflict factors and resources for peace – far too many, in fact, for any single programme or project to address. Moreover, some key drivers of conflict may be so harmful that they require other kinds of change to lay the groundwork before progress can be achieved. By undertaking a visioning exercise to identify the big picture, we can pinpoint strategic priorities that can help us make informed decisions about which programming directions will be the most effective for achieving that vision. Launching a visioning exercise requires us to contemplate what a more peaceful context would look like 5, 10 or even 20 years down the road. Given these time horizons, it is youth’s future that is being decided on in such exercises. Including youth in visioning exercises, however, not only recognizes young people’s right to have a say in defining their own future but – equally important – supports them in the positive roles they play today to realize that future. In practice, however, young women and men struggle to get a seat at the strategic planning table. Strategic priorities may include broad topics, such as support for the security sector or security sector reform, increasing employment, access to transitional justice, peace negotiations, DDR and tackling corruption.

8. Investing in inter-generational partnerships in young people’s communities

Increase dialogue, understanding and opportunities for cooperation among children, young people, parents and elders, in order to act jointly to prevent and resolve violence and transform conflicts; **Work with adults so that they see the empowerment of young people** as a positive change, not a threat to their own power and position; **Recognize and promote the role of local**, regional and national governments to support young people’s participation in processes and decisions which affect their lives.

ANNEX

SUCCESS STORIES

TITLE OF STORY: Jowhar- Youth building peace project-

FGD Youth Participant

Theme: Personal empowerment/ self-actualization and Consensus building and joint action among youth

The participant is 27 years old. Born in Halgan village, grew up in Jowhar, and completed both primary and high school in the district. He moved to Mogadishu to pursue further education. He attended Plasma University in Mogadishu's main campus and studied for Bachelors in Business Administration, where he excelled and graduated with honours. After that, he was influenced by friends who wanted to go to Europe because he had completed his studies and was unemployed. He was disappointed, and his parents could not afford the cost of travel to Europe.

“After several sittings and counselling from my elder brother I decided to be a part of the project that was implemented by the Somali Peace Line in the district. The first time I attended the brainstorming training, I thought it was a waste of time, but the second week, my mind changed, and I became engaged as if I were working for the organization, mentoring the other youth in the district to participate in the peacebuilding process. They enjoyed it, and I thanked them” participant narrated

“I am now a stable person as a result of the on-the-job training I received. I have launched my shop in the district selling sports clothing and have employed two ladies who work for me, which I very enjoy”. He narrated

His story illustrates the impact that the project has created on youth like him. Initially, he was not receptive to the project but after the SD sessions, he had a mind change. The survey findings indicate that 67% of the survey participants strongly agreed that they have things to teach others on how to build peace and would be comfortable doing so. Similarly, 26% of survey participants also agreed. Baidoa had the lowest (55%) proportion of survey participants strongly agreed as compared to Abudwak (73%) and Jowhar (73%). On the other hand, more males (73%) as compared to females (62%) strongly agreed that they have things to teach others on how to build peace and would be comfortable doing so. In addition, the mentorship sessions have opened up their minds making them become self-reliant and change agents in their communities.

TITLE OF STORY: Baidoa- Youth building peace project

FGD female Youth Participant

Theme: Inclusion of youth in peace and conflict decision making

The participant is a 32 old girl living in Baidoa, she had the opportunity to participate in the youth peacebuilding. She grew and was raised in Baidoa. Before the program, she didn't know how to speak in public but now she is active to ask anyone questions and sharing with them ideas on their dialogue sessions. And also, she used to believe that women have no chance in politics but now ***"we have to participate and some of our teams have become leaders and ministers with help of SD program"***. She didn't have any skill and knowledge on peacebuilding to help herself and other communities but now she is a well-skilled person who can make informed decisions.

"Fortunately, after the program, I have managed to solve the problems within the community for instance the other day, I had a case where two ladies were fighting in our neighbourhood both were having knives and I decided to take over the knives and settle with them by asking and listening both sides what caused this fighting by following the strategy of conflict resolution we have learnt from SD and finally I have solved without consulting elders. Now she feels Self-confident where she was shy before" she stated:

"I had no confidence to sit with the elders, youth and local administration to collaborate on Peacebuilding regardless of the clan but now I am active and able to sit with the them and managed to improve my communication skill".

She stated, "Before the project, there was no coordination and information sharing between the youth and elders in peacebuilding but now there is great coordination that we have never realized before. Now some of the SD team are part of the new federal member state that is one of the great successes of the SD project. Furthermore, we have formed groups that create awareness on the effect of the GBV, Forced Marriage and Early Marriage".

The project met its objective of inclusion of youth in peacebuilding initiatives. This was achieved through various activities including, youth peace actions, training on strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills. Fatuma Ali acquired the skills of strategic thinking and negotiation thus she was able to separate two conflicting individuals.

TITLE OF STORY: Abudwak- Youth building peace project

FGD Female youth

She was among the youth in Abudwak town, who had the opportunity to be enrolled as a participant of connecting **across divides: youth building peace project in Somalia**. The people in Abudwak faced continued insecurity in their lives and livelihood due to drought and inter-communal violence that resulted in the displacement of rural communities. LPA and SPL provided critical assistance to help cover gaps in peacebuilding as women and youth trained as peacebuilders in the region.

