



**Guinea-Bissau Peacebuilding Fund**  
**ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2010**

<p><b>Submitted by:</b> Tracey Hebert, Director, Senegal Operations Centre - UNOPS, Dakar TraceyH@unops.org</p>	<p><b>Country and Thematic Area<sup>2</sup></b> Guinea-Bissau – Security and Justice Sector Reform</p>
<p><b>Programme No:</b> PBF/GNB/B-2 <b>MDTF Office Atlas No:</b></p> <p><b>Programme Title:</b> Rehabilitation of Military Barracks.</p>	<p><b>Participating Organization(s):</b> UNOPS</p>
<p><b>Implementing Partners:</b>  Ministry of National Defense</p>	<p><b>Programme Budget (from the Fund):</b> <i>For Joint Programme provide breakdown by UN Organization</i> UN Org A (UNOPS) : USD 1,905,000</p>

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<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>2</sup> E.g. Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Thematic Window for the Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDG-F); etc.

***Programme Duration (in months):18***

Start date<sup>3</sup>: July 2008

End date:

- *Original end date : November 2009*
- *Revised end date, if applicable: March 2011*
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- *Operational Closure Date*<sup>4</sup>, *if applicable:*

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

*List budget revisions and extensions, with approval dates, if applicable*

## **I. Purpose**

Guinea-Bissau is going through a process of relative and fragile peace which needs to be reinforced and consolidated through concrete measures aimed at preventing attempts to compromise an already-difficult situation through the use of force for purposes of justifying an action or resolving a dispute.

There is an urgent need to consolidate peace in Guinea-Bissau through the promotion of normal functioning of state institutions and in accordance with democratic norms and constitutional measures.

The economic and financial situation in Guinea-Bissau does not permit the country to resolve the crucial and pressing problems it faces. Consequently, Guinea-Bissau can only confront this difficult situation through the support of the international community, particularly the United Nations system.

In this connection, Guinea-Bissau Armed Forces personnel are faced with the difficult problem of living in precarious and inhuman conditions in the military barracks – the dormitories are dilapidated, with bathhouses in an advanced state of degradation. These facilities lack water and electrical supply or alternative sources of electricity and are without proper kitchens or dining halls. These deficiencies have transformed the military barracks into places where diseases can fester and where safety is at risk given the crumbling walls and falling roofs.

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<sup>3</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent.

<sup>4</sup> All activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MDTF programme have been completed. Agencies to advise the MDTF Office.

As almost all the military barracks were built in the colonial period and not been maintained over the years, they are in an advanced state of dilapidation. The military barracks project aims to

1) Rehabilitate 33 military barracks in 11 localities, in order to improve the living conditions of more than 4,000 military personnel, and

2) Create a safe environment in the military barracks, thus reducing prospects for discontentment and revolt. One of the overall objectives of this project is to reinforce the process of peace stabilization.

Implementing this project for the rehabilitation of dormitories, service areas, water supply and bathhouses could be seen as the government being proactive and the international community partnering to achieve the consolidation of sustainable peace and stability.

The project was designed to be executed in four sectors, corresponding to the 4 geographical areas involved, and implementation was foreseen to start simultaneously in these four areas. This approach was supposed to help facilitate follow up and monitoring, as well as ensure that the impact of the project is felt across the board.

- East sector : Bafata and Gabu
- South sector: Quebo and Buba
- North sector: Cantchungo and Buba

According to the technical team and following the assessment undertaken during the first quarter of year 2009, the budget of US\$ 1,905,000 allocated to the project is not sufficient to meet the real needs. Therefore, the national implementing partners suggested excluding the dormitories and services areas and to rehabilitate only the sanitation areas, the kitchen areas and the dining halls. The technical team also recommended the selection of units/surfaces to be rehabilitated during the first phase.

The revised project document affected the output number 1 through the reformulation of the project document approved by the NSC in December 2009. The new proposal stated that the total number of rehabilitation would be 3 units instead of total/partial rehabilitation of 10 units as initially projected.

Therefore, three units were selected for rehabilitation by the Ministry of National Defense through the project's management committee: the military barracks of Gabu and Quebo, both located inside the country for total rehabilitation and equipment supply for partial rehabilitation of Amura fortress located in Bissau city.

