

## ANNEX II

### SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE



#### PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

(Length : Max. 12 pages plus cover page and annexes)

<b>Country (ies):</b> Kyrgyzstan	
<b>Project Title: "PBF Secretariat Support to Joint Steering Committee and PRF projects"</b> <b>Project Number from MPTE-O Gateway (if existing project):</b>	
<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>
<b>List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc):</b>  UN RCO in the Kyrgyz Republic through UNDP  <b>List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:</b>	
<b>Expected project commencement date<sup>1</sup>:</b> May 2022, upon reception of first transfer of funds. <b>Project duration in months:<sup>2</sup></b> 30 months. Expected end date: November 2024 <b>Geographic zones for project implementation:</b> Nationwide with the base in the capital Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	
<b>Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
<b>Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization):</b> UNDP: USD 625,864.40 Total: <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account</i> Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source): Project total budget: USD	

<sup>1</sup> Note: actual commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

<sup>2</sup> Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

<b>PBF 1<sup>st</sup> tranche:</b> Recipient: Total: USD 438,105.08	<b>PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche*:</b> Recipient: Total: USD 187,759.32	<b>PBF 3<sup>rd</sup> tranche*:</b> Total:	<b>__ tranche</b>
<p><b>Two-three sentences with a brief project description and succinct explanation of how the project is time sensitive, catalytic and risk-tolerant/ innovative:</b></p> <p>The project enables functioning of the Secretariat in its full capacity to support the work of the Joint Steering Committee and its Co-chairs and to support the coordination, monitoring, evaluation and visibility of PBF projects in Kyrgyzstan.</p> <p>The overall role of Secretariat is to ensure coordination of all key stakeholders in peacebuilding activities in Kyrgyzstan – national authorities, civil society, development partners and UN agencies.</p> <p>The Secretariat also performs functions related to the design, coordination, monitoring and reporting of PBF projects implemented under the PBF Strategic Results Framework 2021-2026, following the declaration of eligibility by the Secretary-General in June 2021, incorporating lessons learnt from previous phases to achieve catalytic effects and contribute to achieve higher-level results for peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Assistance and guidance are provided by the Secretariat to the JSC, RUNOs and NUNOs and quality control is assured for regularly submitted reports of RUNOs and NUNOs to PBF and MPTF. The Secretariat also must ensure that effective and joint communication activities are performed to raise public awareness about peacebuilding efforts in Kyrgyzstan and that RUNOs and NUNOs fulfil their obligations with regards to gender and youth aspects.</p>			
<p><b>Summarize the in-country project consultation and endorsement process prior to submission to PBSO, including through any PBF Steering Committee where it exists, including whether civil society and target communities were consulted and how:</b></p> <p>This project is part of a broader commitment between the UN Country team, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the UN peacebuilding Fund following consultations among them and with Kyrgyz non-state actors over the previous two years, which led to a formal request by the President to the UNSG for the re-eligibility of Kyrgyzstan to the PBF. The project has been elaborated in addition to the two PRF Outcome project documents, as integral part of the PBF Strategic Results Framework 2021-2026. The Secretariat supports the work of the Joint Steering Committee, including its Co-chairs and provides coordination for the design, joint planning, monitoring, reporting, communications, learning and knowledge management on PBF funded projects. The JSC started its operation in March 2022 with the first meeting expected on 17 May 2022. The JSC functions will be performed by the UN-Government Technical Working Group established by the Prime Minister.</p>			
<p><b>Project Gender Marker score: 2<sup>3</sup></b>  Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment: 1</p>			
<p><b>Project Risk Marker score: 0<sup>4</sup></b></p>			

<sup>3</sup> **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

**Score 2** for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate at least 30% of the total project budget to GEWE

**Score 1** for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 30% of the total budget for GEWE)

<sup>4</sup> **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes

**Risk marker 1** = medium risk to achieving outcomes

**Risk marker 2** = high risk to achieving outcomes

**Select PBF Focus Areas** which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*): 4.3 <sup>5</sup>

If applicable, **UNDAF outcome(s)** to which the project contributes: Outcome 2: By 2022, institutions at all levels are more accountable and inclusive ensuring justice, human rights, gender equality and sustainable peace for all

**Draft UNSDCF Outcome (2023-2027):** Outcome 4. By 2027, the people of Kyrgyzstan enjoy fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative and digital solutions that promote respect for human rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.

If applicable, **Sustainable Development Goal** to which the project contributes: SDGs 16, 4, 5, 10, 17

If applicable, **National Strategic Goal** to which the project contributes:

- National Strategy of Sustainable Development for the Kyrgyz Republic (2040),
- National Development Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic 2021-2026
- the Program of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on countering extremism and terrorism for 2017 – 2022
- Action plan of the Kyrgyz Republic to implement the UN Security Council Resolution No 1325 for 2022 – 2024 (yet to be approved by the Government).
- "Concept on State Policy in the Sphere of Religion of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2021-2026"
- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On ratification of the agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan on confidence-building measures in the border area"
- The agreement signed by the Kyrgyz and Uzbek Presidents on 6 October 2017 in Tashkent aim at strengthening security and confidence between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in particular at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek state border area.
- “Civic Identity - Kyrgyz-Zharany” Concept, 2021-2026 (adopted in November 2020)

**Type of submission:**

- ☒ **New project**  
☐ **Project amendment**

**If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:**

**Extension of duration:** ☐ Additional duration in months:

**Change of project outcome/ scope:** ☐

**Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%:** ☐

**Additional PBF budget:** ☐ Additional amount by recipient organization:

**Brief justification for amendment:**

*Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or in TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.*

<sup>5</sup> **PBF Focus Areas** are:

(1.1) SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;  
 (2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management;  
 (3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services  
 (4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats)

## PROJECT SIGNATURES:

*Head of Department of Ethnic and Religious Policy and Interaction with Civil Society*

<p>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>6</sup>  <i>United Nations system in the Kyrgyz Republic</i>  <i>Ms. Antje Grawe</i></p> <p></p> <p>Signature  <i>United Nations Resident Coordinator</i></p> <p></p> <p>2/11/2022</p> <p>Date &amp; Seal</p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities  <i>Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic</i>  <i>Mr. Almaz Isanov</i></p> <p></p> <p>Signature  <i>Head of the Department for Political and Economic Research</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal</p>
<p>Recipient Organization  <i>United Nations Development Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic</i>  <i>Ms. Louise Chamberlain</i></p> <p></p> <p>Signature  <i>UNDP Resident Representative</i></p> <p>2/11/2022</p> <p></p>	
<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)  <i>Ms. Elizabeth Spehar</i></p> <p></p> <p>Signature  <i>Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Support</i></p> <p>Date &amp; Seal 07/12/2022</p>	

<sup>6</sup> Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

## Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support (4 pages max)

- a) A brief summary of **conflict analysis findings** as they relate to this project, focusing on the driving factors of tensions/conflict that the project aims to address and an analysis of the main actors/ stakeholders that have an impact on or are impacted by the driving factors, which the project will aim to engage. This analysis must be gender- and age- sensitive.

### Conflict analysis

Although largely peaceful, Kyrgyzstan had witnessed major upheavals and conflicts over the last 30 years. They included extra-legal change of power in 2005, 2010 and 2020, incursion of terrorist fighters in 1999, and inter-ethnic conflicts of 1990 and 2010, in which reportedly about 470 people died.<sup>6</sup> Border conflicts over natural resources between Kyrgyzstan and neighboring Tajikistan and Uzbekistan are recurrent under incomplete delimitation; their scale intensified in April 2021 with 55 casualties on both sides. Public protests are a common feature, with no less than 120 protests rallies in Bishkek in January-May 2021 alone.<sup>7</sup> The risk of the relapse of the conflict and instability is exacerbated by the conflict in Ukraine, continuing impact of the COVID-19 and continuous failure of the government to ensure fairness and justice, as well as economic and social rights.