Before the implementation of the project, she had no clue about what peacebuilding means and the process for conflict resolution. Therefore, after attending months of exclusive peacebuilding training, she emerged to be one of the best youths at the centre and initiated her peacebuilding community awareness to curb the conflict of local rural communities on competition over resources that could create significant tensions within communities and encouraged local youth and women as mediators in conflict prevention.

Project Result Framework

Table 12: Progress towards Outcome Indicators

Outcome 1	Performance Indicator	Indicator baseline	End project indicator target	Indicator evaluation	Variance
<p>Outcome 1 <i>Inter-group trust-building and social cohesion</i></p> <p>Strategically selected young women and men from diverse backgrounds have positively transformed their understanding of each other and increased cross-clan collaboration on conflict issues.</p>	<p>Indicator 1 a</p> <p>% of surveyed SD participants who report they have increased understanding and respect towards the “other”, disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status</p>	<p>Outcome Indicator 1 a</p> <p>% of surveyed SD participants who report they have increased understanding and respect towards the “other”, disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status.</p> <p>Baseline (collected in July/August 2020 before kick-off) Feeling clan is understood: Always 32%, Often 13%, Sometimes 30%, Rarely 12%, Never 14%</p> <p>Feeling one is understanding</p>	<p>Target: Decrease to 5% points for the “rarely” and “never” categories; increase for Always and Often categories combined by 10%</p>	<p>Outcome Indicator 1 a</p> <p>% of surveyed SD participants who report they have increased understanding and respect towards the “other”, disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status.</p> <p>Endline (Collected Nov 2021) Feeling their clan, understood Always 64%, often 19%, sometimes 15% and Rarely (2%)</p> <p>Feeling one is understanding others very much</p>	<p>Feeling their clan, understood increase for Always and Often combined by 38% point. Decrease to 10% points for the rarely.</p> <p>Feeling one is understanding others increase for very much and much combined by 38% point. Decrease to 19% points for the Little</p> <p>Feeling that other individuals respect your clan: increase for Always and Often combined by 29% point. Decrease to 7% points for the rarely.</p> <p>Appreciate others and want to engage with them: increase</p>

		<p>others: very much 26%, much 32%, little 23%, very little 19%</p> <p>Feeling that other individuals respect your clan: Always (32%), Often (25%), Sometimes (32%), Rarely (9%), Never (2%)</p> <p>Appreciate others and want to engage with them: Always (32%), Often (18%), Sometimes (26%), Rarely (12%), Never (13 %)</p>		<p>(76%), Much (20%), Little (4%).</p> <p>Feeling that other individuals respect your clan: Always (68%), Often (18%), Sometimes (9%), Rarely (4%).</p> <p>Appreciate others and want to engage with them: Always (79%), Often (17%), Sometimes (3%), Rarely (1%).</p>	<p>for Always and Often combined by 46% point. Decrease to 11% points for the rarely.</p>
	<p>Indicator 1b</p> <p>Verifiable changes in the behaviour and relationships of targeted youth towards understanding & collaboration to which the project has plausibly contributed to.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Target: Evidence of such changes in forms of outcomes found in all groups.</p>			
	<p>Indicator 1c (Change in Gender Relations)</p> <p>% of surveyed SD participants who report an improved understanding of specific</p>	<p>Collected in July/August 2020 before kick-off.</p>	<p>Target: increase in 10 percentage points for “Strongly agree” that there</p>	<p>Endline (Collected Nov 2021)</p> <p>Degree of agreement that there are gender-specific</p>	<p>Degree of agreement that there are gender-specific challenges: increase</p>

	challenges and opportunities connected to gender identity	Degree of agreement that there are gender-specific challenges: Strongly agree (23%), agree (69%), disagree (2%), strongly disagree (3%) and neutral (3%)	are gender-specific challenges	challenges: Strongly agree (66%), agree (27%), disagree (4%), strongly disagree (1%).	43% points for Strongly agree
Output 1.1 540 young people (F270, M270) have engaged in Sustained Dialogue (SD) on various peacebuilding-related issues, over seven months	Indicator 1.1.1 Number of dialogue sessions (by location) and number of SD participants	Baseline: NA	Target: 270F and 270 M, broad diversity, 45 groups conduct 14 sessions over 7 months - in total 630 sessions conducted, 280 in Baidoa, 210 in Jowhar, 140 in Abudwak	Endline (Collected Nov 2021) 10 groups in Abudwak, 15 groups in Jowhar, 20 groups in Baidoa. Each group has 12 members (6F, 6M). Abudwak - 14 sessions for each group x 10 groups= 140 sessions Baidoa - 14 sessions for each group each x 20 groups=280 sessions Jowhar - 14 sessions each x 15 groups=210 sessions TOTAL = 630 sessions No. of SD participants: 540 Participants (225 F,	The target was met

