SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE

PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

Country: Sudan
Project Title: Darfuri Youth Empowerment in Civic Spaces to Advance Peacebuilding **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):**

PBF project modality: ☒ IRF ☐ PRF	**If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts):** ☐ Country Trust Fund ☐ Regional Trust Fund **Name of Recipient Fund:**

List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed by type of organization (UN, CSO etc.): United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – UN United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – UN **List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO):** Mayarm Organization for Women's Development – local, youth-led CSO Tanwa for Arts and Development Organization – local, youth-led CSO Mercy House for Relief and Development Organization (MDO) – local, youth-led CSO Shedf Development Organization – local, youth-led CSO Alzaena Women Organization for Peace and Development – local, youth-led CSO Hope and Friendship for Development Organization (HOPE Sudan) – local, youth-led CSO
Project duration in months[1]: 18 months **Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation:** El Geneina and Kreinik localities, West Darfur state; Zalingei locality, Central Darfur state
Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below: ☐ Gender promotion initiative[2] ☒ Youth promotion initiative[3] ☐ Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions ☐ Cross-border or regional project
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient **organization): UNHCR:** $ 750,005 **UNDP:** $ 749,995 Total: $ 1,500,000 **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. For payment of second and subsequent tranches the Coordinating agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed.* Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source): N/A

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[1] Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.
 The official project start date will be the date of the first project budget transfer by MPTFO to the recipient
organization(s), as per the MPTFO Gateway page.
[2] Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Gender Promotion Initiative
[3] Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Youth Promotion Initiative

PBF 1st tranche (70%):	PBF 2nd tranche* (30%):	PBF 3rd tranche* (0%):
UNHCR: $ 525,004	UNHCR: $ 225,001 UNDP: $ 224,998	UNHCR: $ 0
UNDP: $ 524,996		UNDP: $ 0
TOTAL: $ 1,050,000	**TOTAL:** $450,000	**TOTAL:** $ 0

Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs):

This project will contribute to existing peacebuilding efforts in Sudan's West and Central Darfur states, utilizing an approach that prioritizes youth empowerment and civic engagement/leadership. The overall objective of the project is to support young men and young women from target locations in Darfur to claim civic spaces to which they have limited or no access through strategic communications and digital engagement, youth-led community initiatives, and facilitation of youth inclusion in decision-making fora. By leveraging on youth-led social media activism in Sudan, this project takes an innovative approach to peacebuilding through the application of technology as a tool for furthering peace. In addition, the project deliberately shifts away from other youth-related programming conducted in Sudan/Darfur by operationalizing the idea of 'youth-led' through its interventions. Thus, rather than being overly prescriptive, interventions under this project include dialogues and micro-projects through which young men and women will facilitate discussions with their communities and design/implement activities that reflect their own peacebuilding priorities. Moreover, instead of focusing only on community-based interventions, the project seeks to incorporate young people into the governance structures from which they have been excluded, thereby acknowledging and addressing the need for wider systemic change. A final, and crucial, innovation of this project is its active outreach to young men and women from marginalized communities, including young nomads from rural and peri-urban areas, who have historically been excluded from humanitarian and peacebuilding activities in Darfur.

Summarize the in-country project consultation process prior to submission to PBSO, including with the PBF Steering Committee, civil society (including any women and youth organizations) and stakeholder communities (including women, youth and marginalized groups):

Consultations with youth-led civil society organizations in West and Central Darfur have commenced in order to gain their insights on conflict drivers in the project target areas and ways to address these dynamics, as well as to provisionally assess their existing capacities and prior peacebuilding work with young men and women in the target geographic zones. During these consultations, CSOs provided guidance on the design of the proposed interventions and validated the project approach. Several of the CSOs that have been consulted and identified as potential implementing partners are led by either young women or nomadic youth, thus representing marginalized communities in both West and Central Darfur. Consultations have also taken place with local authorities, namely the Department of Youth and Sports (under the State Ministry of Education).

Project Gender Marker score[4]: 2
Specify % and $ of total project budget allocated to activities in pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment:

39.10% of the total project budget, which is equivalent to $ 586,495.89, is allocated to activities related to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Briefly **explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment [5]:**

This project will contribute to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) throughout its interventions, including through targeted outreach to ensure that 50 percent of the 'Youth Peace Ambassadors' are young women, and that training/capacity building includes GEWE-focused topics such as unpacking gendered

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[4] **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 between 30 and 79% 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)
[5] Please consult the **PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding**

power dynamics, socialization and stereotyping of young men and women, and countering online sexual harassment. Women-led CSOs will be engaged in project implementation, including in the implementation of a dedicated fair for young women during which Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on peacebuilding will be showcased and distributed. Another key intervention dedicated fully to GEWE is a leadership course for young women, with the aim to provide them with dedicated safe spaces, peer-to-peer support, and skills building to which they may otherwise not have access, and through which they can develop skills that can also be utilized in the public sphere. The project will regularly advocate for GEWE by sensitizing local authorities and community leaders in the target localities, including through engagement of young men as GEWE champions. Moreover, by conducting profiling of key powerholders and mapping of local government institutions, this project will include a gender and inclusion analysis of said institutions, through which the placement of young women as interns will be determined.

Project Risk Marker score[6]: 1

Select PBF Focus Areas which best summarizes the focus of the project *(select ONLY one)* [7]:
- Conflict prevention/management

If applicable, SDCF/**UNDAF outcome(s)** to which the project contributes:
- **FA5** – Community Stabilization
- **FA4** – Governance, Rule of Law, and Institutional Capacity Development

Sustainable Development Goal(s) and Target(s) to which the project contributes:
- **SDG 16**: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels
    - o Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels
    - o Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making
    - o Target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms.

Type of submission:	If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:
☒ **New project** ☐ **Project amendment**	**Extension of duration:** ☐ Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): **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: USD XXXXX **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.*

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[6] **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes
Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes
Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes
[7] **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:

Recipient Organization(s)[8] *Name of Representative: Mr. Axel Bisschop, Country Representative, Sudan* *Signature:* ▮▮▮▮▮ *Name of Agency: UNHCR* *Date & Seal*	**Recipient Organization(s)** *Name of Representative: Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, Resident Representative, Sudan* *Signature:* ▮▮▮▮▮ *Name of Agency: UNDP* *Date & Seal*
Representative of National Authorities *Name of Government Counterpart: Mr. Suliman Eldebailo,* ▮▮▮▮▮ *Title: Peace Commissioner, Government of Sudan* *Date & Seal*	**Head of UN Country Team** *Name of Representative: Ms. Khardiata Lo N'Diaye* *Signature:* ▮▮▮▮▮ *Title: Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator* *Date & Seal*
Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) *Awa Dabo, Deputy Head and Officer in Charge* ▮▮▮▮▮ *Signature:* *Date & Seal* 22-Dec-2021	

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[8] Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

I.   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-responsive.

Youth-led activism and protests were the foundation of the 2019 Sudanese Revolution, resulting in the removal of President Omar al-Bashir after 30 years in power. The Revolution was propelled by a generation of young Sudanese, both men and women, who were raised under authoritarian rule and had limited access to civic forums through which to collaborate and organize for the advancement of their political and social demands. The role of social media during the Revolution was particularly transformative, serving as an 'information hub' through which videos, photos, and messaging could be instantaneously captured and shared throughout the country. Photos of young protestors, such as Alaa Salah, or the 'Woman in White', went viral and became the defining images of the Revolution. The digital landscape became a critical part of the civic space in Sudan, carved out by young people, for young people. Crucially, social media activism was not limited to the online sphere but had tangible, 'real world' impact.

Much of the groundwork for the Revolution was laid by a network of informal, decentralized 'resistance committees', or neighborhood committees composed primarily of youth partaking in grassroots organization and civil disobedience. The committees were involved in mobilizing young people from diverse backgrounds to participate in what culminated as the 2019 Revolution. Resistance committees, which are highly organized and established throughout the country, remain one of the principal means of activism and advocacy by politically engaged youth in Sudan. Also instrumental in driving the Revolution forward was the Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA), which is a network of various trade unions, dominated by 'white-collar' young professionals.[9] Throughout Sudan, the SPA utilized Facebook and Twitter to organize protests and marches in collaboration with the resistance committees.

The Sudanese Constitutional Declaration (August 2019)[10], which governs Sudan's 39-month transitional period, recognizes the role of youth in leading the revolutionary movement and emphasizes the importance of expanding the opportunities available to young men and women in all social, political, and economic fields[11]. Thus, civic space is acknowledged as a cornerstone of the country's democratic transition, and the ability of both male and female youth to freely associate, peacefully assemble, and non-violently express their viewpoints is an integral aspect of Sudan's road to general elections. This is especially relevant for conflict-affected locations such as Darfur, where repressive governance by the previous regime and recurrent insecurity have contributed to diminished civic space and hindered the ability to achieve sustainable peace and development.

Darfuri youth, most of whom have grown up in a conflict milieu since 2003, were also a part of the 2019 movement, with some travelling to Khartoum to participate in the protests, and others taking part in local demonstrations. Like in other parts of Sudan, there was a significant turnout of young women in El Geneina, West Darfur and Zalingei, Central Darfur, likely due to the large number of female university students in both locations. However, given recent bouts of violence in places such as El Geneina, dividends from Sudan's political transition have not been immediately evident in Darfur. Despite their substantial contributions to the Sudanese Revolution, both male and female youth in Darfur reportedly feel aggrieved at their lack of representation in decision-making fora, institutions, and processes, such as State-level government ministries and the negotiations for the Juba Peace Agreement, which was signed between the Transitional Government of Sudan (TGoS) and key Darfur-based armed movements in October 2020.

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[9] The Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA) is an umbrella association of 17 different Sudanese trade unions, including teachers, journalists, lawyers, and medical professionals.

[10] Constitutional Declaration for the Transitional Period, signed on 04 August 2019, translated by International IDEA.

[11] According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), "civic space is the environment that enables civil society to play a role in the political, economic and social life of our societies. In particular, civic space allows individuals and groups to contribute to policy-making that affects their lives, including by: accessing information, engaging in dialogue, expressing dissent or disagreement, and joining together to express their views." Importantly, "[a]n open and pluralistic civic space that guarantees freedom of expression and opinion as well as freedom of assembly and association, is a prerequisite for making development and peace sustainable." (Source: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/CivicSpace/Pages/ProtectingCivicSpace.aspx)

In the wake of the 2019 Revolution, young Darfuris are feeling more emboldened to demand change, but because of their perceived relegation from the formal political arena, their political engagement is occurring through alternative channels. While some youth mobilization is taking place through the recruitment of both young men and women into armed groups, there are also examples of youth-led civic mobilization that directly contributes to peace. As in the rest of Sudan, for example, resistance committees are an important conduit for youth activism in Darfur. At the same time, the committees have been accused of intolerance to different political and ideological perspectives and, in West and Central Darfur, where political and tribal affiliations often go hand-in-hand, the resistance committees either lack inclusivity in terms of tribal representation or are facing infighting between their members on the basis of politics or tribe.