The Kyrgyzstan has retained the space for civil society and media, and political opposition. Yet, there are various factors that contribute to country's fragility. The root causes for the instability and conflict in Kyrgyzstan include: corruption<sup>8</sup> and informal governance practices, distortions to political representation and disrupted social cohesion (e.g. underrepresentation of ethnic minorities, women and youth). Weak judiciary, and gaps in governance institutions failing to deliver on civil, political, economic and social rights, contribute to the feeling of exclusion, and widespread belief that one cannot get justice without connections to the power. Lack of inclusive and evidence-based policy-making, weak rule of law, as well as risks to civic space, and human rights and fundamental freedoms in general, and women's rights, in particular, are important factors contributing to the overall country's fragility (volatility).

With economic growth in recent years, Kyrgyzstan reached the lower middle-income status in 2014, but the COVID crisis has contributed to a GDP fall in 2020, creating additional challenges to poverty reduction, especially in rural areas. Few economic opportunities are available, especially for large cohorts of young people who often have to migrate for jobs. Current crisis in Ukraine has already impacted the rate of the national currency, trade and is likely to impact the remittances levels (which are expected to drop by 33% as per World Bank assessment) and the migration dynamic.

Disruption of social cohesion remains one of the most important risks to peace, as the nation-building results have been mixed. On the one hand, no major ethnic conflict took place after 2010, and the state tries to build the concept of civic identity as an overarching ideology of citizenship. On the other hand, minorities' integration, especially into law enforcement and government, remains unachieved. Divisive identity-based politics persist along with strong ethnic nationalist rhetoric in the public space, and diversity policies are weak and inconsistent. Discussions over the Constitution in 2020 and 2021, language law in 2021-2022, recurrent incidents of hate speech towards minorities around elections show persisting divides in the society.

The polarization in the country also grows - the gap is widening between e.g. liberal and traditional values. In a context of growing role of religion, there is an increasing tension between religious and secular groups in the society, as well as increasing intolerance and conflicts between adherents of different streams of Islam.

Key drivers and triggers for the instability and conflict in Kyrgyzstan include:

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<sup>6</sup> Report of the independent International Commission of Inquiry into the Events in Southern Kyrgyzstan in June 2010.

<sup>7</sup> E.g. attacks on 8 March rally, rally against rallies. Sermons? Any other data?

<sup>8</sup> Kyrgyzstan ranks 124 out of 180 countries in the Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2020/index/kgz#>

- Distrust and lack of cohesion between authorities and citizens, manifested through protest activities of various groups due to perceived injustices, human rights violations, economic policies (e.g. tariffs increase), electoral irregularities, as well as local disputes over land and resources that may turn violent in the context of accumulated grievances, economic impoverishment and feeling of injustice. There are hundreds of protest actions in Kyrgyzstan every year, including 269 protests in 2020, and more than 120 in January-May 2021. Some of them, like those against rigged Parliamentary elections in October 2020 led to the change of the government and subsequent constitutional overhaul of the country. Protest activities against foreign companies, especially in extractive (mining) industries investments is also an important feature in Kyrgyzstan when operation of mines is blocked by local communities; mines are especially targeted during periods of instability. The distrust (incohesion, weak social contract) between the government and citizens (citizens don't believe the state protects their rights properly), and a sense of injustice, including due to uneven access to economic opportunities, are underlying reasons for protests in Kyrgyzstan. In the context of the increasing risk of the centralization under the new 2021 Constitution and clogged articulation of people's interests (non-inclusive decision-making) the risk of violent protest is expected to increase, although the securitization of street protests and pressure on civil society may be a response to this phenomenon.
- Risk of disruption of cohesion between ethnic groups in the country due to ethnic policies and language policies. Ethnic minorities make 26.5% of population (nearly 15% - Uzbeks living densely in Southern Kyrgyzstan), yet remain unrepresented in key sectors of the society and they have little outlet to voice needs and grievance. This coupled with lacking sense of closure of the 2010 ethnic violence, increases likelihood disenfranchisement and alienation, hence the likelihood of relapse to conflict should the perception of ethnicity-based bias persists.
- Polarization due to religion and religious policies. Although the government actively looks to find a balance and boundaries between the secular state and religion, there are still tensions on values potentially leading to disagreements on the fundamental vision on how the country should be arranged. This has been manifested e.g. in discussion over the secularity principle of the new Constitution (in 2020), continuous discussion over wearing headscarves in schools (and educational rights), or existence of religious schools that do not follow the state-approved curriculum. The fragmentation of society along conservative/liberal axis has a significant impact on women's human rights, and the risk of clashes and incidents similar to 8 March 2020 remains.<sup>9</sup>
- Disputes over natural resources in border areas. There have been 171 border incidents between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in 2015-2019<sup>10</sup>. In 2020 and 2021 the overall number has relatively decreased (also due to COVID-19), however the intensity and deadliness of conflicts has exacerbated since 2019, and culminated in the most severe incident on 28 April-1 May 2021 resulting in 39 people dead, 189 wounded and tens of thousands temporarily displaced on the Kyrgyz side. Conflicts around natural resources (land, water, pastures) have multiple root causes including incomplete delimitation and demarcation, demographic imbalances, interconnectedness of infrastructure (which was built mainly in Soviet times without regards to borders), inadequate water management and distribution, patchwork settlements, stricter enforcement of border regimes, climate change and other. The Kyrgyzstan government makes efforts to finalize the delimitation, however the process proved to be protracted, and conflicts will continue to occur, triggered by multiple events, until all disagreements are settled. It is worth mentioning that the number and intensity of conflicts with Uzbekistan is much lower, and delimitation progress is more advanced, although disputes exist around at least 3 locations<sup>11</sup>. The

<sup>9</sup> On 8 March 2020, a peaceful march of women on International Women's Day was attacked by representatives of conservative groups, with reluctance of law enforcement

<sup>10</sup> TRACTION - Database of incidents development within the Cross-border cooperation for Sustainable Peace and Development project. Not officially confirmed.

<sup>11</sup> Kempir-Abad, Gavasay and Chashma (Chechme). The notable conflict with dozens of severely wounded people took place in Sokh on 31 May 2020 (Uzbek enclave in Kyrgyzstan, inhabited mainly by Tajiks)

lack of effective consultations with border communities can feed public discontent with delimitation agreements negotiated with the neighbouring states.

- Violent extremism. Kyrgyzstan, except 1999 Batken events<sup>12</sup>, and 3 terrorist acts in 2010, 2015 and 2016<sup>13</sup> did not witness systemic terrorist attacks, although the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported on multiple foiled attacks in recent times<sup>14</sup>. There were no less than 863 Kyrgyz citizens who joined ISIS in 2013-2018, but this group has been effectively neutralized and their organized return to destabilize the situation is improbable.<sup>15</sup> Regardless of successful government efforts, the risk of violent extremism remains in Kyrgyzstan in view of impoverishment, injustice, as well as e.g. operation of different religious currents. The repatriation and reintegration of families of foreign terrorist fighters is an additional task (challenge) being carried out by Kyrgyzstan, and the first cohort of children was repatriated in April 2020.

Women are especially vulnerable in the context of instability and conflict. With growing conservatism in the society, and discriminatory patriarchal beliefs that women activity should be limited to family and private sphere, women's rights and opportunities are being curtailed. Formerly obvious, participation of women in public life and leadership roles nowadays requires additional promotion efforts, often with mixed results in Kyrgyzstan. The gender-based violence and discrimination remains widespread, including persisting practices of brides-kidnapping and early marriages. Conflicts affect women's rights, as patriarchal culture makes them stay away from conflict resolution, and women are negatively affected by localized conflicts in border areas, and especially susceptible to discrimination and abuse in case of men joining violent extremist organizations.