				225 M) and 90 Moderators (45 F, 45 M)	
<p>Output 1.2</p> <p>SD participants have organized collaborative peace initiatives in their area.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2</p> <p>Quality of facilitation/moderation as assessed by moderators & participants (data to be disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status)</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target:</p> <p>Moderators experience growth in their facilitation skills and quality throughout the process; Participants experience SD as a safe space where young women and men can express themselves and listen, and where barriers (gender or otherwise) for participation are not there</p>	<p>All the youth moderators who took part in Peacebuilding in their communities more than three times are ready to be peace agents as they have gotten the knowledge for Peacebuilding and they are ready to take care of their community</p>	<p>The target for this indicator was met.</p>
<p><u>List of activities under this Output:</u></p> <p>Activity 1.2.1</p> <p><i>Peace Action strategy:</i> Mentor each dialogue group to develop joint peacebuilding initiatives.</p> <p><i>Peace Action implementation:</i> Select and support 5 projects in each area to be collectively</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2.1</p> <p>% of SD participants who took part in implementing the peace initiatives</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 90% of SD participants engaged, including at least 45 % female participants</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>100% (50%F, 50%M) SD participants have been engaged</p>

implemented by dialogue participants. <i>Support one-off initiatives:</i> Initiated by participants to resolve everyday social and political challenges collectively faced by participants					
	Indicator 1.2.3 Number of peace actions that address Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment as one dimension	Baseline: NA	Target: At least 3 of 15 peace actions address GEWE as one dimension	A total of 4 out of the 15 thematic issues developed by the participants' address GEWE. This includes SGBV, early marriage, female youth employment, male and female participation in politics and other decision-making processes.	The target was achieved.

Young women and men have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors. (Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to) As above. (Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that	Indicator 2 a % of surveyed SD participants who increase in perception of their agency in peacebuilding, Disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status,	Baseline: Collected in July/August 2020 before kick-off Agreement to "I believe I can build peace in this community – between conflicting groups – effectively right now." Labels Grand Total Strongly agree 16%	Target: 15%-point decrease in neutral and strongly disagree and disagree labels, cumulatively	Cumulatively there was a 100% decrease in strongly disagree perception	The 15% decrease target was met.
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this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)	level of education and migratory status)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Agree</td> <td>43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disagree</td> <td>15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strongly disagree</td> <td>13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>12%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blank</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	Agree	43%	Disagree	15%	Strongly disagree	13%	Neutral	12%	Blank	1%	Grand Total	100%			
Agree	43%																
Disagree	15%																
Strongly disagree	13%																
Neutral	12%																
Blank	1%																
Grand Total	100%																
	<p>Indicator 2 b</p> <p>Verifiable changes in the behaviour of participating young women and men (e.g, take up new/enhanced/changed roles in their context) as plausibly influenced by the project.</p>	Baseline: NA	Target: at least 30 individual changes	<p>72 SD Youth were invited to attend an Interclan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clan.</p> <p>10 (5M,5W) positions allocated to the youth by the the Gurti (council of elders), In Abudwak to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms.</p>	The target was met												
<p>Output 2.1</p> <p>Young women and men develop a can-do attitude, self-confidence and feel empowered.</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.1</p> <p>Number of young women and men reached through events (sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic</p>	Baseline: NA	Target: 540 reached	9 motivational sessions (3 in each area) connected with TEDx-like platform has	The target was met												

<p>List of activities under this Output:</p> <p><i>Activity 2.1.1</i></p> <p><i>Motivational sessions:</i> Guest speakers who are role models and inspire will be invited on several occasions to the project locations and engage with all SD participants to spark activism and can-do attitude in young women and men</p> <p><i>TEDx:</i> Connected with motivational speeches, young people will also get a platform to share about their skills, experiences and insights on young people's role and contribution in life and peacebuilding, and thereby inspiring others</p> <p><i>Radio shows:</i> Working with local radio stations, monthly radio programmes will be produced with active participation from the engaged young women and men; to create a platform to discuss young people's roles and challenges</p>	<p>status, level of education and migratory status)</p>			<p>happened in each project location. 540 participants were reached 120 (60F, 60M) in Abudwak, 240 (120F, 120M) in Baidoa and 180 (90F, 90M) in Jowhar</p> <p>72 SD Youth were invited to attend an Interclan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clan.</p>	
	<p>Indicator 2.1.2</p> <p>Number of young women and men who use the TEDx platform to inspire</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: at least 9 young women and 9 young men</p>	<p>9 motivational sessions (3 in each area) connected</p>	<p>The target was achieved</p>

	(sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status)		use the TEDx format	with TEDx-like platform has happened in each project location involving participants and moderators 120 (60F, 60M) in Abudwak, 240 (120F, 120M) in Baidoa and 180 (90F, 90M) in Jowhar	
	Indicator 2.1.3 Number of radio shows who discuss specific gender-related dynamics of participation in peacebuilding	Baseline: N/A	Target: 2 radio shows (2 of 15)	There were 9 radio shows conducted. 3 in each District	The set target was met
Young women and men have widened their perspective on potential outlets/roles/contributions in peace and security. List of activities under this Output: <i>Activity 2.2.1</i> <i>Cross-SD-group discussions: 1 in each area. These discussions will be an</i>	Indicator 2.2.1 Accounts that young women have felt empowered and confident to actively contribute in the cross-SD-group discussions	Baseline: N/A	Target: Young women contribute actively in discussions.	3 Cross-SD group discussions, 1 in each area, took place. Groups have actively contributed to the discussions, enhanced interaction, inspired each other and	The target was achieved