In both West and Central Darfur, tensions between younger and older generations, the latter of which tend to be more status quo oriented, are key contributors to the weakening of customary methods of conflict resolution (i.e., through the Native Administration system), in which youth place less trust and confidence. However, this 'power struggle' has not necessarily resulted in a productive discourse between the primarily older men who retain control over both formal and traditional governance structures and the young men and women who are challenging these very structures. The exclusion of young men and women from decision-making structures in Darfur is, in many cases, the result of a general lack of inclusive governance, prioritization of a 'top-down' approach driven by civilian/military elites, and severe resource and capacity constraints that hinder more robust engagement with and inclusion of youth. For this reason, there remains a gap in the channels available for young people through which to advocate for their urgent needs and concerns, and advance their interests, such as access to livelihood opportunities.

In West Darfur, competition over access to land between farming Masalit and nomadic/semi-nomadic Arab communities has contributed to conflict since the mid-1990s, affecting areas such as El Geneina and Kreinik localities. Protracted and large-scale displacement from rural to urban locations has resulted in the establishment of long-standing IDP camps, such as Abuzar in El Geneina, creating tensions between Masalit IDPs and semi-nomadic Arabs living nearby. Locations such as Kreinik and Mornei towns in Kreinik locality have become permanent settlements for families and communities displaced from conflict. Alongside grievances over land, both Masalit and Arab communities report feeling underrepresented by existing governance structures, with Arabs in particular asserting that the state-level government does not represent them. With both communities harboring perceptions of marginalization, there has been a resurgence of tribalism and intercommunal violence in El Geneina and Kreinik, in part fueled by the proliferation of online hate speech and competing narratives over land ownership, indigeneity, and representation.

Nonetheless, young men and women from both Masalit and Arab communities are contributing to grassroots peacebuilding initiatives in El Geneina, also through social media. One such initiative is the #GeneinaWeRecover movement on Facebook and Twitter, which was co-founded by a young women's organization, Mayarm Organization for Women's Development, following two large-scale episodes of intercommunal violence between Arabs and Masalit that resulted in the deaths of more than 300 people and (re)displacement of over 150,000 individuals in 2021 alone. The social media campaign helped to set the foundation for youth-led civil society movements, representing a diversity of tribes, to engage in neighborhood dialogue forums aimed towards discussing and dispelling negative stereotyping and contributing to reconciliation. Nevertheless, such initiatives have remained at a relatively small scale. Young people are reportedly also involved in reconciliation efforts at the village level, since they are often the most educated members of rural communities.

Neighboring Central Darfur remains a bastion of support for the Sudanese Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid faction (SLA-AW), which is a non-signatory of the Juba Peace Agreement. Tribal dynamics in Zalingei, where the majority of the population are Fur, is less antagonistic than in El Geneina and Kreinik. Nevertheless, as in West Darfur, Zalingei hosts several IDP camps that were established at the start of the Darfur-wide conflict in 2003, and in which members of other communities such as the Zaghawa also reside. Youth in Hasahisa, Khamsa Daqaiq, and Hamedia camps are strongly politicized and reportedly lack trust in the transitional government and the peace process, thus contributing to their continued recruitment into the SLA-AW. In August 2021, protests over the management of public facilities by students from the University of Zalingei escalated into violence and resulted in the death of one IDP youth from Khamsa Daqaiq camp. Two other protestors were critically injured, and the Governor's office was left badly damaged.

Despite such challenges, youth in Zalingei have expressed eagerness to contribute to peacebuilding efforts, including through recreational and artistic channels. Traditional singing, folklore, and drama remain popular cultural activities

among young people in Central Darfur. One Zalingei-based arts troupe by the name of 'Baramka', for example, advocates for the dissemination of indigenous cultural values towards peace. Moreover, social media is utilized by young men and women in Zalingei seeking to bring people together along civic – rather than ethnic or political – lines. The Facebook group 'Zalingei Youth', for instance, comprises 7,500 members, while the Facebook group 'We Will Build Zalingei' comprises 5,700 members.

Young people in West and Central Darfur are often problematized, labelled as perpetrators of violence and crime instead of as positive change agents. Rather than empowering discussions about the civic engagement of young people, male youth from both IDP and nomadic communities are subjected to stereotypical images of being potentially "dangerous", "violent", or "uncontrollable", especially those participating in armed conflict. Thus, despite grassroots-level activism, there remains an absence of young IDP and nomadic voices from Darfur, both within local governance structures and at the national level. Unfortunately, young people from different backgrounds/communities also stereotype one another, thus overshadowing local peacebuilding initiatives and instead contributing to tensions. Female youth, on the other hand, are often stereotyped as vulnerable, powerless, and in need of protection. The fact that young women are demanding a seat at the table and participation in decision-making is frequently not taken into consideration, largely due to ongoing social norms regarding a woman's role in society and underpinned by limited availability of secondary education for girls.

Unfortunately, the work carried out by grassroots peacebuilders is often hampered by lack of access to funding and other resources, thereby limiting their ability to expand on existing initiatives. In addition, while many of the youth-led peacebuilding initiatives have so far focused on well-educated, urbanized youth, more work can be done towards incorporating young people from marginalized backgrounds into the peacebuilding activities, particularly young women, who are often excluded from community-level initiatives utilizing customary approaches. Young nomadic men from rural areas are also poorly represented in such initiatives, often being viewed as instigators of violence. Nomadic access to certain platforms is further hindered by lower levels of literacy due to higher school dropout rates than other communities. Young nomadic women are even more affected by lack of inclusivity, in part due to their limited access to education – compared to non-nomadic youth, and to male nomadic youth – and the corresponding high rates of child marriage within nomadic communities, which limits their meaningful participation in the public sphere, including in peacebuilding activities. While awareness on the need to include 'women' and 'nomads' is increasing among peacebuilding actors, an intersectional approach that also ensures the involvement of young nomadic women needs to be prioritized.

At the same time, in target areas of West and Central Darfur, social media usage, such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and Twitter, is widespread, including among marginalized communities. Even those with low literacy levels regularly utilize social media 'tools', such as WhatsApp voice calls. Young women are often members of 'Women Only' Facebook or WhatsApp groups, which offer them safe spaces to share ideas and digital content. Such spaces are needed due to reports of women being sexually harassed when they express political viewpoints on social media groups open to the public. Moreover, social media sites such as Facebook have increasingly become platforms for fake accounts and disinformation. Despite such drawbacks, the 2019 Sudanese Revolution demonstrated that social media is also a promising entry point for diverse, innovative, and creative youth voices to gain traction due to its 'democratic' nature. If utilized in a responsible and accountable manner, and in conjunction with concrete, 'on-the-ground' initiatives, social media can be an effective means through which to connect young men and women with wider peacebuilding objectives, such as fostering understanding between divided communities and ensuring a viable process of reconciliation.

b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks[12],** how it ensures **national ownership**. If this project is designed in a PRF country, describe how the main objective advances a relevant strategic objective identified through the Eligibility Process

Interventions in this project are designed to be inclusive, representative, and participatory in order to foster local ownership at the community level. Consultations with key civil society organizations and community members have commenced, including with youth-led civil society groups, who will be the primary beneficiaries of the proposed interventions. This project will also ensure close coordination with state-level authorities in West and Central Darfur, such as the Office of the State Governor, the Department of Youth and Sports (under the State Ministry of Education),

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[12] Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan on 1325, a National Youth Policy etc.

and the State Ministry of Social Development, in order to ensure alignment with the existing priorities on the ground. Moreover, the internship program proposed under Outcome 3 will establish a close link between the project team and state-level authorities, thereby enhancing their ownership over the project.

At the national level, this project aims to closely align with the Transitional Government of Sudan's (TGoS) priorities, serving as a vehicle for enhanced public participation by youth. The topic of youth involvement in civic spaces appears in the Sudanese Constitutional Declaration (August 2019), and is a core goal of the TGoS to ensure the success of the transitional period. Likewise, the Darfur Protocol of the Juba Peace Agreement (October 2020) recognizes "the special status of…youth and their issues, as well as the important role of…youth in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in transitional justice processes and in peacebuilding, and the imperative of their equal participation, and full engagement in all efforts for the maintenance of international peace and security, including justice and reconciliation."[13] The Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports is in process of developing a National Youth Policy, which will be ready by 2022. As the elaboration of the NYP progresses, this project will seek to align with the objectives outlined in the policy. The project will also complement efforts by the Federal Ministry of Culture and Information to develop a unified social media platform for the TGoS and can serve as a 'live window' to youth-led peacebuilding efforts in Darfur.

In addition, on 21 May 2020, the TGoS submitted its National Plan for the Protection of Civilians (NPPOC) to the UN Security Council (UNSC). The NPPOC aims to address, *inter alia*, the strengthening of conflict resolution mechanisms and support to nomadic communities. It further highlights the need for IDP youth representatives to provide direct inputs on the challenges they face and their vision for the peace process. The TGoS has formed State-level Protection of Civilians Committees (POC Committees) responsible for the NPPOC implementation in North, East, South, Central Darfur, and will soon form one in West Darfur. UNHCR is currently supporting these state-level POC Committees, providing them with technical, capacity building, material, and secretariat support, including coordination between state-level authorities and UN Agencies. In partnership with the UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), a series of POC Roundtables are being held in five Darfur States from October 2021 to January 2022, to raise awareness among community leaders about the NPPOC and state-level POC Committees, and to discuss and agree on the nature of UN support to state-level authorities on the implementation of the NPPOC.

In terms of UN frameworks, the project will ensure a synchronized approach with the UNITAMS, established by UNSC Resolution 2524 (2020). UNSC Resolution 2579 (2021), which renewed the UNITAMS mandate, stresses the importance of engaging with diverse stakeholders, "including civil society, women, youth, and internally displaced persons, refugees and members of marginalized communities to deliver durable solutions to Sudan's immediate and long-term issues."[14] The mission is also mandated to assist Sudan's "political transition, progress towards democratic governance, in the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace,"[15] which includes "Sudanese-led peacebuilding, in particular conflict prevention, mitigation, and reconciliation."[16]

Moreover, inclusion of civil society and youth in participatory governance is a core thematic area of the Sudan Peacemaking, Peacebuilding, and Stabilization Programme (SPPSP), which aims to create a joint programmatic framework for UNITAMS and the UN Country Team (UNCT). This project falls within the SPPSP framework through its contribution to the expansion of civic space in Darfur and its meaningful engagement of youth – including civil society, women, IDPs, and members of marginalized groups – in Sudan's transition process. The SPPSP also aims to mainstream youth inclusion throughout the programmatic work carried out by UNITAMS/UNCT, including through the UN Joint Task Force on Young People, co-chaired by UNDP and UNFPA, to ensure alignment with policies, programs, and projects among key actors working on youth-related issues in Darfur and Sudan.