65% of Kyrgyzstan's population is under 35 years old, and youth (defined as 14-28 y.o. in Kyrgyzstan) makes 29%<sup>16</sup>. On the one hand, youth of Kyrgyzstan is a strong demographic dividend that can serve as a development and peace engine in the country. However, as the employment delivering policies continue to not fully meet people's needs, education and other prosperity expectations are not met adequately, youth may be a group specifically vulnerable to conflicts and their outcomes. Evidence shows that mostly young people participate in border conflicts, and large political rallies, often being instrumentalized by political leaders, sometimes for money, in pursuit of power. Violence against children, especially, when children find themselves in vulnerable situations of being left behind by one or both parents-migrant workers, is a serious factor that requires attention as a potential root cause for youth being susceptible to violence.

The Government of Kyrgyzstan has adopted various policy documents, including the concept of the Civic Identity (Kyrgyz Jarany), the Counter-Terrorism and PVE Strategy, and many others to build policies to address abovementioned risks. Local mechanisms, including e.g. Local Prevention Centres, various groups of local leaders and mediators, as well as civil society organizations - many supported by international organizations - are working in communities to prevent conflicts. Peace engines in the country include the history of peaceful coexistence between ethnic groups and culture of respectfulness, societal norms based on tolerance and non-discrimination and informal conflict resolution mechanisms (e.g. aksakals), and trauma of past conflicts.<sup>17</sup> Many experts consider labour migration an important peace factor as it takes the pressure from the government to generate employment and social services - remittances (a third of country's GDP) ensure steady income for a considerable share of Kyrgyz families. It is important to note, however, that migration impacts the

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<sup>12</sup> Incursion of Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan fighters, who wanted to pass through Kyrgyzstan to attack Uzbekistan. [https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%91%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BA%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8%D0%B5\\_%D1%81%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%8B%D1%82%D0%B8%D1%8F](https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%91%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BA%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8%D0%B5_%D1%81%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%8B%D1%82%D0%B8%D1%8F)

<sup>13</sup> <https://knews.kg/2017/08/31/terakty-v-bishkeke-skolko-popytok-destabilizirovat-situatsiyu-predprinyato-terroristami-v-poslednie-gody/>

<sup>14</sup> E.g 17 in 2016 (<http://kabar.kg/news/17-teraktov-predotvratili-v-kyrgyzstane-v-2016-godu/>), 2 in 2020 (<https://svodka.akipress.org/news:1670622?from=svodka&place=newstopic>)

<sup>15</sup> [https://kyrgyzstan.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-](https://kyrgyzstan.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/UN%20PBF_UNW_ECA_KYRG%20chapter%20FINAL%20%281%29.pdf)

[01/UN%20PBF\\_UNW\\_ECA\\_KYRG%20chapter%20FINAL%20%281%29.pdf](01/UN%20PBF_UNW_ECA_KYRG%20chapter%20FINAL%20%281%29.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.stat.kg/media/publicationarchive/afc3ab10-e52d-4224-8902-db28a3c1a76d.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> Conflict and Peace Analysis. UNCT Kyrgyzstan 2020. Experts also were divided on whether the multiplicity of political actors in Kyrgyzstan is a pro-peace or pro-conflict factor.

social fabric of the society, including children left behind, changing family dynamics. High dependence on remittances makes the countries more vulnerable to global economic shocks, and therefore more fragile and prone to instability.

### **Peacebuilding priorities in Kyrgyzstan for PBF investment cycle 2021-2026**

The key fragility factors identified above are reflected in the eligibility request letter sent by the President of Kyrgyz Republic to the UN Secretary General. In his request the President underlined importance of strengthening social cohesion through building trust, cooperation and dialogue between the Government and citizens, as well as between different social groups and communities to strengthen the civic identity. The letter also emphasized the priority of reducing the risk of violence in border areas. The same priorities are identified in the eligibility request package submitted by the UN Resident Coordinator. The Strategic Results Framework of the PBF engagement has focused on the same priorities, and includes 3 Outcomes:

- 1) Horizontal and vertical trust are enhanced due to improved government mechanisms for inter-group dialogue, inclusivity and accountability
- 2) Identity groups indicate a greater sense of mutual trust and belonging to Kyrgyzstan due to an inclusive Kyrgyz civic identity policy anchored in the principles of equality and non-discrimination.
- 3) Mutual understanding and cooperation within and between border communities are strengthened.

The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will ensure the oversight over the PBF programming in the country. The functions of the JSC will be performed by the Joint Work Group established by the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Joint work group is composed of representatives of the Government of Kyrgyzstan and the United Nations, with attendance of the civil society and international partners. As the Joint Work Group also serves as a coordination platform on other selected strategic priorities of UN-Government cooperation in Kyrgyzstan, it will ensure a greater coherence and synergies between peacebuilding and development programming in the country.

### **Previous PBF engagement in Kyrgyzstan**

The United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) started supporting the Kyrgyz Republic in the wake of the violent inter-ethnic clashes, known as Osh events, of June 2010. Since then, PBF has gradually invested a total of around USD 54 million in peacebuilding projects (including projects within the current eligibility cycle). The first projects in 2010 were funded through the short-term Immediate Response Facility (IRF) window, to build peace and trust in the country's regions affected by the conflict. An initial support package of USD 10 million for the duration of 18 months focused on empowerment and reconciliation of communities in the Southern regions, with a specific focus on youth and women, social cohesion, and administration of justice. These three areas were identified based on immediate needs after the interethnic conflict to restore damaged social fabric, help build trust towards the government through enforcing justice mechanisms and prevent relapse of conflict through engaging youth and women.

In 2013, the UN Secretary-General declared Kyrgyzstan eligible for funds through the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) window, with a view to supporting a structured peacebuilding process in Kyrgyzstan, driven by national actors. A Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP) – a joint strategic document of the Government and the United Nations and a requirement of the PBF at the time for PRF funds - was developed, focusing on three main peacebuilding outcomes for the years 2013-2016: (1) Human Rights and Rule of Law, (2) Support to local self-government bodies, and (3) Multilingual education and respect for diversity and minority rights. Within this timeframe, a total of USD 15.1 million was allocated for the implementation of 10 projects. Two additional projects were approved through the Gender Promotion Initiative in 2014, and a third, cross-border project with Tajikistan, in 2015

A portfolio evaluation conducted in 2017 found that the issues and challenges identified by the first PPP were and remained relevant, and produced high quality results that were strategic and seized emerging opportunities for building peace. Conflict drivers such as youth exclusion, border tensions,

the potential for violent extremism and governance related issues were identified as potential future priority areas. The need for conflict sensitivity and a ‘do no harm’ approach were identified as particular priorities for potential projects that would focus on the prevention of violent extremism (PVE).

In December 2017, based on a country context analysis report, stakeholder capacity assessment, multiple workshops and consultations with the government, the PBF approved another round of allocations for Kyrgyzstan totaling USD 8 million over a period of three years. This time, the Peacebuilding Priority Plan focused on a single priority area: the prevention of violent extremism (PVE). Under the overall PVE umbrella, the 2018-2020 PPP outlined three main outcome areas for the PBF’s engagement and designated six UN agencies working on these projects:

- Enhancing institutional capacity of national and local institutions to have technical and policy expertise to implement measures preventing radicalisation to violent extremism (UNDP, UNICEF, UN OHCHR, UN Women);
  - Support to the Prison Service (penitentiary staff), probation and police officers and forensic service to enhance their institutional capacity and expertise in dealing with radicalisation (UNODC, UNDP);
  - Developing resilience in target communities against radicalisation (UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women).
- b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**, how it ensures **national ownership** and how the project builds on any previous phase of PBF support and/or any **concrete lessons learned**.