<p>opportunity to share about the SD journey beyond the small SD group. These conversations will enhance interactions across the diversity of groups engaged and contribute to agency/empowerment through stepping out of the safety of the small SD group, mutual learning about roles in peacebuilding, and the realization of being a broader collective with shared aspirations.</p>				<p>formed collaborative future engagements The participants through the groups FGDs expressed their confidence in matter conflict resolution and peacebuilding.</p>	
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Table 13: Progress towards outcome 3 Indicators

<p><i>Consensus building and joint action among youth</i></p> <p>Young women and men develop a shared agenda and strategy to increase youth influence in peacebuilding in their area.</p> <p>(Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to)</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR))</p>	<p>Indicator 3 a</p> <p>Existence of a shared strategy document signed & endorsed by all representatives and which reflects a clear influencing agenda. Evidence that the strategy reflects specific gender aspects of youth inclusion.</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: Three advocacy strategies were developed, defining clear advocacy targets and messages. Specific gender-related challenges for youth inclusion are reflected in the strategy</p>	<p>Five advocacy training and meetings were conducted including training on strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills, and youth exchange agents' session, exchange meetings between participants, interactive sessions with clan elders and local leaders and youth summit. This training meets SDG16.</p>	<p>The target was achieved by 2 extra advocacy strategy training.</p>
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<p>a recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>				<p>30 SD youth from Jowhar formed one dollar club and they are reaching out to vulnerable communities within their one dollar to buy food for the vulnerable communities.</p>	
	<p>Indicator 3 b % of surveyed youth reps (90 in total) that report they have shared the strategy with their peers (SD groups) (data disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status)</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 80%</p>	<p>90 % of the SD participants involved in the strategy shared their peers in their respective</p> <p>Youth collaboration in govt programmes played a big role in the Jowhar Flood emergency response. Building of Gabions along the river banks to prevent the river bursting into the adjacent communities</p>	<p>The target was passed by 10%.</p>
	<p>Indicator 3 c % of surveyed representatives that report commitment and sense of ownership (data disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 75%</p>	<p>30 SD youth from Jowhar formed one dollar club and they are reaching out to vulnerable communities within their one dollar to buy food for the vulnerable communities.</p>	<p>All the 100% of youth who participated in the SD sessions showed the commitment of project ownership.</p>

	of education and migratory status			<p>100% of the participating young men and women, who participated in the exchange visit, have enhanced their influence in engaging community issues, increasing interaction and networking. Participants have established a WhatsApp platform to further communicate.</p> <p>30 young people (15F; 15M) participated in 3 days youth summit in Mogadishu shared their experience, reflected, learned and created linkages. They also collaboratively developed peacebuilding strategies that will increase youth inclusion.</p>	
<p>Output 3.1</p> <p>Participating youth have increased their advocacy and negotiation skills.</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1</p> <p>Number of youth representatives selected in SD groups who join the three trainings (data disaggregated by sex,</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 2 per SD group (45 groups, so 90 in total)</p>	<p>72 SD Youth were invited to attend an Interclan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clan where the Ugas of Marehan invited the</p>	<p>The target was met.</p>

<p><u>List of activities under this Output:</u></p> <p><i>Activity 3.1.1</i></p> <p><i>Identify young change agents/representatives:</i> Facilitated SD groups to identify 2 representatives and agreement on how to continue communication</p> <p><i>Conduct an interactive training:</i> in strategic thinking, advocacy and negotiation skills for 90 selected participants, 2 per group, one in each area.</p>	<p>location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status)</p>			<p>youth to participate in the event.</p> <p>In Abudwak, the Gurti (council of elders), has allocated 10 positions for the youth to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms. The positions include 5 males and 5 females.</p>	
	<p>Indicator 3.1.2</p> <p>% of training participants who show an increase in knowledge and skills for advocacy and negotiation through self-assessment pre-post survey</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 75% of training participants in the three areas</p>	<p>In Abudwak, the Gurti (council of elders), has allocated 10 positions for the youth to learn the dispute resolutions mechanisms. The positions include 5 males and 5 females.</p> <p>72 SD Youth were invited to attend an Interclan dialogue between Marehan and Ogaden clan where the Ugas of Marehan invited the youth to participate in the event</p>	<p>The target was achieved</p>