This project aims to advance the Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda outlined in UNSC Resolution 2250 (2015) through "inclusive representation of youth in decision-making…for the prevention and resolution of conflict"[17], as well as by supporting local youth peace initiatives and violence prevention activities. As per UNSC Resolution 1325

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[13] General Principle 10, Darfur Protocol, Juba Peace Agreement (October 2020).
[14] UNSCR 2579 (2021), Preamble.
[15] Ibid, Paragraph 3(i).
[16] Ibid, (2021), Paragraph 3(iii)(a).
[17] UNSCR 2250 (2015), Paragraph 1.

(2000), the project also recognizes the importance of women in peacebuilding, thus emphasizing women's equal participation and full involvement in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution.[18]

c) A brief explanation of how the project fills any strategic gaps and complements any other relevant interventions, PBF funded or otherwise. Also provide a brief **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
Durable Solutions for forced displacement in West Darfur (January 2020 – December 2021; 24 months)	Donor: Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Budget: US$ 4,320,689.00	Durable solutions, rule of law, and local peacebuilding	The current PBF-funded Darfur program has a different geographic focus (Jebel Moon locality). While the existing project also includes interventions engaging youth in local peacebuilding, this project aims to empower youth and place them front and center in the decision-making process. In addition, while the existing project focuses more on 'hardware' (e.g., construction of youth centers) and livelihoods, this project emphasizes 'soft' components, such as dialogues, cultural activities, and policymaking.
Transition to Sustainable Peace in Central Darfur (January 2020 – December 2021; 24 months)	Donor: Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Budget: US$ 3,539,108.00	Durable solutions, rule of law, and local peacebuilding	The current PBF-funded Darfur program has a different geographic focus (i.e., Nertiti and Um Dukhun localities). While the existing project also includes interventions engaging youth in local peacebuilding, this project aims to empower youth and place them front and center in the decision-making process. In addition, while the existing project focuses more on 'hardware' (e.g., construction of youth centers) and livelihoods, this project emphasizes 'soft' components, such as dialogues, cultural activities, and policymaking.
Durable solutions and life-saving stabilization support for IDPs, Sudanese IDP/refugee returnees and hosting communities in Sudan (February 2020 – December 2021; 23 months)	Donor: Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Budget: US$ 29,800,000.00	Protection and creation of conducive environment for durable solutions	This program has a wider geographic focus and covers all of Darfur, including the target locations in West Darfur (i.e., El Geneina and Kreinik localities), as well as South Kordofan and Blue Nile. Through its protection-focused interventions, the program supports the creation of a protective environment in some of the proposed locations for this project (i.e., El Geneina and Kreinik), thereby helping to lay the groundwork for more targeted peacebuilding projects that aim to address the root causes of conflict.

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[18] UNSCR 1325 (2000), Paragraph 1.

| Youth Volunteers Supporting Peace and Recovery in Darfur (Yovored – Phase V)

(June 2021 – June 2024; 36 months) | Donor: Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)

Budget: US$ 3,350,000.00 | Sustainable peace through socio-economic recovery and community-led social cohesion | This project supported the establishment of a network of 300 volunteers as peace ambassadors, including in West and Central Darfur. However, the 'ambassadors' in this project were largely university graduates who were provided peacebuilding, livelihoods, and environmental management trainings. The proposed project will expand on the work already carried out through inclusion of youth from more marginalized backgrounds, regardless of educational level. Moreover, the content of the training in this proposed project focuses on topics such as combatting stereotypes, hate speech, and utilization of social media for peacebuilding. The proposed project also includes a community engagement component via youth-led dialogues and micro-projects, as well as providing inroads for youth to participate in public policy making. |
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| Sustaining Peacebuilding Gains in the Greater Jebel Mara

(June – December 2021; 6 months) | Donor: UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS)

Budget: US$ 98,891.51 | Local-level conflict management and laying the groundwork for establishment of UNITAMS presence in Greater Jebel Marra area | This project contains a youth advocacy component (including confidence building forums and social events for peace) but has a different geographical focus (i.e., Nertiti, Rokero, and Golo localities), which the proposed project is not targeting. By focusing on the digital aspect of peacebuilding and changing government policy, the proposed project will strengthen the youth-led advocacy component, while also expanding to other areas in Darfur. |

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

a)   A brief **description of the project** focus and approach – describe the project's overarching goal, the implementation strategy, and how it addresses the conflict causes or factors outlined in Section I (must be gender- and age- responsive).

UNHCR and UNDP propose an 18-month project that will contribute to existing peacebuilding efforts in Sudan's West and Central Darfur states, utilizing an approach that prioritizes youth empowerment and civil engagement/leadership. The overall objective of the project is to support male and female youth from target locations in Darfur to claim civic spaces to which they have limited or no access through strategic communications and digital engagement, youth-led community initiatives, and facilitation of youth inclusion in decision-making fora, such as those dealing with public policy/planning, security management, or access to education. Thus, the proposed interventions respond to grievances among young men and women in Darfur at their limited participation in public life, their lack of representation in decision-making structures, and inadequate security and service provision from established institutions, which contribute to their pursuit of informal channels or structures that oftentimes perpetuate conflict (e.g., recruitment into armed groups). These issues are particularly pertinent given the context of the current transitional period in Sudan, a result of which young people expected rapid, transformational changes in their day-to-day lives, but instead encountered increasing levels of violence and enduring systemic barriers that prevent them from fully engaging in the public sphere.

The proposed interventions will build on small-scale, youth-led, grassroots peacebuilding and advocacy initiatives that are gaining momentum in both West and Central Darfur, placing youth empowerment and ownership at the

center of the project. Through partnerships with youth-led CSOs in both states, as well as targeted identification of youth beneficiaries from marginalized backgrounds, young men and women will be in the driver's seat throughout this project. The project therefore takes an innovative approach in which the road to achieving project goals are as important as the goals themselves. Youth will be actively involved in the development and delivery of capacity building trainings, design and dissemination of peace-related digital content and messaging (including countering hate speech and stereotypes), implementation of microprojects to enhance community dialogue, and participation in policymaking within government structures. At the same time, young men and women will receive the necessary support and guidance from UNHCR, UNDP, and project implementing partners.

In order to tackle barriers to young women's participation in civic spaces. the project proposes women-only interventions, including leadership skills building training and 'break out' sessions, that would support young women to freely express their ideas in a safe space, while enabling them to subsequently participate in a more active manner in mixed-sex settings. At the same time, the onus of young women's inclusion and participation cannot rest with young women alone, for which reason the project will incorporate GEWE-related sensitization aimed at the wider community, including young men and key powerholders, throughout its interventions.

b) Provide a **project-level 'theory of change'** – explain the assumptions about why you expect the project interventions to lead to changes in the conflict factors identified in the conflict analysis. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on? Note, this is not a summary statement of your project's outcomes.

(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?)

A basic assumption of this project is that, while imperfect, Sudan's transitional period offers an opportunity to expand youth engagement and leadership in existing civic space in Darfur, including through the digital tools that were successfully utilized during the 2019 Revolution and offer a best practice for youth empowerment. The project assumes that, through targeted capacity building of young men and women in West and Central Darfur on peacebuilding, digital content creation, and strategic communications, young people will then utilize these skills beyond the project duration, both in online and physical spaces, to enhance and accelerate existing peacebuilding efforts at the grassroots level and advocate for change, both within their communities and vis-à-vis the government authorities. Accordingly, the rationale behind the project is to support young men and women with the tools to scale-up already existing initiatives on the ground, therefore also circumventing their marginalization.

Through youth-led community dialogues and micro-projects, the project enables young men and women to utilize their enhanced peacebuilding skills, such as countering negative stereotypes and conflict mediation, beyond the online civic space and in a 'real world' arena. The project assumes that, by applying these peacebuilding skills in community spaces, young people will be able to more effectively engage in the prevention and resolution of conflict, while also addressing their own biases and challenging negative social perceptions of both "youth" and members of disputing communities (e.g., IDPs and nomads). The community dialogues and micro-projects are designed to facilitate and accelerate changing social norms by enabling young people to engage in such conversations amongst themselves and with members of their communities. Importantly, with the inclusion of otherwise marginalized youth such as young nomadic men and women throughout the interventions, more diverse voices will be amplified, enabling young people and their wider communities to recognize and understand the identities, narratives, and perspectives of those from disputing communities, thereby contributing to greater tolerance and reduced violence.

While the programming approach so far outlines changes at the community level, an additional assumption of this project is that community initiatives in West and Central also need to be supported by government institutions, both at the locality and state-levels, in order to achieve sustainable peace. Thus, this project will not only contribute to enhanced dialogue within communities, therefore contributing to community-level reconciliation efforts, but also provide youth with the opportunity to have sustained engagement with traditional 'powerholders' to whom they may have had limited access. Thus, through their participation in policy-making fora, young people would be able to advocate for the needs of themselves and their respective communities, such as increased security, expansion of livelihood opportunities, etc. Moreover, the project assumes that by providing marginalized young men and women with much needed work experience and skills through an internship program, they will be better placed to seek

employment in public institutions, through which they can then continue to contribute as change agents into the future.

Existing peacebuilding efforts by young men and women on the ground serve as evidence that there is willingness amongst youth in West and Central Darfur to engage in peacebuilding activities within their communities, and that providing support through capacity building, financial resources, and access to powerholders would augment such efforts. Consultations with youth leaders and government officials provide further evidence that the assumptions upon which this project is based are largely accurate, and that the proposed interventions are indeed the most relevant and feasible means to enhance civic space for young men and women in Darfur.

c) **Provide a narrative description of key project components** (outcomes and outputs), ensuring sufficient attention to gender, age and other key differences that should influence the project approach. In describing the project elements, be sure to indicate important considerations related to sequencing of activities.

Outcome 1: Youth access to civic spaces in West and Central Darfur expanded by enhancing their capacity to develop and disseminate digital content and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on issues related to peace and conflict.