The project aligns with/supports the following existing Governmental and UN strategic frameworks, which in turn helps ensure national ownership:

- National Strategy of Sustainable Development for the Kyrgyz Republic,
- National Development Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic 2021-2026
- the Program of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on countering extremism and terrorism for 2017 – 2022
- Action plan of the Kyrgyz Republic to implement the UN Security Council Resolution No 1325 for 2022-2024 (in draft, still to be approved).
- "Concept on State Policy in the Sphere of Religion of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2021-2026"
- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On ratification of the agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan on confidence-building measures in the border area"
- The agreement signed by the Presidents of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan on 6 October 2017 in Tashkent aim at strengthening security and confidence between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in particular at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek state border area.
- UNDAF outcome(s) to which the project contributes: Outcome 2: By 2022, institutions at all levels are more accountable and inclusive ensuring justice, human rights, gender equality and sustainable peace for all; Draft Outcome 4 within the upcoming UNSDCF (2023-2027) By 2027, the people of Kyrgyzstan enjoy fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative and digital solutions that promote respect for human rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.
- Sustainable Development Goal to which the project contributes: SDGs 16, 4, 5, 10, 17
- “Civic Identity - Kyrgyz Zharany” Concept adopted in November 2020 (2021-2026).
- State Youth Policy 2020-2030

The project supports implementation of the peacebuilding and conflict prevention work funded by PBF which includes strategic priorities outlined in the re-eligibility application and the Strategic Results Framework. The by ensuring that the PBF’s resources are programmed on the basis of broad consultation, the availability of high-level expertise, and mobility for planned activities. It will also

support an open dialogue between RUNOs, NUNOs and national counterparts on project implementation to ensure national ownership of projects' results.

The project would ensure synergy and integrated approaches among related projects of implementing UN agencies by conducting joint activities such as perception surveys, joint planning, joint monitoring, evaluation joint reporting (including M and E); joint analyses, integrated policy advisory services; coordinated implementation and other activities that would serve the purpose of achieving results of strategic peacebuilding priorities and other additional projects funded by PBF (GYPI, cross-border). Many of the project's activities, including baseline and endline surveys will be planned and executed jointly with national counterparts to ensure that the approach to measuring impact on peacebuilding would become an instrument to be used further.

Coordination with other donors, development partners, representatives of CSO and the state through their participation in the JSC meetings, as well as through other means would ensure better complementarity of all peacebuilding activities in the country.

c) **A summary of existing interventions** in the proposal's sector by filling out the table below.

Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal
Inclusive governance and shared identity for sustainable peace and development	PBF; USD 3,000,000	The project aims to strengthen shared and inclusive civic identity through the promotion of a Peacebuilding Architecture that encompasses, governance and accountability, rule of law and human rights, age and gender equality	This project will support better joint coordination, reporting, and M&E of the project.
Shared prosperity through cooperation in border regions of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan	PBF; USD 1,500,000 (for Kyrgyzstan; additional 1,500,000 are provided to Uzbekistan)	The project is aimed at enhancing cross-border environmental and socio-economic cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. The project will build confidence and trust between local governments, communities and CSOs through the empowerment of women and youth, as important peacebuilding agents. Climate-smart agricultural practices in sustaining common resources will be applied by this project as well as the establishment of common platforms and networks to foster positive social, cultural and economic exchange between communities on both sides of the border. The project will take into consideration lessons learned and experience from previous cross-border programmes in Ferghana Valley.	This project will support better joint coordination, reporting, and M&E of the project.
Supporting	PBF: USD	The project's main goal is to	This project will support better joint coordination,

young people's peacebuilding participation in Kyrgyzstan: integrating a youth-led mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) approach	599,732.22	improve young people's meaningful participation in community decision-making and peacebuilding by reducing the psycho-social barriers, transforming harmful gender norms that contribute to conflict and violence, and gender-sensitively addressing their mental health concerns and priorities	reporting, and M&E of the project.
<b>Concept note:</b> In Search for Shared Heritage and Prosperity for Peace	PBF; \$3,572,000	The project will address multidimensional drivers of conflict – expanding sustainable livelihoods, raising awareness about the common heritage and environmental resilience, as well as strengthening capacities for inter-cultural dialogue, conflict resolution and cooperation, especially for women and the youth – to enhance confidence and mutual trust among the communities living in the border areas. The project will also enable contacts between the Kyrgyz and Tajik civil society, scientists, experts, media representatives and other groups within regional platforms and networks will help build linkages and shape the positive narrative to overcome distrust and foster reconciliation.	This project will support better joint coordination, reporting, and M&E of the project.

## **I. Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy (4 pages max Plus Results Framework Annex)**

- a) A brief **description of the project content** – in a nutshell, what are the main results the project is trying to achieve, the implementation strategy, and how it addresses the conflict causes or factors outlined in Section I (must be gender- and age- sensitive).

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the partnership with the Government around the PBF programming, improve the coordination of projects, better aligned M&E frameworks, and monitoring of higher peacebuilding results of PBF investments in Kyrgyzstan.

### **1. Support to effective operation of the Joint Steering Committee**

The Joint Steering Committee oversees and provides strategic direction to the PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan. The PBF Secretariat will provide support to the Committee to fulfil this function through the following activities:

- Technical, logistical support to the JSC
- Develop and implement monitoring and evaluation activities for the PBF portfolio in close coordination with RUNOs and key counterparts
- Act as liaison between JSC, RUNOs, PBSO

The overall role of Secretariat is to ensure the effective operation of the JSC by coordinating all key stakeholders including authorities, UN, civil society in implementing the Peacebuilding Fund's portfolio during 2021-2026 in Kyrgyzstan –. The Secretariat also performs functions related to monitoring the progress towards peacebuilding priority outcomes (identified within the SRF) utilizing specific mechanisms for oversight and coordination, such as the Outcome Working Groups as well as traditional monitoring mechanisms such as the baseline and end line surveys and possibly community-based monitoring scheme. The Secretariat will seek to support the implementation of joint and enhanced UN standards of monitoring and evaluation

## 2. Support to RUNOs and implementing partners

Secretariat will provide assistance and guidance to RUNOs/NUNOs through coordinating activities, joint processes, liaising with PBF, RUNOs/NUNOs, government, civil society, development partners and expert community. Specific activities include:

- Technical support, advice and coordination of capacity-building activities for RUNOs and other implementing partners for project design, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of individual projects according to PBF guidelines, including GYPI projects and with a focus on GEWE and youth involvement.
- Quality control of regularly submitted donor reports.
- Work with lead agencies to ensure joint planning, joint analyses, integrated policy and advisory services; coordinated and complementary implementation of activities, joint M& E, communications and knowledge management products
- Act as a liaison between RUNOs and PBSO and provide technical assistance for transfers, no-cost/cost extensions.
- Support to increase visibility and ensure that communication mechanisms are in place to raise public awareness about peacebuilding efforts in Kyrgyzstan, highlighting project impacts.
- Support for increasing catalytic impact of projects, including on resource mobilization to increase sustainability of results.

In addition to the above functions, the PBF Secretariat will continue spearheading the implementation of Learning and Adaptation strategy to enable consistent learning of the context, calculation of risks and adjustment in implementation to maximize the impact.

- b) Provide a **project-level 'theory of change'** – i.e. explain the type of change envisaged by the project and how do you expect the project interventions to lead to results and why have these interventions been selected. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on?

*(Note: Change may happen through various and diverse approaches, i.e. social cohesion may be fostered through dialogue or employment opportunities or joint management of infrastructure. The selection of which approach should depend on context-specific factors. What basic assumptions about how change will occur have driven your choice of programming approach?)*

## The Theory of Change

***The key development challenge the Secretariat seeks to contribute in addressing is***

The Secretariat's objective is to support the UN Resident Coordinator in his role of strategic coordinator of peacebuilding initiatives in the country by ensuring collaboration, synergy and knowledge management. The PBF Secretariat promotes government stakeholders' and civils society partners' engagement through multiple platforms, including foremost, the PBF Joint Steering

Committee. The Secretariat will track and analyze the evolving context and provide timely insights to UN agencies and partners on possible programme modifications and adaptations.

The abovementioned goals are achieved through providing quality services both to the Joint Steering Committee and RUNOs on partnership, policy dialogue, coordination, communication and monitoring and evaluation against peacebuilding priorities and SRF. In addition, the learning and fostered by the Secretariat based on the results of UN agencies and partners will support making peacebuilding initiatives tailored and effective.