<p>Output 3.2</p> <p>Participating youth have learned from each other and women peacebuilders about negotiating space.</p> <p><u>List of activities under this Output:</u></p> <p><i>Activity 3.2.1 Exchange with women peacebuilders:</i> for 15 young people, and 15 women peacebuilders, in Mogadishu with a focus, to learn practical strategies to engage elders and authorities to strengthen inclusion.</p> <p><i>Youth Summit:</i> Bring together 30 young people (including 15 women) for a space to reflect on their experience and learning and joint strategizing for influencing inclusion in their area (Note: falls under Monitoring Activities and contributes to this Output)</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.1</p> <p>% of participating young women and men as well as women peacebuilders who reflect on at least one key insight or learning to enhance influence from the event (disaggregated by sex, age)</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 80%</p>	<p>100% of the participating young men and women, as well as women peacebuilders who participated in the exchange visit, have enhanced their influence in engaging community issues, increasing interaction and networking. Participants have established a WhatsApp platform to further communicate. A member of the Kismayo Women Platform who participated in the exchanges has been appointed Jubbaland Minister of Women and Human Right Affairs.</p> <p>30 young people (15F; 15M) participated in 3 days youth summit in Mogadishu shared their experience, reflected, learned and created linkages. They also collaboratively developed peacebuilding strategies that will</p>	<p>The target was met and passed by 20%</p>
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				increase youth inclusion. In attendance were the Federal Government Ministry of interior-department of Reconciliation	
Output 3.3 Participants have developed a shared agenda and advocacy strategy for youth influence in peacebuilding in their area.	Indicator 3.3.1 % of young women and men who have engaged their SD group at least once during the process to develop a strategy for influence	Baseline: NA	Target: 75%	100% of the representatives have engaged their SD groups in the development of the strategy and other peace actions for influence.	The target was passed by 25%
	Indicator 3.3.2 Percentage of representatives who participate in Strategy Development meetings in each area.	Baseline: NA	Target: 90%	100% of representatives have participated in the strategy development. Baidoa youth were engaged by the ministry of labour when formulating TVET policies The Baidoa Youth chairperson who is a beneficiary of the project is being recognised by the ministry of youth and he's active in the political arena and	That target was passed by 10%

				gets to speak at public events.	
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<p>Outcome 4</p> <p><i>Inclusion of youth in peace and conflict decision-making</i></p> <p>Clan Leaders and Administration demonstrate increased willingness to create space for youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes.</p> <p>(Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to)</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>	<p>Indicator 4 a</p> <p>Verifiable changes in the attitudes and actions of targeted actors to create space for young women and men in peacebuilding processes</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: at least 5 such changes are identified across areas.</p>	<p>In Abudwak an SD youth participant has been appointed as the District Commissioner (DC) of Abudwak.</p> <p>10 SD male youth were invited to participate in council elders weekly and other meetings in Abudwak- the elders were appointed by 'Ugas' (the crown elder)</p> <p>72 SD participants from Abudwak participated in a cross-border (Somalia-Ethiopia) peacebuilding dialogue between two clans.</p> <p>Close collaboration between Council of elders (Mlaaqs) and SD youth. Elders welcome and create space for youth.</p> <p>Clan elders and Local administration from</p>	<p>The target was met</p>
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				Jowhar have created a close working relationship with SD youth. They invite youth in peacebuilding and other community decision making meetings to have their inputs. SD youth participated in an intra-clan dialogue between two subsections of Somali Bantu held in Jowhar.	
<p>Output 4.1</p> <p>Participating youth have enhanced interface with clan elders and authorities in their area</p> <p><u>List of activities under this Output:</u></p> <p><i>Activity 4.1.1</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing buy-in and relationship building:</i> (in parallel to outcome 1.3) small-scale information meetings, an invitation to events, etc.</p> <p><i>The organisation of youth-led dialogue fora:</i> Bringing together relevant leaders and authorities and</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.1</p> <p>Number of contacts with clan leaders and authorities in the course of the project</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 20 meaningful contacts per location</p>	<p>66 peace actions activities directly targeting elders and authorities have been implemented (Themes include security, discrimination, youth and women participation in politics and peace.)</p> <p>3 interactive dialogue sessions targeting elders and authorities as community stakeholders have been done.</p> <p>3 one-off initiatives addressing youth inclusion in peacebuilding and</p>	<p>The target was achieved</p>

<p>community members, 1 per location. This will be an opportunity to bring some of the priority issues identified by youth, share about their journey thus far and listen to elders' and authorities' perspectives/plans on the issues</p> <p><i>Organise Youth-led peace initiatives:</i> Using during internationally recognised events, such as youth and peace day that are officially celebrated in the target areas, youth will create visibility of young people's engagement in peacebuilding and carry key messages to a broader audience. These activities will directly involve elders and authorities and be co-organised if possible.</p>				<p>other decision-making processes.</p> <p>3 strategic advocacy town hall meetings focusing on conflict and peacebuilding dynamics in the 3 areas have been conducted. Elders and authorities as key targets</p>	
	<p>Indicator 4.1.2</p> <p>Number of elders and authorities who share their perspectives openly during open dialogue fora</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target: 20 per location</p>	<p>In Abudwak 18 elders, religious leaders and local authorities attending the dialogue shared their perspective on youth inclusion in peacebuilding and</p>	<p>The target in all the three Districts was met.</p>