Output 1.1: Peacebuilding capacities of selected young men and women in West and Central Darfur strengthened. (UNDP)

This Output will involve the establishment of a network of Youth Ambassadors, which will include an equal number of young men and women representing each of the target localities (El Geneina, Kreinik, Zalingei). The peacebuilding capacities of the Youth Ambassadors will be strengthened with trainings on age/gender conflict analysis (including stakeholder mapping); conflict prevention through countering negative stereotypes and rumors; and conflict resolution through mediation/negotiation. The aim of this Output is to strengthen the capacity of young people to promote peace in their communities, particularly when faced with intra- and inter-communal discord. Trainings will also focus on countering extreme politicization, which is a driver of recruitment into armed movements amongst youth. The training curriculum and exercises will be formulated using elements from the Youth4Peace Training Toolkit (2018), developed by the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders)[19]. Relevant modules from the Toolkit could include: Stereotypes and Discrimination; Hate Speech; Power; and My Identity, My Story. These modules focus on fostering empathy and understanding of competing narratives, as well as identifying manipulation and power dynamics, which are relevant to the contexts of inter-communal violence and extreme politicization in West and Central Darfur. Close attention will also be paid to gender inclusivity, including in terms of the training content, the participants, and the facilitators.

Each Youth Ambassador will cascade the training to other youth in their target communities, targeting at least 10 other young people. An equal number of young men and women should be targeted as trainees/mentees by the Youth Ambassadors.

Output 1.2: Capacity of youth to create digital content, including peacebuilding messaging, and to share their stories via social media and online platforms, developed. (UNDP)

The success of the 2019 Sudanese Revolution was largely anchored in social media usage by young people. UNDP Accelerator Labs will build on youth capacity for digital content creation and storytelling, as well as digital content management, as they pertain to peacebuilding. There will be an emphasis on responsible but innovative use of social media, and strategies on how to create informative content messages and videos for Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Tiktok, and Twitter, with a focus on conflict-related issues faced by youth (e.g., land; environment; recruitment opportunities; sexual and gender-based violence, or S/GBV; data protection tools[20]), as well as youth-led solutions. Trained Youth Ambassadors will act as 'digital conflict mediators' on social media groups of which they are a part, helping to prevent any escalation of provocations and/or hate speech into violence or conflict, while

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[19] The English and Arabic language versions of the Youtth4Peace toolkit can be found on the website: https://unoy.org/downloads/youth4peace-training-toolkit/.

[20] For further information, please see the following: https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/20.500.12413/15964/Digital_Rights_in_Closing_Civic_Space_Lessons_from_Ten_African_Countries.pdf?sequence=4&isAllowed=y.

also countering the spread of mis- and disinformation. The training provided under Output 1.1 will also help to support their peacebuilding/mediation skills. Trainings will include sessions on GEWE-related topics, including countering online (sexual) harassment, online safe spaces, and dedicated online groups/activities for women. At least 50 percent of participants will be women, and the participation of members of marginalized communities will also be ensured. As under Output 1.1, each Youth Ambassador will cascade the skills to 10 other youth.

The training materials, as well as digital content created by youth participants, will be housed on a dedicated website and/or Cloud-based platform so that it can be easily downloaded by other youth/youth-led CSOs. This platform, which will outlast the project duration, will provide young people with a dedicated digital space to narrate/promote/disseminate their own stories and peacebuilding messages. Youth-led CSOs will be the repository of all content, acting as administrators of the websites and/or Cloud-based platforms to ensure that messages are regulated, and that equal access is available to all youth, including through provision of administrators with laptops and smart phones. For those unable to participate in the program, training content can be recorded and accessed offline at already-established UNDP Youth Centers El Geneina and Zalingei, while printed training materials would also be made available. The content developed by female youth will be showcased as a key GEWE output and promoted.

UNDP is at an advanced stage to rollout a "Peace and Development" Application (App) called Raik Shino, where youth will exchange ideas, share peacebuilding experiences, and learn new approaches and strategies for peaceful coexistence and tolerance. This project will utilize the Raik Shino App to reach out to youth from diverse communities.

Output 1.3: *Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, for youth with lower levels of literacy, developed and disseminated. (UNDP)*

To ensure the inclusion of marginalized youth – such as nomads, returnees, and IDPs – including those facing (e)literacy and internet connectivity challenges, a host of IEC materials (i.e., leaflets, brochures, and posters, with strong visual components) will be used as a complementary part of the wider community engagement. Through focus group discussions, youth will identify peacebuilding topics on which they want to address and develop/share messages, including equitable sharing of land and water resources; impact on youth of recruitment into armed forces/groups; and impact on male/female youth of S/GBV and how it can be prevented. Youth will be involved in identifying items for distribution alongside IEC materials, such as hijabs, t-shirts, cloth bags, and recyclable water containers, and will participate in identification of target recipients for these items. The IEC materials and supplementary items will be disseminated by youth-led CSOs, particularly amongst rural nomadic communities. Dedicated peacebuilding fairs will be held for young women, also from different backgrounds, to showcase their peacebuilding messaging while ensuring they are provided the space to communicate and share their ideas freely. In addition, in order to balance power dynamics, peacebuilding fairs for diverse communities will also be conducted, but hosted/led by nomadic youth in areas where they are living, rather than in locations to which they are usually invitees.

Outcome 2: Positive social and civic engagement by youth in their communities enhanced by youth-driven dialogues, micro-projects, and leadership skills building that contribute to peaceful coexistence.

Output 2.1: *Youth empowered to lead community-level dialogues, utilizing existing community structures, on peacebuilding themes. (UNHCR)*

This Output will entail facilitating youth-led dialogues with target communities on key conflict drivers, and how to best address these through non-violent means. Prior to the dialogues being conducted, the youth/youth-led CSOs would also have benefitted from the peacebuilding capacity building under Output 1.1. Discussions with community leaders will be held in advance in order to sensitize them on the youth-led dialogues and to ensure their support for and participation in the events. The dialogues will also serve as a consultative forum through which to identify micro-projects that will be implemented through Output 2.2, which will potentially address some of the conflict drivers identified. Moreover, the dialogues could provide an opportunity to bring awareness to some of the challenges under Outcome 1, such as hate speech and stereotyping on the basis of tribal identity, to a wider community audience. Importantly, the consultations, which will be led by young men and women from diverse backgrounds (i.e., IDPs, nomads, etc.), will bring together members of different communities, therefore contributing to increased inter-community dialogue while also showcasing positive youth engagement with

peacebuilding efforts to all community members, thereby disrupting narratives and perceptions of male youth as perpetrators of violence, of female youth as victims of violence, and all youth as lacking agency. Existing reconciliation efforts on the ground have demonstrated that young men and women are able to bring together members of disputing communities – this Output therefore aims to piggyback on these efforts and expand their outreach to a wider group of individuals.

Output 2.2: *Youth supported through youth-led community micro-projects focused on arts, culture, and sports. (UNHCR)*

On the basis of the community dialogues conducted under Output 2.1, youth/youth-led CSOs will be provided with small grants valued between USD 5,000-10,000 in order to implement micro-projects that contribute to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. These micro-projects will focus on arts, cultural, and sporting activities aimed at facilitating community engagement and dialogue, mitigating conflict triggers, and contributing to peacebuilding. Microprojects can include interactive radio shows, mural painting, community theatre, and poetry readings. It will be left to youth participants to identify, design, and implement the micro-projects they feel would be most relevant, useful, and accessible in their particular context. At the same time, young people will be encouraged to explore arts and culture related projects that may have the potential to generate discussions on the intersections between conflict and identity, community, and belonging. Such discussions could be especially relevant for those from more marginalized backgrounds and help to generate further tolerance and understanding between community members. This Output aims to engage and empower male and female youth involved in grassroots peacebuilding in their communities, thereby encouraging their positive engagement in public spaces and contributing to greater tolerance between young people with different backgrounds. It also contributes to favorable perceptions of youth as drivers for positive social change in their communities.

Output 2.3: *Young women empowered through initiatives focused on leadership skills. (UNHCR)*

In response to the limited active participation of young women in public forums, even when they are physically present, the project will work with young women/women-led CSOs to develop and implement leadership skills building trainings for female youth. This can include sessions on public speaking (e.g., through debate competitions), mediation, teambuilding, micro-enterprise, safety, and self-defense exercises. The objective of such capacity building would be to support young women in dedicated safe spaces, peer-to-peer support, and skills building to which they generally do not have access, for further utilization in the public arena. Young women in West and Central Darfur, who have expressed their eagerness for a 'seat at the table', would be encouraged to use the skills developed during the trainings to then establish women's social/political/economic empowerment networks, advocate for their rights, and engage as peacebuilders within their respective communities. The young women would also utilize these skills under the 'access to powerholders' components of Outputs 3.1 and 3.2.

Outcome 3: Youth engagement in public policy spaces augmented through improved access to state, locality, and community-level powerholders.

Output 3.1: *Youth involvement in policy making enhanced through identification of powerholders and participation in existing decision-making fora. (UNHCR)*

This Output will facilitate the participation of youth in public spaces beyond those designated to them, thus contributing to their engagement with senior powerholders. The aim is to bolster youth access to key decision-making fora, allowing the views of young men and women to be part of the solutions to challenges faced by the wider community in the target locations. The Output will entail an initial identification and profiling of key "powerholders" – both government officials and community leaders – who are able and willing to facilitate youth participation in decision-making fora at locality and/or state level. The profiling will also include a gender and inclusion analysis of various government bodies. In agreement with the powerholders, youth will be engaged in the decision-making platforms, enabling them to voice their perspectives, field questions to the authorities, advocate for their needs and interests, and make operational/policy recommendations. These fora may include those dealing with: public policy/planning; security management (e.g. inter-communal dispute resolution); humanitarian or civilian protection issues (including newly formed state-level POC Committees); budgetary issues; access to education; legal/regulatory affairs; and gender equality. Before its implementation, this Output will entail sensitization of key powerholders and members of the decision-making fora on the meaningful engagement of

young people, including in terms of GEWE. Identification of key powerholders will also include selecting those who will act as gender champions and commit to the inclusion of young women in decision-making fora.

Youth selected to participate under this Output will be from the target localities (i.e., El Geneina, Kreinik, Zalingei), chosen from the Youth Ambassador cohorts under Outcomes 1 and 2, based on their commitment to inclusion and demonstrated leadership skills. The selected participants will need to demonstrate their willingness to reach out to youth from other parts of their respective states, gather their viewpoints on the topics at hand (e.g., security management), and return to the relevant fora where they will share their informed viewpoints. An effort will also be made to choose diverse young men and women, and to ensure the participation of those from more marginalized backgrounds (i.e., nomads and IDPs). In addition, barriers to participation of young women will be assessed and pro-actively addressed, with the aim of promoting their active involvement. The micro-projects focusing on leadership skills building of young women under Output 2.3 will facilitate their active participation in the decision-making fora under this Output.