## **II. Resources**

### ***Financial Resources:***

The total budget allocated to the project is USD 1,905,000 including a 7% indirect cost estimated at US \$ 124,626.17.

Based on the revised project document, the successful bidders for Quebo and Gabu military barracks have signed their contracts in July 2010, respectively for USD 327,505.77 and USD 519,332.48.

A third contractor selected through competitive process will deliver building materials for Amura fortress with a contract total amount of USD 125,550.

After the bidding process, a fourth contractor specializing in water supply implementation has been selected for digging wells and building water tanks facilities for the military barracks located in Gabu and Quebo - total amount of the contract: USD 79,592.

As of December 2010, the expenditures of the project total up to USD 1,871,421 representing a delivery rate of 98 %.

### **Financial status report as of December 2010**

Total approved budget	2008 expenditures	2009 expenditures	2010 expenditures		Total expenditures	Balance
			Disbursement	Obligations		
1 905 000	66 433	387 852	735 374	681 762	1 871 421	33 579

The 2010 budget balance of USD 33,579 will serve to cover expenditures incurred during the period to complete the project beyond December 2010. However, UNOPS is still waiting for the approval of the request for no-cost extension from the national counterpart.

#### ***Human Resources:***

During year 2010, the operational unit of the project was composed of six (6) national staff. Two (2) national architects, two (2) engineers, one (1) administrative assistant and one (1) driver. One of the national architects is also appointed as project manager.

Due to budget constraints and because the works is about to complete, the project has decided not to extend contracts of half of the team. Therefore, the two engineers and the administrative assistant have been separated in December 2010.

The remaining personnel, (two architects and a driver) will focus on the overall supervision of the works implemented in the three units during the last period of three months.

### **III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements**

The rehabilitation works performed by the contractors in Gabu and Quebo military barracks are progressing very well under the supervision of UNOPS technical team.

The contractor selected on December 2009 for digging wells and building water tanks facilities for Gabu and Quebo military barracks is preparing the needed equipment to start executing the works as required. It will take 45 days from January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to install the running water into the buildings.

The military engineers are ready to start the rehabilitation works in Amura fortress under the guidance and supervision of UNOPS technical team. The first phase of building materials has been delivered and the engineers have been requested to submit a chronogram of activities.

In Amura site, UNOPS has partially provided building materials for the first phase. In a few weeks time, the military personnel is expected to provide the manpower through its military engineering. The second phase delivery is scheduled upon reception of the chronogram of activities related to works rehabilitation in Amura.

The Output 2 of Project document pertaining to: Revision and reconditioning of electrical installations and supply of alternative energy, has not been undertaken.

This activity foreseen in the project document was not implemented since the anticipated budget was far less than the estimated costs obtained after the technical assessment conducted by the consultants of the national counterpart. Anticipated costs: USD 300,000 - Estimated costs for Gabu and Quebo: USD 972,115.89 (from 1<sup>st</sup> MoD consultant) and USD 376,442 (from 2<sup>nd</sup> MoD consultant).

Regular site visits are organized with stakeholders and general satisfaction is noticed on the progression and quality of the works being implemented in the fields.

Monthly and quarterly reports are provided to the donor on a regular basis through the Peace building Secretariat in Guinea Bissau.

#### **IV. Results**

The total works anticipated in the revised project document approved by the national counterpart through the project's management committee is ongoing. The whole activities are being implemented under the supervision of UNOPS technical team.

All the procurement processes have been followed up accordingly to UNOPS rules and regulations prior to launching the works and services required for the implementation of the military barracks activity.

Currently, all the contractors are working very hard in full compliance with the prevailing standards and the completion of the rehabilitations is planned for February/March 2011.

#### **V. Future Work Plan**

The request for project amendment – no cost extension and the 2010 financial overview of the project are expected to be approved by involved stakeholders before endorsement from the National Steering Committee.

UNOPS is still waiting for the above mentioned documents from the national counterpart, the Ministry of National Defense.

After the completion of the works on the three units of Gabu, Quebo and Amura, the operational project closure process is scheduled to begin by end of March 2011.