With continued assistance of PBF, the Secretariat in Kyrgyzstan will be able to support the implementation of the strategic peacebuilding priorities for 2021-2026. In order to achieve these outcomes, the Secretariat needs to play a meaningful coordination role, involving all key stakeholders.

To ensure the coordinated portfolio-wide approach to peacebuilding the project will work with state institutions, civic and civil society organizations of Kyrgyzstan, RUNOs/NUNOs, implementing partners, expert community and other development partners working on issues related to the peacebuilding priorities of the new eligibility cycle and Strategic Results Outcomes, as well as additional GYPI and cross-border projects funded by PBF. The O Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic, in particular the Department for Political and Economic Studies is expected to be key counterparts of the project implementation.

#### **Project Outcome:**

**The PBF programming is strengthened and aligned to peace priorities in the country through enhanced relevance, synergies between projects, effective, quality and timely coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, as well as communication.**

The Secretariat assists the JSC in periodic review of Kyrgyzstan's peacebuilding and conflict prevention work, and associated objectives and guidelines, in response to evolving security, political and socio-economic issues in Kyrgyzstan and the JSC's ongoing consultation with PBF. It also prepares annual strategic reports on behalf of UNRC and JSC to the head of PBF.

Under the overall supervision of JSC co-chairs, the Secretariat ensures transparent information flow among members of the JSC and all relevant stakeholders and provides overall coordination in monitoring of the progress towards peacebuilding outcomes, including joint advocacy, outreach and progress of PBF-funded projects in Kyrgyzstan towards the results. The Secretariat will comprise of 2-3 staff members (and where required consultancy support).

Secretariat will ensure the knowledge building and management on experience related to JSC operation and associated results. The Secretariat may foster cooperation between the JSC members and RUNOs outside regular JSC meetings to address operational or substantive matters in the course of project implementation. The PBF Secretariat will also support the communication activities pertinent to JSC operation (through e.g. UN system website, and other communication channels).

The Secretariat works as a liaison office with the PBSO on all issues related to coordination, reporting, communication, monitoring and evaluation, quality of evaluation, budget reallocations and other issues related to project coordination.

**Output 1: The coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting and communication of the results of the PBF portfolio are carried out by the PBF Secretariat to allow for more effective implementation of peacebuilding interventions.**

#### **Activity 1.1: The PBF secretariat is operational**

The following actions will be carried out:

- Hiring and supervision of PBF secretariat team
- Services for the functioning of secretariat

**Activity 1.2: The coordination of the PBF portfolio is effective and facilitates the achievement of strategic results**

The following actions will be carried out:

- Liaise with PBSO on issues related to PBF procedures, rules and regulations, and act a local repository of knowledge regarding PBF rules and regulations and related management arrangements.
- Establish regular coordination mechanisms at the technical level between RUNOs working under SRF strategic outcomes, promoting synergies, learning and collaboration.
- Ensuring linkages of strategic peacebuilding priorities to national processes, in particular the civic identity concept of the Kyrgyz Republic “Kyrgyz Jarany” 2021-2026, the Concept of state policy of the Kyrgyz Republic in the religious sphere for 2021-2026, UNDAF (2018-2022) and the new UNSDCF (2023-2027),
- Support RUNO and NUNO in conducting regular reviews of project TOC also in relation to the SRF, adapt and modify based on need and learning
- Facilitate the development of peacebuilding projects under the SRF 2021-2025, providing guidance and technical assistance to key national counterparts, including for GYPI projects
- Support the strengthening of capacities of RUNOs and implementing partners on conflict analysis, conflict-sensitive programming, peacebuilding, M&E communications, GEWE and PBF Gender Marker and ensure that lessons learned and recommendations from previous peacebuilding work are taken into account.
- Organize thought platforms, thematic engagement (conferences) as well as capacity building with the government and civil society to review peacebuilding priorities, results and lessons learnt both within and beyond PBF
- Oversee and ensure integration of PBF Gender Marker objectives, including at least 30% of project funds used to advance GEWE.
- Work with lead implementing agencies to ensure joint analyses, joint planning, integrated policy and advisory services, coordinated implementation of project activities and joint reporting
- Design and implementation of strategy for resource mobilization for sustaining initiatives funded by the PBF and their catalytic effects.
- In coordination with PBF and Peace and Development team, organize platforms, dialogues as a learning exercises and experience exchanges for national and international stakeholders.

**Activity 1.3. System for monitoring and evaluation of PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan established**

The following actions will be carried out:

- Support the design and implementation of a joint M&E system to monitor programmatic and financial progress of PBF portfolio
- Conduct monitoring of indicators of high-level results defined in the Strategic Framework, designing methodology and tools
- Offer technical assistance to RUNOs on the implementation of the M&E system (including through engaging the PBSO capacities).
- Offer technical assistance to RUNOs and other implementing partners to ensure quality control of semi-annual, annual and final reports, using indicators defined in Project Documents (including through engaging the PBSO capacities)
- Offer ad hoc technical assistance to RUNOs in cross-border projects, including in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan (upon request)

**Output 2. The JSC supported for strategic oversight and communication of the PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan**

## Activity 2.1 Strengthening capacities of JSC for supervision and M&E of PBF projects

The following actions will be carried out:

- Providing JSC/UNCT secretarial support for Peacebuilding/conflict prevention initiatives including organizing meetings, recording minutes and sharing documents with members and observers of the JSC and UNCT. Coordinating interactions between UNCT and state institutions within strategic peacebuilding priorities implementation
- Review and ensure quality assurance of all documentation before their presentation to the JSC and PBSO, and to ensure their alignment with PBF strategic priorities.
- Engage JCS in field monitoring of project progress, results and lessons learnt;
- Raise awareness of JSC members on peacebuilding issues, including on social cohesion, , GEWE and youth empowerment.
- Organize thematic international-development partners-government-civil society dialogue platforms on the peacebuilding issues (eg. civic space, polarization, partnerships etc.)
- Supporting regional exchanges and participation of JSC members in peace-related events

## Activity 2.2 Increasing communication and visibility of PBF portfolio

- Support communication of PBF portfolio results and peacebuilding messages to promote awareness amongst the public, Government, civil society, and international partners
- Advise RUNOS and other implementing partners on the PBF standards of visibility and communication;
- Design products and materials for visibility of PBF projects including the success stories based on country level results emanating from projects.
- Conduct the learning and adaptation processes in support of the Kyrgyzstan's portfolio knowledge management
- Document experiences and lessons learnt, develop and disseminate knowledge products with the JSC, PBF, national partners and the public

c) **Project result framework**, outlining all project outcomes, outputs, activities with indicators of progress, baselines and targets (must be gender- and age- sensitive). Use **Annex B**; no need to provide additional narrative here.

d) **Project targeting and sequencing strategy** – provide justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, expected number and type of beneficiaries and justification, timing among various activities, any measures to ensure coherence and connection between outcomes, and any other information on implementation approach (must be gender- and age-sensitive). No need to repeat all outputs and activities from the Result Framework.

PBF Secretariat will support all projects funded by PBF working in different geographic zones with a broad variety of beneficiaries to ensure strong coherence and coordination between different outcomes.

## II. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local know-how and existing capacity. Also fill out the table below for each recipient organization:

PBF Secretariat as part of the UN RCO with UNDP's support as an Administrative Agent locally has an extensive experience in managing, coordinating and providing secretariat support to joint projects that require multi-stakeholder coordination. Such experience includes coordination, management and implementation support including reporting to MPTF and Joint Steering Committee in accordance with MPTF requirements. Implementation of the previous two PPPs helped build in-house capacity to coordinate various stakeholders in complex projects as well as to contribute to the coherence and effective results using the Delivering as One model principles.

- b) **Project management and coordination** – present the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements and ensure link with PBF Secretariat if it exists. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in **Annex C** and attach key staff TORs.