Output 3.2: *Opportunities for public sector employment of young men and women enhanced through continued advocacy and youth internship initiative. (UNDP/UNHCR)*

The Output will entail advocacy with authorities at all levels for youth to be considered for public sector jobs, thus helping to build and maintain the momentum for youth empowerment this project aims to create. The Output will involve direct engagement with government authorities in order to obtain formal commitments on quotas for youth employment in government institutions, including leadership positions. The project will also establish an internship program for youth within the state-level governments of West and Central Darfur, UNHCR, and UNDP, enabling young men and women from diverse communities in the target localities to gain crucial work experience, skills, and exposure for further opportunities in the public sector. This program will also serve as a conduit for marginalized youth, such as young women and nomads, to be placed in public institutions, while also addressing a key grievance amongst some youth regarding exclusion from said institutions. In terms of the internship placements in government, positions in state-level line ministries or institutions related to peacebuilding would be prioritized (e.g., state-level POC Committees). Following a competitive recruitment process targeting youth from West and Central Darfur, a total of 32 young men and women will be chosen for the program, with 16 each in the West and Central Darfur governments. A key element of their assignment be to advocate for youth inclusion in government entities and to enhance their understanding of and exposure to the state institutions. The project team will have close oversight of the interns and liaise with them regularly in order to ensure a fruitful internship experience. The interns will also be brought into the various interventions proposed under this project in order to fully benefit from the capacity building components.

The project will include an Inception Phase of three months during which the baseline survey will be conducted, outreach to youth/youth-led CSOs will be accelerated, the curriculum for the peacebuilding training will be developed, and interns will be recruited. A subsequent Implementation Phase will commence with the peacebuilding training under Output 1.1, which will prepare the Youth Ambassadors for their participation in the remaining interventions under Outcome 1 and/or Outcome 2. Youth participation in the policy-making platforms under Output 3.1 will be conducted in the final year of implementation, enabling young men and women who demonstrate exceptional leadership abilities and commitment to inclusive engagement under Outcomes 1 and 2 to be identified and prioritized for their participation in the selected fora.

Use Annex C to list all outcomes, outputs, and indicators.

d) **Project targeting** – provide a justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, expected number and type of stakeholders/beneficiaries (must be disaggregated by sex and age). Indicate whether stakeholders have been consulted in the design of this proposal. Do not repeat all outputs and activities from the Results Framework.

Host to several IDP camps, El Geneina and Kreinik localities in West Darfur are contiguous to one another, have similar demographics, and are both considered conflict hotspots. Some of El Geneina's suburban neighborhoods administratively fall under Kreinik locality, and the two areas are closely linked. The conflict narratives in these locations largely problematize youth, attributing recent violence to young IDP and nomadic men, and assigning victimhood and passivity narratives to young women. Zalingei locality in Central Darfur is also the site of several protracted IDP camps, with young IDP men from both Fur and Zaghawa communities accused of politicization and

violence. At the same time, youth in these locations are leading on grassroots peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts. State-level authorities in both West and Central Darfur have welcomed additional initiatives involving young men and women, and have even expressed interest in engaging young people further, including through access to employment within state institutions (upon which Output 3.2 is based).

As the state capitals of West and Central Darfur, El Geneina and Zalingei towns are urban, and targeting of project beneficiaries in these locations is more straightforward in terms of youth literacy, etc. However, parts of Kreinik and the outskirts of both El Geneina and Zalingei are rural, and training activities in and around these areas will be adjusted accordingly. In particular, young Arab nomads from rural areas often possess lower education, or even literacy levels, and the baseline survey will need to sufficiently capture this dynamic so that the training materials developed are appropriate for young people with varying education levels. In order to further ensure inclusion of nomadic youth, certain interventions will be designed and implemented specifically in order to increase participation of nomadic youth, such as holding dedicated fairs for distribution of IEC materials in close proximity to or within nomadic settlements (Output 1.3). In addition, a snowballing approach can be used to target nomadic youth, through which the project team will reach out to semi-settled nomads or settled Arab communities in order to gain access to those whose lifestyles are more nomadic in nature.

A mapping of youth-led CSOs in West and Central Darfur has been conducted, and the organizations will facilitate access to young men and women from a diversity of backgrounds. Beyond the CSOs, some members of the resistance committees and Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA) would be included due to their strong activism within the local communities, as well as their role as 'gatekeepers' in terms of access to youth in certain locations. In addition, careful attention must be paid to ensure outreach to young people who may not feel represented by the established institutions or organizations, namely young nomads, including young nomadic women. Key CSOs have already been identified in this regard, such as the Nomadic Network and the Alzaena Women Organization for Peace and Development, based in West Darfur but with outreach capacity to Central Darfur. Diversity of the project team would also be an important element to support outreach and inclusivity. To ensure their active involvement through the entirety of the project, barriers to participation of young women will be actively assessed and addressed for each intervention. An intersectional approach will be applied throughout the course of the project to ensure the targeting of young women from marginalized backgrounds, including young nomadic women.

The project will aim to work with 150 youth as Peace Ambassadors (60 in El Geneina, 60 in Zalingei, and 30 in Kreinik), half of whom will be young women. Of these 150 young people, 75 will be targeted by the interventions under Outcome 1 and 75 will be targeted by the interventions under Outcome 2. However, all 150 youth will benefit from the peacebuilding training under Output 1.1. An additional 32 youth, half of whom will be young women, will take part in the internship program under Output 3.2.

III.   Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list all 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 knowledge and existing capacity.

UNHCR will act as the Convening Organization for this project. UNHCR Sudan has significant experience implementing projects to support peacebuilding and durable solutions in Darfur and is currently the Lead Agency for the PBF project in West Darfur, for which it has the primary coordination role. In West Darfur, particularly, UNHCR is working with young people in peacebuilding by sponsoring sporting events for young men and women and advocating for youth participation in community-based protection networks that it has established and supported. In the aftermath of January/April 2021 violence in West Darfur, UNHCR has regularly engaged with male and female youth leaders from Masalit and Arab nomadic communities to understand their needs and concerns. In November 2020, in anticipation of UNAMID exit from Central Darfur, UNHCR engaged with male and female youth in Zalingei camps to understand their concerns related to the protection impact of UNAMID withdrawal. UNHCR has also established youth networks in specific localities in all Darfur States, and supported them via youth-led microprojects focused on livelihoods. With five Darfur Offices, in addition to emergency responses in other locations, UNHCR has one of the largest UN operational footprints in Darfur, and specifically in West and Central Darfur. Its strong presence across the cluster system, and leadership of the Protection Sector, enables integrated, holistic programming. In coordination with UNITAMS, UNHCR is also mandated to support the TGoS with the Protection of Civilians (POC)

in Darfur, which includes regular advocacy and engagement, as well as technical support towards the implementation of the National Plan for the Protection to Civilians (NPPOC).

UNDP will be a recipient organization on this project, and has extensive experience working on peacebuilding, rule of law, governance, youth and peace promotion initiatives, and livelihoods for peace initiatives. With five offices in Darfur, UNDP has strong physical presence in the target areas of West and Central Darfur and is the Lead Agency for the PBF projects in North and East Darfur. Under its existing programming, UNDP is working with young university graduates in both livelihoods and peace promotion activities, while also supporting the construction of youth centers. Along with UNFPA, UNDP is co-chair of the UN Joint Task Force on Young People, which ensures alignment with policies, programs, and projects among key actors working on youth-related issues in Darfur and Sudan.

UNHCR and UNDP also co-chair the Durable Solutions Working Groups (DSWG) and are currently supporting the TGoS in the elaboration of a nationwide Durable Solutions strategy to facilitate the sustainable return, (re)integration, and relocation of IDPs and Sudanese refugees. UNHCR is also leading the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Solutions Initiative for Sudan and South Sudan, which aims to facilitate solutions for IDPs in both countries, and refugees from both countries in the East Africa region. Both UNHCR and UNDP will coordinate their implementation modalities to the extent possible, while fostering integrated partnerships with IPs, CSOs, and government entities, for which a key priority will be to develop local capacities in order to ensure project sustainability.

The following youth-led CSOs have been identified as prospective project IPs, all of which are registered as national NGOs with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in Sudan:

- Founded in 2019, *Mayarm Organization for Women's Development* is a registered NGO based in West Darfur, that is led by female youth. It is a member of the Sudan Civil Society Initiative, and has a board of 55 members, all of whom are young women. Mayarm staff are experienced community peacebuilders and gender advocates.
- *Alzaena Women Organization for Peace and Development* is an NGO in West Darfur, led by nomadic women. Formed in 2011, there are 60 women on the board of the NGO, 55 of whom represent nomadic communities and 5 of whom represent other communities.
- *Tanwa for Arts and Development Organization* was founded in 2015, and is based in West Darfur, with experience in peacebuilding through the arts. It has a board of 89 youth (39 women; 50 men).
- *Mercy House for Relief and Development Organization (MDO)* is a youth-led NGO in Central Darfur, formed by UNDP in 2016 and with experience in training youth volunteers. The NGO has a board of 60 youth (25 women; 35 men).
- Based in Central Darfur, *Shedf Development Organization* registered with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in 2020, and supported by UNDP to train youth volunteers, with a focus on peacebuilding, gender, and environment. It has a board of 45 youth (20 women; 25 men).
- *Hope and Friendship for Development Organization (HOPE Sudan)* is a youth-led peacebuilding and development NGO that established its Central Darfur office in 2015, where currently has 10 staff.

Agency	Total budget in previous calendar year	Key sources of budget (which donors etc.)	Location of in-country offices	No. of existing staff, of which in project zones	Highlight any existing expert staff of relevance to project
Convening Organization: **UNHCR** Implementing partners:	US$274.7 million	The Governments of: Norway; Sweden; the Netherlands; Denmark; and the United States of America	1 Country Office in Khartoum; 5 Offices in Darfur (including Sub-Office in El Fasher, North Darfur	541 staff in Sudan, with 31 based in El Geneina, West Darfur and 19 based in Zalingei, Central Darfur	-Senior Protection Officer (based in El Fasher, North Darfur); -Associate Protection Officer (based in Khartoum, with expertise on youth); -Protection Officers (based in El Geneina,

1. Mayarm Organization for Women's Development 2. Hope and Friendship for Development Organization (HOPE Sudan)			for management of Darfur Operation); overall more than 12 offices across Sudan.		West Darfur and in Zalingei, Central Darfur); -PBF Field Coordinator (based in El Geneina, West Darfur, with specialization in peacebuilding).
Recipient Organization: **UNDP** Implementing partners: 1. Tanwa for Arts and Development Organization 2. Mercy House for Relief and Development Organization (MDO) 3. Shedf Development Organization 4. Alzaena Women Organization for Peace and Development	US$96.4 million	Peacebuilding Fund (PBF); Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF); State Liaison Function (SLF)/United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID); The Governments of Sweden and Switzerland; Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	1 Country Office in Khartoum and 13 field offices (including Regional Office in El Fasher, North Darfur for management of Darfur-related activities)	280 staff, with 12 based in El Geneina, West Darfur and 5 based in Zalingei, Central Darfur	-Peacebuilding Specialists (based in El Daein, East Darfur and in Khartoum); -Gender Analyst (based in El Fasher, North Darfur); -Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Analyst (based in El Fasher, North Darfur); -Peacebuilding Project Analysts (based in El Geneina, West Darfur and in Zalingei, Central Darfur); -Youth Coordinators (based in El Geneina, West Darfur and in Zalingei, Central Darfur).

b) **Project management and coordination** – Indicate the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explicitly indicate how the project implementation team will ensure sufficient gender or youth expertise. Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements and ensure link with PBF Secretariat if it exists. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in **Annex A.1** and attach key staff TORs.