				<p>community decision making.</p> <p>In Abudwak 15 elders religious leader and local authorities who attended interactive dialogue forum strongly emphasis their support and commitment to youth inclusion in peacebuilding and political representation</p> <p>In Baidoa 20 elders, religious leaders and representatives of the local authorities attended and shared their perspective on youth inclusion in peacebuilding and community decision-making.</p> <p>In Jowhar 20 elders, religious leaders and Local authorities were engaged Youth-led dialogue Fora. The aim of this meeting was for SD youth to present their positions with relevant local authorities and</p>	
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				<p>traditional leaders and listen to their perspectives on the conflict and peacebuilding dynamics in the town.</p> <p>In Jowhar 10 elders, religious leaders and a representative from authorities attended and shared their perspective as well as commitment to support youth inclusion in peacebuilding and community decision making processes.</p>	
	<p>Indicator 4.1.3</p> <p>Number of young women and men mobilized during peace events showcasing the young people's engagement</p>	Baseline: NA	Target: 100 per location	<p>300 participants (145F; 155 M) took part in International Peace Day in September 2020.</p> <p>220 (100F, 120 M) participated in commemorating Somali Nation Youth Day (SYL) in May 2021.</p>	The target of 100 per location was met
<p>Output 4.2</p> <p>Critical clan elders and government representatives have increased their understanding of youth</p>	<p>Indicator 4.2.1</p> <p>The extent to which young people representatives feel that they have been able to share their position and</p>	Baseline: NA	Target: 75% feel that they have been heard to some extent	100% of youth representatives reported that their positions have been received, listened to, and welcomed by both the elders and Local	The number of the youth representatives that reported to have been received listened to and welcomed by both

<p>priorities and recommendations.</p> <p><u>List of activities under this Output:</u></p> <p><i>Activity 4.2.1 Townhall:</i> Young women and men representatives (selected change agents) of the target youth present their common positions, and engage in discussion on district and region-based peace and conflict dynamics</p>	<p>been listened to (disaggregated by sex)</p>			<p>administrations. This can be attributed to how the elders and the local authorities have been involved in the implementation of peace actions and the receptiveness in attending youth-led activities.</p>	<p>the elders and local administration has increased by 25% since the project concluded</p>
	<p>Indicator 4.2.2</p> <p>Evidence of any commitment from reached elders and authorities during the town hall event</p>	<p>Baseline: NA</p>	<p>Target:</p>	<p>In Abudwak a selected 20 SD youth conducted a one-day meeting on the discussion of peace and conflict dynamics. The meeting was attended by different community stakeholders such as 4 members from district officials (1F; 3 M) 4memeber of Galmudug MPs (3M; 1F), Galmudug assistance minister of women and Human Rights, a member of the civil society (1 female),</p>	<p>The elders showed commitment after the peace actions to include the youth in peacebuilding events.</p>

				<p>representatives from the security sector (3M) 9 community elders, 5 members from women group, 7 members from other youth (5F; 3M 1 religious' leader,1 businesswoman, politician (1M)</p> <p>In Jowhar, a selected 40 SD youth organised a meeting to present their positions on conflict and peace dynamics that exist in Jowhar and Hirshabelle. A total of 55 (29M; 26F) participants include elders, women, LGA, SD youth and other youth.</p> <p>In Baidoa, a selected 35 SD youth organized a meeting to present their positions on conflict and peace dynamics exist in Baidoa. A total of 60 (32 Male 28 Female) participants include elders, women, LGA, SD youth and other youth attended.</p>	
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Evaluation Questions

Table 14: Specific evaluation questions

Evaluation Component	Evaluation Questions	Key Evaluation Instruments
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any congruence with any global development tools/policies? - Is there congruence with the UN Peacebuilding mandate and specifically SDG 16? - Any coherence to Somali peacebuilding goals and the challenges at the time of the PBF project design? - Did the interventions address the conflict drivers and factors for peace identified in the conflict analysis and baseline findings? - Do the project outcomes address identifiable problems? - Did the project address pertinent issues for Somali youth according to the NDP, UNCF and the project conflict analysis? 	<p><i>Desk Study:</i> Of UN peacebuilding mandate and the SDGs</p> <p>Desk Study: of the conflict analysis and baseline report</p> <p><i>Key informant interviews:</i> With LPI, SPL</p> <p><i>Beneficiary Interviews:</i> With beneficiaries</p>
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To what extent did the project achieve its intended objectives? - To what extent were outputs and targets achieved? - Are some components better achieved than others? - To what extent did the project contribute to its strategic vision? - Are there adequate arrangements for indicators and monitoring? - To what extent did the PBF Project contribute to gender mainstreaming and support of gender response to peacebuilding? - To what extent did the youth in the project feel that the interventions positively transformed their relationships with each other? - To what extent was youth cross clan collaboration achieved in the three districts? 	<p><i>Desk Study:</i> Review of project reports and M&E system data, Baseline Report.</p> <p><i>Key informant interview:</i> With project staff, partners and clan elders</p> <p>Beneficiary Survey: Survey of SD Participants.</p> <p><i>Beneficiary Interviews:</i> With beneficiaries</p>

Evaluation Component	Evaluation Questions	Key Evaluation Instruments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What evidence is there and measure the effectiveness of whether youth supported through this project has strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors? - Measure the outcome indicators at Endline and compare them to baseline results. 	FGDs with the beneficiary youth
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are outputs and outcomes achieved within expected cost and time? - Did any issues emerge? Which issues? - How effective are project management (Planning, design, implementation, supervision) and monitoring systems? And how did they contribute to the achievement of the project results? - Was the project managed as planned? Were there any challenges encountered and how were they addressed? - How were the communication between the project team and the implementing partners, stakeholders, and project beneficiaries? 	<p><i>Desk Study:</i> Project reports;</p> <p>Project M&E system data</p>
Outcomes/Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many young women and men have positively transformed their understanding of each other and increased their cross-clan collaborations on conflict issues? - How many young women and men have strengthened their agency as peacebuilding actors? - How many young women and men have developed a shared agenda and strategy to increase youth influence in peacebuilding in their area? - Are the Clan Leaders and Administration demonstrated increased willingness to create space for youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes? - Are the project's benefits spreading? 	<p><i>Desk Study:</i> Review of project documentation;</p> <p>Interviews with country teams</p> <p><i>Field Study:</i> Interviews with project management; interviews with beneficiaries;</p> <p>interviews with partners; data from project M&E system data</p>