Coordination arrangement is carried mainly through regular meetings, consultations and learning and adaptation platforms with project implementation agencies and partners, organizing and participating in monitoring, review and evaluation missions; ensuring integration of gender and youth in project documents; joint reporting and communication processes and participation at the JSC meetings of all relevant stakeholders with presence of national counterparts, civil society, RUNOs and NUNOs, donors and development partners. Detailed list of responsibilities of the PBF Secretariat is provided in the Annex E of this project document

Additional coordination arrangements may be made by creation of coordination mechanisms within projects and across projects on issues such as gender, youth, human rights and work in the same geographic locations.

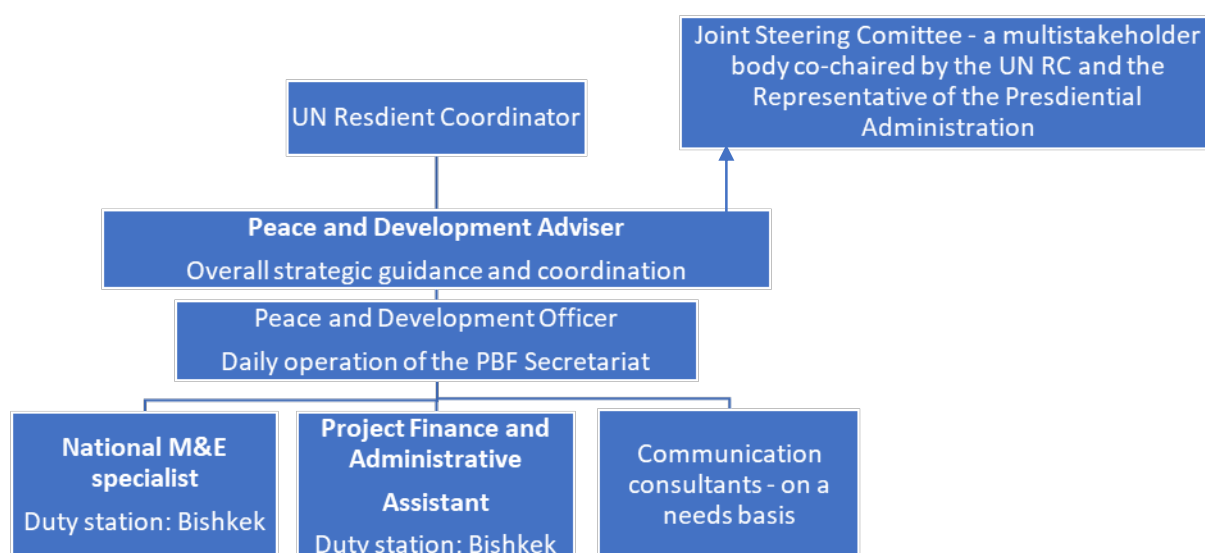
<b>RUNOs/National Counterparts/Implementing Partners/Others</b>	<b>Roles and Contributions</b>	<b>Duration/Period of Engagement</b>
Office of the President/ Department on Monitoring Humanitarian Development and Interaction with Civil Society Institutions	Streamlining expectation on the side of national counterparts on the needs and approaches for engagement with projects	5 years
JSC members	Review and approval of proposals to be submitted to PBF (including budget re-allocations)  Input and feedback on reports presented by implementing agencies and/or by the Secretariat  Participation in joint (with RUNOs/NUNOs) monitoring activities,	5 years
UN Agencies and CSO recipients of PBF funding (NUNOs)	Ensuring integration of PBF and UNDS programming principles: joint analysis and planning, integrated policy and advisory services, coordinated implementation, joint monitoring, reporting, evaluation and communications on activities	5 years

Donor community and other development partners	Communication of extant and planned projects to avoid duplication/create synergies, and enhance opportunities to mobilize additional resources	5 years
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### Organizational arrangement

The Secretariat shall operate under the overall management of the Peace and Development Officer, who will working under the supervision and strategic guidance of the Peace and Development Adviser, to ensure synergies, programming, lessons learnt, learning and adaptation practices, to improve the overall effectiveness of the PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan. The Secretariat shall be responsible for the effective implementation of Outputs 1 and 2 of this project document. In addition, the PBF Secretariat will include 2 staff positions – Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, as well as Administrative, Finance and Logistical Associate. In addition, the Secretariat may engage consultants to support the implementation of the Outputs. .

### Organizational Chart of Project Management Structure



Duty station of the project's staff is Bishkek city with regular field trips to the target areas of the PBF-funded projects. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of PBF-funded projects would be done in all respective geographic sites where RUNOs implement their interventions.

- c) **Risk management** – assess the level of risk for project success (low, medium and high) and provide a list of major project specific risks and how they will be managed, including the approach to updating risks and making project adjustments. Include any Do No Harm issues and project mitigation.

**Table 5 – Risk management matrix**

Risks to the achievements of PPP outcomes	Likelihood of occurrence (high, medium, low)	Severity of risk impact (high, medium, low)	Mitigating Strategy
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	<b>low)</b>		
Political and social disruption	Medium	High	Monitoring the situation, assisting JSC, UN, government partners and civil society to sustain ownership of the process and jointly manage external risks.
Weak interagency (and interproject) cooperation – fragmentation of programming	Medium	Low	As per the framework established in the management and coordination section of this document the PBF Secretariat will carry out regular meetings with the teams, and between relevant teams as necessary to ensure a portfolio-driven cooperation. RC might engage senior level agency leadership if the non-compliance persists. Escalation to PBF or DCO HQ might be needed in case of Agencies' non-compliance.
Weakening political will to achieve priority outcomes of the strategic results framework, incl. e.g. sidelining (gradual decline in significance) of the Kyrgyz Jarany policy	Medium	High	Arrange continuous dialogue with state bodies and other stakeholders (at technical or management levels as the case may be) to discuss the projects, specific activities being implemented and their engagement in achieving the strategic results and projects' objectives
Implementation capacity of Implementing Partners	Low	Medium	Build capacity enhancement of implementing partners into project design and implementation, and support peer learning and exchanges between implementing partners.
Outbreak of violent conflict and natural disasters that could cause delays in implementation	Medium	High	Continuous monitoring of changing conflict dynamics and application of Do No Harm methodology to ensure that all projects are conflict sensitive, making adjustments to project design where needed
Operational: Recruitment delays due to protracted procedures and/or lack of qualified candidates	High	Medium	Agree recruitment plan and timeline with Operations Team of UNDP, and have the plan signed off by both the RR and RC. Continued and regular follow ups with the operations team, engaging senior management where necessary.

- d) **Monitoring and evaluation** – What will be the M&E approach for the project, including M&E expertise in the project team and main means and timing of collecting data? Include a break-down of M&E budget that the project is putting aside, including for collection of baseline and end line data for indicators and for an independent evaluation, and an approximate M&E timeline. Ensure at least 5-7% of the project budget is set aside for M&E activities, including sufficient funds for a quality independent evaluation.

The Secretariat will be responsible for supporting the Monitoring and Evaluation of the entire PBF portfolio, including specifically the M&E of the Strategic Results Framework. Assistance and guidance will be provided to the JSC and RUNOs/NUNOs through quality control of half-yearly, annual and end of project programmatic reports.

The Secretariat will be responsible for designing and building M&E systems at the higher strategic (SRF) level:

- Provide guidance to RUNOs/NUNOs in designing project level M&E systems ensuring joint M and E approaches,
- Provide guidance and support to the possible refining of the Results Framework of all PBF funded projects;
- Provide guidance on improving the M&E Plans for all PBF funded projects;
- Supporting the design instruments of data collections/analysis/visualization;
- Providing technical support on M&E issues to RUNOs/NUNOs;
- Disseminating reporting requirements of PRF/IRF projects;
- Supporting the work of joint Baseline/Endline surveys.