The project will be jointly implemented by UNHCR and UNDP.

UNHCR will recruit two Protection Associates (G6) to support the implementation of this project, including coordination with the IPs, local authorities, and local communities. The project will be managed by a Protection Officer (P3) based in El Geneina, West Darfur and an Associate Protection Officer (P2) in Zalingei, Central Darfur, with support from an Associate Durable Solutions Officer, to be based in El Geneina. In addition, the PBF Secretariat has seconded a PBF Field Coordinator (IUNV) to UNHCR, based in El Geneina, who will support UNHCR with overall project coordination and reporting in both West and Central Darfur, provide peacebuilding technical expertise, and serve as a focal point for the PBF Secretariat.

UNDP will recruit two dedicated Project Analysts for this project, one based in El Geneina and the other in Zalingei, for day-to-day implementation, including liaison with CSOs. Three other staff members include: Peacebuilding Project Manager, who will lead on UNDP's deliverables and ensure quality project delivery; M&E Analyst, who will provide the technical lead on baseline surveys, monitoring, end line survey, and final evaluation; and Gender Analyst, who will provide guidance on GEWE activities and ensure gender mainstreaming throughout the project.

Organization	Title/Level	% of Funding from PBF	Location	% of Time Dedicated to Project
UNHCR	Protection Associate (G6)	100%	El Geneina, West Darfur	100%
	Protection Associate (G6)	100%	Zalingei, Central Darfur	100%
	Associate Durable Solutions Officer (P2)	0%	El Geneina, West Darfur	35%
	Associate Protection Officer (P2)	0%	Zalingei, Central Darfur	20%
	Protection Officer (P3)	0%	El Geneina, West Darfur	15%
	Associate Protection Officer (P2)	0%	Khartoum	5%
	Senior Protection Officer (P4)	0%	El Fasher, North Darfur	5%
UNDP	Project Analyst (NPSA9)	100%	El Geneina, West Darfur	100%
	Project Analyst (NPSA9)	100%	Zalingei, Central Darfur	100%
	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Analyst (NPSA9)	50%	El Fasher, North Darfur	50%
	Gender Analyst (NPSA9)	50%	El Fasher, North Darfur	50%
	Peacebuilding Project Manager (P3)	30%	El Daein, East Darfur	30%

c) **Risk management** – Identify project-specific risks and how they will be managed, including the approach to updating risks and making project adjustments. Include a Do No Harm approach and risk mitigation strategy.

Project specific risk	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)
Outbreak of intercommunal violence in target locations, namely El Geneina and Kreinik, impacting access to project sites or	High	• Regular engagement and advocacy by Protection Sector, UN/Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) & UNITAMS with West Darfur and national authorities on protection of civilians, humanitarian access, peacebuilding, and durable solutions to violence and displacement, in line with the NPPOC and through the soon to be established state-level POC Committee and related national mechanisms.

delaying implementation		• Provision of technical and material support to authorities to achieve these outcomes. • Regularly updating local conflict analysis in order to adapt project interventions/implementation, as needed.
Strong presence of youth affiliated with Sudanese Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid faction (SLA-AW) hindering access to IDP camps in Zalingei	Medium	• Regular engagement and advocacy by Protection Sector, UN/HCT & UNITAMS with Central Darfur and national authorities on protection of civilians, humanitarian access, peacebuilding, and durable solutions to violence and displacement, in line with the NPPOC and through the state-level POC Committee and related national mechanisms. • Regular engagement and advocacy with IDP youth and community leaders at the IDP camps in Zalingei that will be targeted through this project. • Careful and inclusive selection of project beneficiaries in order to ensure that no tensions are caused between competing youth. • Regularly updating local conflict analysis in order to adapt project interventions/implementation, as needed.
Perception of UN Agencies and/or Implementing Partners as conflict drivers	Medium	• Adopting a conflict-sensitive approach, based on local conflict analysis to be conducted at the Inception Phase. • Conducting conflict sensitivity workshops with the project staff and IP staff ahead of project commencement. • Sensitizing relevant communities with details of project, including through regular stakeholder engagement, community consultations for feedback on project progress and impact, and transparent communication of intentions and project achievements/obstacles. • Ensuring the representation of all communities (i.e., IDPs, nomads, members of resistance committees, etc.) as project beneficiaries. • Maintain engagement with both IDP and nomad representatives in El Geneina, and IDP representatives in Zalingei. • This project will be fully compliant with the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) and will ensure that material resources are not provided to armed forces accused of human rights violations.
Violence targeting project sites	Medium	• Regular engagement and advocacy by Protection Sector, UN/HCT & UNITAMS with West Darfur, Central Darfur, and national authorities on protection of civilians, humanitarian access, peacebuilding, and durable solutions to violence and displacement, in line with the NPPOC and through the state-level POC Committee and related national mechanisms. • Provision of technical and material support to authorities to achieve these outcomes. • Regularly updating local conflict analysis in order to adapt project interventions/implementation, as needed.
The COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing limits on movement	Medium	• Build in back-up plans for flexibility should COVID or other restrictions limit in-person or face-to-face interactions (including alternate sequencing of

and gatherings within the state (thereby delaying activities)		activities; limiting group sizes; and investing in telecommunications/online communication where possible).
Political instability weakening relevant government institutions (thereby impacting engagement with the authorities or leading to a temporary halt in project implementation)	Medium	• Monitoring the political situation to adjust implementation plans, as necessary, to avoid delays in implementation. • Regular engagement and advocacy with both national- and state-level authorities, including during periods of transition, in order to ensure business continuity. • Regularly updating local conflict analysis in order to adapt project interventions/implementation, as needed.
Lack of acceptance by communities of young people, particularly young women, taking leadership roles	Low	• Sensitizing community members, including community leaders, on the importance of youth participation in civic space, with a focus on GEWE. • Identifying youth and gender champions within the communities who can garner support for the project interventions.
Lack of commitment from the authorities to meaningfully engage with young people through the proposed project	Low	• Regular advocacy by UNHCR and UNDP and sensitization of local authorities on the importance of youth engagement and participation in governance structures. • Identifying key powerholders as 'allies' in order to influence other members of government. • Briefing and debriefing sessions with youth participants engaging in decision-making fora to identify challenges they are facing, and solutions for addressing these challenges.

d) **Monitoring and evaluation** – Describe 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 budget break-down for both monitoring and evaluation activities, including collection of baseline and end line data and an independent evaluation, and an approximate M&E timeline. Fund recipients are obligated to reserve at least 5-7% of the project budget for M&E activities, including sufficient funds for a quality, independent evaluation.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework for this project aims to improve the quality and integrity of project delivery, ensure that activities are responsive to the needs of affected populations, and meet donor requirements and standards of accountability. As per PBF requirements, the project will carry out joint monitoring and reporting, as well as conduct a joint evaluation towards the end of the project. A total of USD 113,500, or 7.5% of the project budget, will be allocated to M&E activities (i.e., if indirect costs are not included).

At the Inception Phase of the project, a joint M&E plan will be developed by UNHCR and UNDP, in coordination with the IPs. M&E focal points at UNHCR and UNDP will support and advise on the process, including the development of relevant M&E tools. In addition, the PBF Secretariat will support with technical assistance, as needed. Regular monitoring visits by the project team, including focus group discussions with communities, will enable project accountability and address any concerns that arise throughout the duration of the project. In addition, pre- and post-tests (adapted to the literacy of the participants) will be applied to beneficiaries of trainings in order to determine the development of their skillset as a result of the capacity building. Activity-specific focus group discussions and key informant interviews will be carried out before and after other interventions, such as the youth-led community dialogues. Monthly meetings will also be conducted with the Youth Ambassadors in order to gauge progress and receive feedback, including on challenges and concerns.

A baseline survey will be undertaken at the inception of the project to collect qualitative and quantitative baseline data, disaggregated by age, gender, tribe, and location. This data will be utilized to set some of the project targets, and to further inform activity design and implementation. The baseline survey will include a barrier analysis to assess

impediments preventing young men and women from accessing public spaces. In order to maximize project impact, the barrier analysis will help to identify distinct reasons behind the exclusion of young men and women, which can then inform messaging geared toward social or behavioral change, as well as activity design and implementation. An end line survey, using the same data collection tools and methodologies, will subsequently be carried out to help measure the progress of the project against the baseline. Both the baseline and end line data collection will utilize perception surveys before and after the implementation of project activities.

During the final month of implementation, an external evaluation will be conducted to assess the overall impact of the interventions, document lessons learned, and ascertain the potential replication and scaling-up of this project in other locations of Darfur and/or Sudan.

Project M&E Budget Breakdown			
Agency	**Activity**	**Timeline**	**Cost**
UNHCR	Baseline Survey (including barrier analysis and perception survey)	1-3 months	$20,000 (17.6% of M&E budget)
UNHCR & UNDP	Project Monitoring	4-17 months	$42,000 (37% of M&E budget)
UNDP	End Line Survey (including perception survey)	16-17 months	$20,000 (17.6% of M&E budget)
UNHCR	Final Evaluation	17-18 months	$31,500 (27.7% of M&E budget)
Total Project M&E Cost (not including indirect support costs)			***$113,500 (7.5% of total project budget)***

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. Consider possible partnerships with other donors or IFIs.

The proposed project is conceived in a way that will empower youth/youth-led CSOs in West and Central Darfur to steer the design and content of the various interventions, as well as their implementation. Importantly, the project builds on existing grassroots peacebuilding initiatives, which it aims to bolster and capacitate through the project interventions, and which will endure beyond the project duration. Thus, locally-led processes and organizations, as well as local ownership, are prioritized in order to encourage project sustainability.