Evaluation Component	Evaluation Questions	Key Evaluation Instruments
Sustainability/Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are the project's benefits sustainable? - To what extent did the project contribute to the broader strategic outcomes identified in the nationally owned strategic plans, legislative agendas and policies? - Are the state and non-state stakeholders committed to sustaining the results of the projects? - Which are some of the results that the stakeholders are committed to sustaining? - Has the PBF funding been used to scale up to other peacebuilding work or has it helped to create broader platforms for peacebuilding? 	<p>Interviews with country teams</p> <p><i>Field Study:</i> Interviews with project management; interviews with beneficiaries;</p> <p>interviews with partners; data from project M&E</p> <p>system data</p>
Coherence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To what extent did the project complement the work of other national stakeholders in Somalia including the UN? - How were the stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation? 	<p>Interviews with partners</p> <p>Data from project M&E</p> <p>system data</p>
Conflict Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did the PBF project have an explicit approach to conflict sensitivity? - Were RUNOs and NUNOs' internal capacities adequate for ensuring an ongoing conflict-sensitive approach? - Was the project responsible for any unintended negative impacts? - Were an ongoing process of context monitoring and a monitoring system that allows for monitoring of unintended impacts established? 	<p>Document Review: Project Monitoring reports and feedback mechanism, progress Reports, project risk mitigation mechanisms.</p> <p>Interview: KII with LPI, SPL, and UNPBF team</p>
Catalytic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was the project financially and/or programmatically catalytic? - Has PBF funding been used to scale-up other peacebuilding work and/or has it helped to create broader platforms for peacebuilding? 	<p>Document review: project progress reports, baseline report.</p> <p>Interview: KII with LPI, SPL, and UNBPF</p>

Evaluation Component	Evaluation Questions	Key Evaluation Instruments
Gender-Responsiveness/ Gender- Sensitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did the project consider the different challenges, opportunities, constraints and capacities of women, men, girls and boys in project design (including within the conflict analysis, outcome statements and results frameworks) and implementation? - Were the commitments made in the project proposal to gender-responsive peacebuilding, particularly to the budget, realized throughout implementation? 	<p>Document review: Project progress report, project monitoring reports</p> <p>Interviews: KII with LPI project, SPL.</p> <p>FGDs with Women CSO Groups</p> <p>FGDs with women Moderators.</p>
Risk tolerance & Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was the project characterised as high risk, and were the risks adequately monitored and mitigated? - How innovative was the project? - What are some of the lessons that can be drawn and applied to inform similar approaches elsewhere? 	<p>Data from project M&E system data</p>

Evaluation Matrix

Table 15: Evaluation Matrix

EVALUATION QUESTION	INDICATORS	SOURCES	METHODS FOR DATA COLLECTION
Relevance			
1. Was the <i>Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia</i> relevant in addressing		Project documentation FGDs, Key Informants	Interview: FGDs with SD Moderators

<p>conflict drivers and factors for peace identified in conflict analysis and baseline findings? Was it relevant to Somalia's peacebuilding goals and challenges in the country at the time of the PBF project's design? Did relevance continue throughout implementation?</p>	<p>The topics of discussion in the SDs addressing 'WHAT' the questions- what are the drivers of conflict?</p> <p>SD topics aligned to Somali Peacebuilding Goals Number and types of engagements held with the local government authorities during project design</p> <p>Number and types of monitoring activities conducted during the local authority and national government engagements during the project implementation Account of LPI conflict analysis</p> <p>Pioneer Analysis of the current Somalia conflict situation and whether the project has addressed the conflict drivers.</p>		<p>Interview: KIIs with UNPBF team, local government administration Document review: PBF Somalia Priority Plan Somalia National Development Plan(2020-2024)</p>
<p>2. Was the <i>Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia</i> relevant to the Somalia Development plan, National Reconciliation Framework (NRF), Wadajir frameworks and UN's peacebuilding mandate and the SDGs, in particular SDG 16?</p>	<p>SD topics aligned to Somali Peacebuilding goals</p> <p>Number and types of engagements held with the local and national government authorities during project design.</p>	<p>Project Documentation FGDs, Key Informant</p>	<p>Interview: FGDs with SD Moderators Interview: KIIs with UNPBF team, local government administration Document review: PBF Somalia Priority Plan Somalia National Development Plan(2020-2024)</p>
<p>Efficiency</p>			
<p>3. To what extent was the <i>Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia</i> project cost and time effective (monetary & personnel resources)? Did any issues emerge (if so, which ones)?</p>	<p>Number and cost of personnel used in the project implementation vis a vis the budgeted personnel Account of the admin costs vis- a- vis the total budget</p>	<p>Project Documentation, LPI</p>	<p>Documentation review: Project progress reports Interview: KII with LPI Project team</p>