To sustain M&E systems at high strategic level (+other PBF funded projects) the Secretariat will:

- Ensure the baseline and endline data collection related to SRF indicators to measure higher peacebuilding impact of the interventions;
- Ensure timeliness of project reporting of RUNOs/NUNOs and quality of the reporting;
- Conduct joint field monitoring visits with RUNOs/NUNOs/RCO/JSC/PBSO/Donors/IPs

Measuring the impact at high strategic level (+other PBF funded projects) will be done through:

- Overseeing the process of the project evaluations, especially and specifically liaising with the PBSO on the quality of evaluations products (TORs, inception reports, evaluation reports etc.);
- Provide guidance on end-line surveys of PBF funded projects;
- Working with PBSO to manage a final external evaluation of PBF funded projects.
- Help guide and ensure that project-level joint final evaluations are conducted on time and with sufficient budget. Ensure that ToRs of Final evaluations at project level are approved by PBF.

Throughout the project and in particular, at the end of the project the Secretariat will disseminate lessons learned, good practices and innovations.

As this project does not envisage field activities, but the support to UN Agencies, JSC and partners, the monitoring system of this project itself requires only data collection that are available at the office.

- e) **Project exit strategy/ sustainability** – Briefly explain the project’s exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do concretely and pro-actively to try to ensure this support from the start. If relevant, what are project links to any existing platforms or partnerships?

As the PBF Secretariat is linked to the PBF investments in the country, its existence depends on the PBF financing, which in this current cycle ends in 2026. The exit strategy of the project is more linked to the exit strategy (sustainability strategy) of the PBF engagement as a whole, and is based on supporting the capacities of national partners in implementing peacebuilding and conflict-prevention programmes that support social cohesion and address vulnerabilities in border areas. For example, capacities will be built in the Ministry of Culture and the National Institute for Strategic Studies (NISS) to operationalize the Kyrgyz Jarany civic identity concept through the Early Warning and

Early Response (EWER) system. The Secretariat's coordination and M&E function will contribute to the Ministry of Culture's and NISS' ability to exercise ownership over the EWER after the project ends. The Secretariat will work to ensure that the knowledge of peacebuilding approaches as well as instruments of coordination will stay with the JSC members and the Administration of the President beyond the project. Linking this project to PDA capacities in Kyrgyzstan (PDO serving as PBF Secretariat project manager) would allow the knowledge transfer and continuation of peacebuilding strategic thinking in Kyrgyzstan within the UN RCO.

### III. Project budget

If helpful, provide any additional information on projects costs, highlighting any specific choices that have underpinned the budget preparation, especially for personnel, travel or other indirect project support, to demonstrate value for money for the project. Proposed budget for all projects must include funds for independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit.

State clearly in how many tranches the budget will be provided and what conditions will underpin the release of a second or any subsequent tranche. Standard approach is two tranches for UN recipients and three tranches for non-UN recipients with the second tranche being released upon demonstration by the project (by the Coordinating Agency on behalf of the project and through the Resident Coordinator's Office or PBF Secretariat) that the first tranche has been expensed or committed to at least 75% between the recipients and upon completion of any regular PBF reports due in the period elapsed. Additional tranches or conditions may be added depending on the project context, implementation capacity, and level of risk.

Funds transfers will be made in two performance-based tranches. Tranche two will be released upon authorization by PBF that the following benchmark or condition have been met:

- Evidence of expenditure of 80% of the first tranche

**Table 2: Project Output/Activity Budget**

Output number	Output names	Output budget	Amount allocated to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (at least 10%)	UN budget category (see table below for list of categories)
Output 1	<b>The coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting and communication of the results of the PBF portfolio are carried out by the PBF Secretariat to allow for more effective implementation of peacebuilding interventions.</b>	156,100	74,550	Contractual services, travels
Output 2	<b>The JSC supported for strategic oversight and communication of the PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan</b>	163,800	46,900	Contractual services, , travel

	<b>PBF Secretariat Salaries, Office rent, utilities, equipment , baseline study and midterm review</b>	265,020	132,510	
	<b>Indirect support cost</b>	40,944		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ , 625864.40</b>	<b>\$ 271737.20</b>	

**Table 3: Project budget by UN categories**

<b>Project Budget by PBF Cost Categories</b>	<b>AMOUNT UNDP</b>		<b>TOTAL in USD</b>
<b>JSC Secretariat operational and technical costs</b>	<b>Tranche 1 in USD</b>	<b>Tranche 2 in USD</b>	
1. Staff and other personnel cost	122,724	52,596	175,320
2. Supplies, commodities, materials	0	0	0
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture including depreciation	3500	1500	5000
4. Contractual services	213,220	91,380	304,600
5. Travel	45,710	19,590	65,300
6. Transfers and grants to counterparts	0	0	0
7. General operating and other direct costs	24,290	10,410	34,700
Sub-Total Project Costs	409,444	175,476	584,920
8. Indirect support costs (not exceed 7%)*	28,661.08	12,283.32	40,944.4
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>438,104.08</b>	<b>187,759.32</b>	<b>625,864.4</b>

\* The rate shall not exceed 7% of the total of categories 1-7, as specified in the PBF MOU and should follow the rules and guidelines of each recipient organization. Note that Agency-incurred direct project implementation costs should be charged to the relevant budget line, according to the Agency's regulations, rules and procedures.

Fill out two tables in the Excel budget **Annex D**.



## **Annex A.1: Project Administrative arrangements for UN Recipient Organizations**

*(This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)*

The UNDP MPTF Office serves as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the PBF and is responsible for the receipt of donor contributions, the transfer of funds to Recipient UN Organizations, the consolidation of narrative and financial reports and the submission of these to the PBSO and the PBF donors. As the Administrative Agent of the PBF, MPTF Office transfers funds to RUNOS on the basis of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between each RUNO and the MPTF Office.

### **AA Functions**

On behalf of the Recipient Organizations, and in accordance with the UNDG-approved “Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi Donor Trust Funds and Joint Programmes, and One UN funds” (2008), the MPTF Office as the AA of the PBF will:

- Disburse funds to each of the RUNO in accordance with instructions from the PBSO. The AA will normally make each disbursement within three (3) to five (5) business days after having received instructions from the PBSO along with the relevant Submission form and Project document signed by all participants concerned;
- Consolidate the financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF annual consolidated progress reports to the donors and the PBSO;
- Proceed with the operational and financial closure of the project in the MPTF Office system once the completion is completed by the RUNO. A project will be considered as operationally closed upon submission of a joint final narrative report. In order for the MPTF Office to financially closed a project, each RUNO must refund unspent balance of over 250 USD, indirect cost (GMS) should not exceed 7% and submission of a certified final financial statement by the recipient organizations’ headquarters);
- Disburse funds to any RUNO for any costs extension that the PBSO may decide in accordance with the PBF rules & regulations.

### **Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations**

Recipient United Nations Organizations will assume full financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

Each RUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent from the PBF account. This separate ledger account shall be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures, including those relating to interest. The separate ledger account shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to the RUNO.

Each RUNO will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Semi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by

		PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

#### Financial reporting and timeline

Timeline	Event
<b>30 April</b>	Annual reporting – Report <b>Q4 expenses</b> (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<b><i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i></b>	

UNEX also opens for voluntary financial reporting for UN recipient organizations the following dates

<b>31 July</b>	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
<b>31 October</b>	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.

#### Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in UNDP, with the custodianship of the items remaining in the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the RUNO shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

#### Public Disclosure

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Administrative Agent's website (<http://mptf.undp.org>).

## **Annex A.2: Project Administrative arrangements for Non-UN Recipient Organizations**

*(This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)*

### **Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient Non-United Nations Organization:**

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each recipient in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will have full responsibility for ensuring that the Activity is implemented in accordance with the signed Project Document;

In the event of a financial review, audit or evaluation recommended by PBSO, the cost of such activity should be included in the project budget;

Ensure professional management of the Activity, including performance monitoring and reporting activities in accordance with PBSO guidelines.

Ensure compliance with the Financing Agreement and relevant applicable clauses in the Fund MOU.