To enable effective handover of activities at its exit, the project will emphasize capacity building of young men and women, who will be the primary project beneficiaries. For example, young men and women will acquire skills in peacebuilding, digital content creation, inter-community dialogue, and leadership, which they will then be able to utilize in other fora or contexts following the end of the project. The interns who will be hired through this project will gain work experience, skills, and exposure to networks, which will then help them to find public sector employment following the project's closure. As much as possible, the project team will facilitate placements/job retentions for the interns at the end of the project.

In terms of the training materials, a dedicated website and/or Cloud-based platform will be set up in order to ensure that the content is available to youth in West and Central Darfur beyond the project end-date. Similarly, printed copies of the training resources will be available at UNDP's Youth Centers in El Geneina and Zalingei, where computers will also be provided to facilitate youth access to digital content. In addition, UNDP will develop a short training guide on youth-led peacebuilding in West and Central Darfur, which will support the dissemination and further utilization of the learning materials.

The project will work closely with locality and state government counterparts, particularly the Department of Youth and Sports, to ensure alignment with government priorities, as long as they are in full compliance with protection standards and 'Do No Harm'. It will also promote government ownership through regular engagement with national-

level authorities, including the Peace Commission. In this way, the project will advocate for the continued involvement and support by the government, civil society, UN, and community actors to further the project outcomes, even beyond the project end date.

An aim of this project is to achieve 'proof of concept' which, if successful, would potentially enable it to be scaled up and replicated in other parts of Darfur/Sudan through additional resources, either from the GoS or international partners. The Government of the Republic of Korea, as well as other donors, are currently funding youth-related projects in Darfur, and efforts will be made to further explore synergies and seek additional funding once the 'proof of concept' has been established.

IV.   Project budget

Provide brief 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 sufficient funds for an independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit. Fill out **Annex A.2** on project value for money.

Please note that in nearly all cases, the Peacebuilding Fund transfers project funds in a series of performance-based tranches. PBF's standard approach is to transfer project funds in two tranches for UN recipients and three tranches for non-UN recipients, releasing second and third tranches upon demonstration that performance benchmarks have been met. All projects include the following two standard performance benchmarks: 1) at least 75% of funds from the first tranche have been committed, and 2) all project reporting obligations have been met. In addition to these standard benchmarks and depending on the risk rating or other context-specific factors, additional benchmarks may be indicated for the release of second and third tranches.

Please specify below any context-specific factors that may be relevant for the release of second and third tranches. These may include the successful conduct of elections, passage of key legislation, the standing up of key counterpart units or offices, or other performance indicators that are necessary before project implementation may advance. Within your response, please reflect how performance-based tranches affect project sequencing considerations.

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

In the first Excel budget table in Annex D, please include the percentage towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) for every activity. Also provide a clear justification for every GEWE allocation (e.g. training will have a session on gender equality, specific efforts will be made to ensure equal representation of women etc.).

Please see Annex D – Project Budget

Staffing (20%) – UNHCR will engage two Protection Associates to support the implementation of this project, including coordination with the IPs, local authorities, and local communities. UNDP will engage dedicated Project Analysts in support of this project, including one of whom will have a communications background to the support with the strategic communications and digital engagement interventions. In addition, UNDP will support the cost of a Peacebuilding Project Manager, M&E Analyst, and Gender Analyst through this project.

General Operational Costs (including travel and procurement) (22%) – UNHCR and UNDP will ensure maximum value for money through the life of the project, including prioritization of local procurement based on a transparent process. In addition, UNHCR and UNDP have existing programming and field offices in El Geneina and Zalingei, which will enable cost sharing across projects. Partner expenses will be closely reviewed and include regular partner monitoring and technical support.

Indirect Project Support (7%) – UN standard indirect cost rate of 7%. Indirect costs go to global support, covering salaries of technical staff at headquarters to advise on program implementation and ensure quality program management.

National NGOs (51%) – Through this project, national NGOs will receive 51% of the project budget, therefore exceeding the project requirement that national NGOs receive a minimum of 40% of the project budget. UNHCR and UNDP will provide technical support, guidance, and capacity building throughout the duration of the project, while also ensuring proper management of funds.

Annex A.1: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
Planning			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline		X	UNHCR is presently launching a Call for Expression of Interest for Protection and Peacebuilding implementing partners for 2022, covering all Darfur States. Selected implementing partners may include youth-led CSOs such as Mayarm Organization for Women's Development. Selected NGO implementing partners may also establish sub-grant agreements with youth-led CSOs.
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission	X		
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	X		
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.	X		Consultations with youth-led civil society organizations and authorities are ongoing, both of which have expressed support for the interventions under this project. However, given high expectations from UN Agencies to deliver funding and projects amongst youth in West and Central Darfur, and for purposes of conflict sensitivity, validation of the project with the wider community will take place once funding is guaranteed in order to not to raise expectations.
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?	X		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	X		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?		X	
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	X		

9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?	N/A		
Gender			
10. Did UN gender expertise inform the design of the project (e.g. has a gender adviser/expert/focal point or UN Women colleague provided input)?	X		Inputs provided by the Gender Focal Point at the PBF Secretariat.
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	X		
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?	X		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?	X		

Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question	Yes	No	Project Comment
1. Does the project have a budget narrative justification, which provides additional project specific information on any major budget choices or higher than usual staffing, operational or travel costs, so as to explain how the project ensures value for money?	X		
2. Are unit costs (e.g. for travel, consultancies, procurement of materials etc) comparable with those used in similar interventions (either in similar country contexts, within regions, or in past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.	X		
3. Is the proposed budget proportionate to the expected project outcomes and to the scope of the project (e.g. number, size and remoteness of geographic zones and number of proposed direct and indirect beneficiaries)? Provide any comments.	X		
4. Is the percentage of staffing and operational costs by the Receiving UN Agency and by any implementing partners clearly visible and reasonable for the context (i.e. no more than 20% for staffing, reasonable operational costs, including travel and direct operational costs) unless well justified in narrative section?	X		
5. Are staff costs proportionate to the amount of work required for the activity? And is the project using local rather than international staff/expertise wherever possible? What is the justification for use of international staff, if applicable?	X		
6. Does the project propose purchase of materials, equipment and infrastructure for more than 15% of the budget? If yes, please state what measures are being taken to ensure value for		X	

money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.			
7. Does the project propose purchase of a vehicle(s) for the project? If yes, please provide justification as to why existing vehicles/ hire vehicles cannot be used.		X	
8. Do the implementing agencies or the UN Mission bring any additional non-PBF source of funding/ in-kind support to the project? Please explain what is provided. And if not, why not.		X	

Annex B.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 cost 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 programmatic and 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
30 April	Annual reporting – Report **Q4 expenses** (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure	

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

31 July	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to been 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 the RUNO undertaking the activities. 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 (www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund) and the Administrative Agent's website (www.mptf.undp.org).

Annex B.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
28 February	Annual reporting – Report **Q4 expenses** (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
30 April	Report **Q1 expenses** (January to March)
31 July	Report **Q2 expenses** (January to June)
31 October	Report **Q3 expenses** (January to September)
Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure	

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to been 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 (www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund) and the Administrative Agent website (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.

<u>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:</u>

- ➢ 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.[21]
- ➢ 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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[21] Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of project duration months and multiplying by 12.

Annex C: Project Results Framework (MUST include sex- and age disaggregated targets)

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicator	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
Outcome 1: Youth access to civic spaces in West and Central Darfur expanded by enhancing their capacity to develop and disseminate digital content and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on issues related to peace and conflict. • Contributes to SDG 16 (Peace, justice, and strong institutions)		Outcome Indicator 1a % of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) in target areas reporting improved access to civic spaces for peacebuilding Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Outcome Indicator 1b % of youth (disaggregated by community and sex) in target areas reporting increased capacity to produce & disseminate digital and low literacy level peacebuilding content Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Outcome Indicator 1c % of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) in target areas reporting improved peaceful coexistence Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Output 1.1 Peacebuilding capacities of selected young men and women in West and Central Darfur strengthened. (UNDP)	Output Indicator 1.1.1 # of active youth networks established Baseline: TBD Target: 3	Project monitoring reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Activity 1.1.1 Establish network of Youth Peace Ambassadors and youth-led CSOs in target locations via sensitisation sessions. Activity 1.1.2	Output Indicator 1.1.2 % of trained youth (disaggregated by community and sex) with improved capacity in peacebuilding and conflict resolution/prevention Baseline: TBD	Pre- and post-tests before and after the capacity building Attendance list	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

	Conduct capacity development of youth on peacebuilding and conflict resolution/prevention. Activity 1.1.3 Support youth ambassadors/youth-led CSOs to cascade the peacebuilding trainings to other youth in their respective communities. Activity 1.1.4 Engage youth-led CSOs to track and document youth-led peace initiatives at the community level.	Target: 75%		
		Output Indicator 1.1.3 # of youth from diverse backgrounds (disaggregated by community & sex) to whom peacebuilding trainings were cascaded by youth ambassadors and youth-led CSOs Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Attendance list	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 1.1.4 # of youth-led peace initiatives tracked and documented at the community level Baseline: 0 Target: TBD	Tracking matrices	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Output 1.2 Capacity of youth to create digital content, including peacebuilding messaging, and to share their stories via social media and online platforms, developed. (UNDP) Activity 1.2.1 Train youth ambassadors/youth-led CSOs on digital content creation and storytelling, focusing on conflict-related issues faced by youth, and youth-led solutions. Activity 1.2.2 Support youth to disseminate content developed under Activity 1.2.1 on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Tiktok and Twitter), and engage them in social media storytelling. Activity 1.2.3	Output Indicator 1.2.1 % of trained youth (disaggregated by community and sex) with improved capacity in digital content creation Baseline: 0% Target: 75%	Pre- and post-tests before and after the capacity building Attendance list	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 1.2.2 # of trained youth (disaggregated by community & sex) who have created and shared at least ten peace-related messages through social media Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Social media posts Social media report Project monitoring reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 1.2.3 % of trained youth (disaggregated by community & sex) active as digital mediators Baseline: 0% Target: 60%	Social media report Project monitoring reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