<p>4. How did the project management (planning, design, implementation, supervision, monitoring, evaluation & learning) contribute to the achievements of the project's results? Was the project managed as planned? If not, what challenges were encountered and how were they addressed? How well did the project team communicate with implementing partners, stakeholders, and project beneficiaries on its progress?</p>	<p>Account of whether the project was extended</p> <p>The amount used in the internal and external monitoring</p> <p>Account of the monitoring activities undertaken during the project implementation</p> <p>Account of the project implementation timeline vis- a- vis the planned project timeline.</p> <p>Account of documented challenges encountered during project implementation.</p>	<p>Project Documentation, LPI</p>	<p>Documentation review: Project progress reports. Midterm reports, Monitoring reports Interview: KII with LPI Project team</p>
<p>Effectiveness</p>			
<p>5. To what extent did the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia project achieve its intended objectives and contribute to the project's strategic vision?</p>	<p>% of SD participants reported understanding each other</p> <p>Number of dialogue sessions (by location) and the number of SD participants (disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status.)</p> <p>Verifiable changes in the behaviour and relationships of targeted youth towards understanding & collaboration to which the project has plausibly contributed</p>	<p>Project Documentation, LPI, FGD</p>	<p>Documentation review: Project progress reports. Monitoring reports Interview: KII with LPI Project team FGDs with SD Moderators Beneficiary survey: survey of the SD participants</p>
<p>6. To what extent did the PBF project substantively mainstream a gender and</p>	<p>% of women involved in the SD sessions</p>	<p>Project documentation, LPI, women beneficiaries and women groups</p>	<p>Documentation review: Project reports Interviews: KII with LPI team</p>

<p>support gender-responsive peacebuilding?</p>	<p>% of women participating in peacebuilding initiatives in their respective Districts</p> <p>% of surveyed SD participants who report an improved understanding of specific challenges and opportunities connected to gender identity</p> <p>Number of peace actions that address Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment as one dimension</p> <p>Accounts that young women have felt empowered and confident to actively contribute in the cross-SD-group discussions</p>		<p>FGDs with women beneficiaries and women groups. SD Moderators. Survey: a survey of women SD participants</p>
<p>Sustainability, Ownership and if the Project was Catalytic</p>			
<p>7. To what extent did the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia project contribute to the broader strategic outcomes identified in nationally owned strategic plans, legislative agendas, and policies? Are state & non-state stakeholders committed to sustaining the results of the project (if so, which ones, and how)?</p>	<p>% increase in surveyed SD participants reporting stronger agency in peacebuilding, disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status.</p> <p>% of surveyed representatives that report commitment and sense of ownership (data disaggregated by sex, location, clan affiliation, socio-economic status, level of education and migratory status)</p>	<p>SD participants, LPI, Clan elders, Government authorities</p>	<p>Survey: SD participants Interview: KII with clan elders, LPI team, Government authorities</p>

	Number of elders and authorities who share their perspectives openly during open dialogue fora		
8. Has the PBF funding been used to scale up to other peacebuilding work and/or has it helped to create broader platforms for peacebuilding?	<p>% of project funding allocated to other peacebuilding work outside the project</p> <p>An account of whether the PBF funding has broadened LPI work and peacebuilding approaches that have resulted because of the project funding.</p> <p>Forms of peacebuilding platforms have emerged as a result of the project implementation.</p>	LPI, PBF team	Interview: KII with LPI and UNPBF team
Coherence			
9. To what extent did the Connecting Across Divides: Youth Building Peace in Somalia project complement the work of other national and international stakeholders including the UN?	<p>Evidence of any commitment from reached elders and authorities during the town hall event</p> <p>An account of how the project complements the Somalia national and international peacebuilding processes and the national reconciliation mechanisms.</p>	PBF team, Civil society	<p>Interview: KII with UNPBF team and LPI</p> <p>Document review: Somalia national and international peacebuilding processes, global policy frameworks, and Somalia national reconciliation mechanisms.</p>
10. How were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?	<p>Number of stakeholders involved project design and implementation</p> <p>Types and meetings held with different stakeholders</p>	Civil society organisations, PBF Team, LPI,	Interview: KII with PBF team and civil society organisations, LPI team

	Quality of stakeholder management and relationship building approaches.		
Risk Tolerance and Innovation			
11. If the project was characterized as “high risk”, were risks adequately monitored and mitigated?	<p>Account of the risks associated with the project</p> <p>Types of monitoring activities conducted to mitigate any associated risks.</p> <p>An account of if all the risks were mitigated and if there were risks difficult to mitigate.</p>	LPI	Interview: KII with, LPI team
12. How novel or innovative was the project approach? Can lessons be drawn to inform similar approaches elsewhere?	<p>Account of any new activities/approaches that might have come up because of the sustained dialogue approach</p> <p>Account of new lessons learnt identified from the project, including managing partnerships, addressing conflicts and even relating with the community.</p>	Project Documentation, LPI	<p>Documentation Review: Project reports</p> <p>Interview: KII with LPI team FGD with the SD moderators</p> <p>Beneficiary Survey: Survey on the SD participants.</p>

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