### **Reporting:**

Each Receipt will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Bi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

## Financial reports and timeline

Timeline	Event
31 July	Report Q2 expenses (January to June)
28 February	Report Q4 expenses (January to December)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</i>	

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the Administrative Agent, no later than three months (31 March) of the year following the completion of the activities.

### Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the Recipient Non-UN Recipient Organization will be determined in accordance with applicable policies and procedures defined by the PBSO.

### Public Disclosure

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Administrative Agent website (<http://www.mptf.undp.org>)

### Final Project Audit for non-UN recipient organization projects

An independent project audit will be requested by the end of the project. The audit report needs to be attached to the final narrative project report. The cost of such activity must be included in the project budget.

### Special Provisions regarding Financing of Terrorism

Consistent with UN Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism, including UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and 1267 (1999) and related resolutions, the Participants are firmly committed to the international fight against terrorism, and in particular, against the financing of terrorism. Similarly, all Recipient Organizations recognize their obligation to comply with any applicable sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council. Each of the Recipient Organizations will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement are not used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime. If, during the term of this agreement, a Recipient Organization determines that there are credible allegations that funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement have been used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime it will as soon as it becomes aware of it inform the head of PBSO, the Administrative Agent and the donor(s) and, in consultation with the donors as appropriate, determine an appropriate response.

### Non-UN recipient organization (NUNO) eligibility:

In order to be declared eligible to receive PBF funds directly, NUNOs must be assessed as technically, financially and legally sound by the PBF and its agent, the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO). Prior to submitting a finalized project document, it is the responsibility of each NUNO to liaise with PBSO and MPTFO and provide all the necessary documents (see below) to demonstrate that all the criteria have been fulfilled and to be declared as eligible for direct PBF funds.

The NUNO must provide (in a timely fashion, ensuring PBSO and MPTFO have sufficient time to review the package) the documentation demonstrating that the NUNO:

- Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation
- Has a current valid registration as a non-profit, tax exempt organization with a social based mission in both the country where headquarter is located and in country of project implementation for the duration of the proposed grant. (**NOTE:** If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project, in order to receive subsequent funding tranches)
- Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant
- Commissions audited financial statements, available for the last two years, including the auditor opinion letter. The financial statements should include the legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the country of implementation, if applicable) as well as the activities of the country of implementation. (**NOTE:** If these are not available for the country of proposed project implementation, the CSO will also need to provide the latest two audit reports for a program or project based audit in country.) The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is part of the nationally qualified audit firms.
- Demonstrates an annual budget in the country of proposed project implementation for the previous two calendar years, which is at least twice the annualized budget sought from PBF for the project<sup>18</sup>
- Demonstrates at least 3 years of experience in the country where grant is sought
- Provides a clear explanation of the CSO's legal structure, including the specific entity which will enter into the legal agreement with the MPTF-O for the PBF grant.

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<sup>18</sup> Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of project duration months and multiplying by 12.

## Annex B: Project Results Framework (MUST include sex- and age disaggregated data)

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	indicator milestones
The PBF programming is strengthened and relevant to peace priorities in the country through enhanced relevance, synergies between projects, effective, quality and timely coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, as well as communication..	<b>Output 1:</b> The coordination, monitoring and evaluation, reporting and communication of the results of the PBF portfolio are carried out by the PBF Secretariat to allow for more effective implementation of peacebuilding interventions.  <b>Activity 1.1:</b> The PBF secretariat is operational <b>Activity 1.2:</b> The coordination of the PBF portfolio is effective and facilitates the achievement of strategic results <b>Activity 1.3:</b> System for monitoring and evaluation of PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan established	Indicator 1.1 Annual Report submitted within 10 days of the deadline with quality acceptable by PBSO review team  Baseline: 0 Target: 5	Transmittal e-mail of JSC Annual Report	
		Indicator 1.2 Baseline survey for the SRF has been carried out  Baseline: 0 Target: 1	The report availability	
		Indicator 1.3. # of 6 workshops on conflict sensitivity, M&E standards, learning and adaptation are carried out.  Baseline: 0 Target: 6		
		Indicator 1.4. # of communication products (in addition 15 engagement with the RUNOs produced.  Baseline: 0 Target: 2	Evidence of communication actions (and availability of products)	
		Indicator 1.5. # of RUNOs believing that their M&E improved due to PBF Secretariat support  Baseline: 0 Target: 7		
	<b>Output 2.</b> The JSC supported for strategic oversight and communication of the PBF portfolio in Kyrgyzstan  <b>Activity 2.1</b> Strengthening capacities of JSC for supervision and M&E of PBF projects <b>Activity 2.2</b> Increasing communication and visibility of PBF portfolio	Indicator 2.1 # of PBF JSC meetings  Baseline: 0 Target: 6 (2 per year)	bi-annual partnership survey	
		Indicator 2.2 # of joint monitoring visits with participation of the JSC members  Baseline: 0 Target: 2	bi-annual partnership survey	
		Indicator 2.3	Online survey	

		The level of satisfaction with Secretariat's job among JSC and RUNOs Baseline: N/A  Target: 80%		

### Annex C: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	✓		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Plz attach to the submission	✓		
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	✓		
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence of the project? Please state when this was done or when it will be done.	✓		
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done? If not, what analysis remains to be done to enable implementation and proposed timeline?	✓		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	✓		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?	✓		
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	✓		
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?	N/A		

Annex D: Detailed and UNDG budgets (attached Excel sheet)

#### Annex E: Responsibilities of the PBF Secretariat:

The PBF Secretariat, which is under the direct supervision of the UNRC, provides organizational, methodological and technical support for the JSC activities:

1. Ensure timely submission of well-developed documents to the JSC meeting and based on the outcomes of the JSC activities (minutes, attachments and so forth);
2. Provide timely information to the JSC members on ongoing/planned projects and decisions of the JSC;
3. Ensure transparent information flow between members of the JSC;
4. Provide full support in organizing meetings, recording minutes and sharing documents with members of the JSC as well as invitation of UN system representatives, development partners and the civil society. The Department for Political and Economic Studies of the Presidential Administration will invite the representatives of the state bodies;
5. Document, communicate and ensure follow-up of the JSC's decisions by coordinating with relevant state bodies, UN agencies and development partners;
6. On the assignment of the JSC Co-chairs, organize online discussions and decision making based on the online voting on relevant issues
7. Maintain a list of implementing partners engaged in the implementation of PBF-funded projects;
8. Support inter-project coordination and support in fulfilling guidance the guidance provided from the JSC Co-chairs on any issues pertaining to effective project implementation;
9. Interact with the project managers to identify problems that may arise in relation to project delivery and management and advise the co-chairs and the JSC on appropriate action, with follow up and reporting back on progress or lack thereof;
10. Prepare reports and status updates based on inputs from RUNOs for JSC members;
11. Act as a local repository of knowledge regarding the rules and regulations of the PBF and related management arrangements;
12. Coordinate with the national partners and other relevant state bodies within the UNPBF projects;
13. Prepare applications and other documents for project extension together with the heads of relevant state bodies and development partners as well as submission for signatures by the JSC Co-chairs.
14. Promote awareness on the PBF interventions amongst Government, civil society, the public and international partners through updating information in the UN PBF section on the website of UN in the Kyrgyz Republic;
15. Document issues and provide information to the JSC members and the PBSO on “lessons learnt”;
16. Support activities aiming to build the capacity of the JSC members;

17. Provide oversight for ensuring the inclusion of normative standards, such as gender in project documents jointly and in agreement with the relevant state bodies and UN Agencies;
  18. Track and collect information on the work of international organizations, missions, CSO and other cross-sectorial working groups linked to peacebuilding;
  19. Ensure linkages between PBF funded work and national processes including development and implementation of relevant strategic frameworks;
  20. Contribute to specific project impact monitoring and evaluation (including independent impact evaluations)
  21. Monitor the conflict of interest and timely inform the JSC Co-chairs in case of such a conflict interest occurred;
  22. Ensure that the JSC members comply to the JSC's ToR;
- Any other related tasks as directed by the JSC Co-Chairs.