Train youth ambassadors/youth-led CSOs to be "digital mediators" to prevent escalation of hate speech, and on enhanced digital resilience, with a focus on GEWE-related topics. Activity 1.2.4 Support development of a dedicated website and/or Cloud-based platform, housed by youth-led CSOs, to be a repository of the created digital content and training materials for easy online access. Activity 1.2.5 Support youth-led CSOs to house a repository of the created digital content and training materials for easy offline access. :	Output Indicator 1.2.4 # of youth (disaggregated by community and sex) accessing online digital content (through website/Cloud-based platform) and offline digital content Baseline: 0% Target: TBD	Website login tracker Visitor's logbook at UNDP Youth Centers Project monitoring reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
Output 1.3 Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, for youth with lower levels of literacy, developed and disseminated. (UNDP)	Output Indicator 1.3.1 # of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) who received IEC materials Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	IEC material distribution list	Year 1: 50% (25% young women) Year 2: 50% (25% young women)
Activity 1.3.1 Engage youth to identify topics to be addressed through IEC materials. Activity 1.3.2 Support youth with the development of IEC materials and complementary items. Activity 1.3.3 Engage youth-led CSOs to disseminate IEC materials to youth with limited internet connectivity or with low levels of literacy.	Output Indicator 1.3.2 % of young women (disaggregated by community) who received IEC materials expressing satisfaction with peacebuilding messaging through said materials Baseline: 0% Target: 65%	Focus group discussion (after distribution of IEC materials) Project monitoring report	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

	Activity 1.3.4 Conduct dedicated fairs to showcase/distribute IEC materials, specifically led by and targeting participation of young women and nomadic youth.			
Outcome 2: Positive social and civic engagement by youth in their communities enhanced by youth-driven dialogues, micro-projects, and leadership skills building that contribute to peaceful coexistence. • Contributes to SDG 16 (Peace, justice, and strong institutions)		Outcome Indicator 2a % of community members (disaggregated by community, age & sex) in target areas who state that youth contribute positively to their communities Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection) Key informant interviews to supplement the surveys	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Outcome Indicator 2b % of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) in target areas who believe they have improved relationships with youth from disputing communities Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection) Key informant interviews to supplement the surveys	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Output 2.1: Youth empowered to lead community-level dialogues, utilizing existing community structures, on peacebuilding themes. (UNHCR) List of Activities under this Output:	Output Indicator 2.1.1 # of youth facilitators (disaggregated by community and sex) who report improved capacity & confidence in leading community dialogues Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Focus Group Discussion (de-brief with youth facilitators after each dialogue event)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Activity 2.1.1 Facilitate youth-led dialogues with target communities on key conflict drivers, and how to best address these conflict drivers through non-violent means.	Output Indicator 2.1.2 # of youth-led dialogues held with target communities Baseline: 0	Project monitoring reports Key informant interviews (with selected dialogue participants after each event)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

		Target: 18 (with 50% facilitation led by young women)	Focus Group Discussion (de-brief with youth facilitators after each dialogue event)	
	Output 2.2: Youth supported through youth-led community micro-projects focused on arts, culture, and sports. (UNHCR) List of Activities under this Output: Activity 2.2.1 Provide selected youth/youth-led CSOs with small grants to implement micro-projects that contribute to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.	Output Indicator 2.2.1 # of youth-led community micro-projects implemented Baseline: 0 Target: 28 (out of which 14 are led by young women or young women's organizations)	Micro-project documents (procurement records; participant lists) Focus Group Discussion or key informant interviews with select community members benefitting from micro-project	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Output 2.3: Young women empowered through initiatives focused on leadership skills. (UNHCR) List of Activities under this Output:	Output Indicator 2.3.1 # of curriculums on leadership skills building for young women Baseline: 0 Target: 1	Curriculum on leadership skills building for young women	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Activity 2.3.1 In collaboration with a women-led civil society organisation, develop a curriculum on leadership skills building for young women, taking into consideration the cultural context and sensitivities.	Output Indicator 2.3.2 # of capacity building sessions with young women on leadership skills building Baseline: 0 Target: 24	Project monitoring reports Attendance lists	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Activity 2.3.2 Based on the above curriculum, conduct a series of capacity building sessions with young women on leadership skills building.	Output Indicator 2.3.3 % of young women (disaggregated by community) participating in the capacity building sessions who report improved leadership skills Baseline: 0% Target: 75%	Pre- and post-tests for the capacity building sessions Focus group discussion with participants after the capacity building sessions	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

Outcome 3: Youth engagement in public policy spaces augmented through improved access to state, locality, and community-level powerholders. • Contributes to SDG 16 (Peace, justice, and strong institutions)		Outcome Indicator 3a % of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) in target locations reporting increased access to state, locality, and community level powerholders Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection) Key informant interviews to supplement the surveys	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Outcome Indicator 3b % of youth (disaggregated by community & sex) in target locations who report increased engagement in public policy spaces Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Perceptions surveys (conducted through baseline and end line data collection) Key informant interviews to supplement the surveys	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
	Output 3.1: Youth involvement in policy making enhanced through identification of powerholders and participation in existing decision-making fora. (UNHCR) List of Activities under this Output: Activity 3.1.1 Conduct a profiling of key "powerholders" (government officials and community leaders) who would be willing to facilitate youth participation in decision-making fora at the state and locality levels. Activity 3.1.2 Conduct briefing and debriefing sessions with selected youth on their participation in key decision-making fora at the locality- and state-levels. Activity 3.1.3	Output Indicator 3.1.1 # of state and locality-level profiles detailing key powerholders and relevant decision-making fora for youth participation Baseline: 0 Target: 5	State and locality-level profiles of key powerholders and relevant decision-making fora	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 3.1.2 # of decision-making platforms (at community, locality, and state levels) in which youth have participated Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Project monitoring reports Key informant interviews (with selected participants before and after the events)	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 3.1.3 # of youth (disaggregated by community and sex) participating in decision-making platforms at community, locality, and state levels Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Project monitoring reports Key informant interviews (with selected participants before and after the events) Attendance lists	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD

	Facilitate youth participation in key decision-making fora at the locality- and state-levels.			
	Output 3.2: Opportunities for public sector employment of young men and women enhanced through continued advocacy and youth internship initiative. (UNDP/UNHCR) List of Activities under this Output: Activity 3.2.1 Conduct sensitisation activities of government institutions, including state and locality level leaders, on placement of youth in government institutions, including clarification of their roles and program objectives. Activity 3.2.2 Advocate with government institutions to commit a formal quota for youth in public sector jobs or internships in West and Central Darfur. Activity 3.2.3 Conduct government and NGO institutional mapping assessment to identify institutions for youth placements, such as Nomads Commission, Peace Council, Voluntary Return and Resettlement Commission etc. Activity 3.2.4	Output Indicator 3.2.1 # of government institutions sensitized on facilitating opportunities for youth from diverse backgrounds, including nomads and young women Baseline: 0 Target: TBD	Semi-annual and annual reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 3.2.2 # of advocacy engagements with authorities to commit a formal quota for youth in public sector jobs or internships in West and Central Darfur Baseline: TBD Target: TBD	Semi-annual and annual reports Project monitoring reports	Year 1: TBD Year 2: TBD
		Output Indicator 3.2.3 # of youth (disaggregated by community & gender) placed in internship program. Baseline: 0 Target: 32 (16 young women; 10 nomads)	Semi-annual and annual reports Quarterly internship progress reports	Year 1: 32 (16 young women; 10 nomads) Year 2: 32 (16 young women; 10 nomads)

	Coordinate with government authorities to recruit and place interns in government institutions for mentoring and development of peacebuilding skills, including marginalized youth such as young women and nomads.			

Annex: Proposed Changes to Youth Promotion Initiative (YPI) Project
Darfuri Youth Empowerment in Civic Spaces to Advance Peacebuilding
UNHCR + UNDP

In light of recent political developments in Sudan, UNHCR and UNDP propose adding a few paragraphs to update Sections I (a) and (b) of the project document, which are the summary of conflict analysis findings and description of how the project aligns with/supports existing governmental and UN strategic frameworks. In addition, UNHCR and UNDP propose revising Section III (c), which is the risk management matrix, in order to better reflect how the project will manage the shifting political context and the latest intercommunal violence in the target locations.

However, due to continued political fluctuations, largely at the national level, UNHCR and UNDP recommend not to make any significant amendments at this time to the proposed interventions. By the time project kicks off in 2022, it is envisioned that the operational context will change once again. For this reason, it would be prudent to instead make any necessary adjustments at a later date, so as to be more responsive to the unfolding situation at the national level and its impact on political dynamics in West and Central Darfur. In addition, UNHCR and UNDP will continue to monitor the political context in Sudan throughout the course of project implementation, thereby adjusting the project interventions as needed.

At this point in time, UNHCR and UNDP will add the following changes to the project document in order to contextualise the recent political developments:

Addition to Section I (a) – Conflict analysis:

On 25 October 2021, the military component of the Transitional Government of Sudan (TGoS) removed the country's civilian leadership by detaining Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, as well as arresting other government officials and political leaders. The military also dissolved the governing Sovereign Council established by the 2019 Constitutional Declaration, which provides a roadmap for the transitional period. Upon his release in late November, Prime Minister Hamdok signed a power-sharing agreement with General Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan, who is heading a newly constituted Sovereign Council. Under this agreement, the Prime Minister will lead a cabinet of technocrats until elections in 2023. In addition, the agreement emphasises that the Constitutional Declaration will continue to form the basis of the transitional period, though it will be amended to ensure inclusion of all parties, except for the National Congress Party (NCP)[1].

Throughout the duration of the political crisis, the Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA) and neighbourhood resistance committees have been leading protests all over Sudan, though the magnitude of protests have differed from location to location. For many of the protestors, the political compromise reneges the 2019 power-sharing agreement and legitimises the primacy of the military in Sudanese politics. In addition, for the majority of Sudan's population, Internet access was cut for the initial month of the crisis, with phone lines also intermittently disrupted. The shutdown of communication networks impacted the ability of activists and protestors to share information on social media, as well as their capacity to mobilize for demonstrations against the military's actions. However, despite the challenges, the Sudanese population still managed to engage in large-scale protests calling for the restoration of a civilian government. Internet access in the country was restored on 18 November.

While there have also been protests in West and Central Darfur, the impact of the national crisis has been less visible in these areas, though there has been some change in leadership at the state-level (specifically in Central Darfur, where the civilian governor was removed). Nevertheless, in terms of institutional structure and composition, the West and Central Darfur governments are largely continuing to function in the same manner as before the political crisis.

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[1] The NCP was the political party of former President Omar Al-Bashir and was banned following the 2019 Sudanese Revolution and the removal of al-Bashir from power.

<u>Addition to Section I (b) – Governmental and UN strategic frameworks:</u>

Despite the ongoing political crisis, the 2019 Constitutional Declaration, which highlights youth involvement in civic spaces, continues to be a cornerstone of the political transition.

<u>Change to Section I (b) – Governmental and UN strategic frameworks:</u>

- Due to delays in the implementation of the state-level Protection of Civilians (POC) Roundtables in Darfur, UNHCR and UNDP propose to remove the reference to these roundtables being held between October 2021 to January 2022.

<u>Changes to Section III (c) – Risk mitigation matrix:</u>

- Addition of "Country-wide Internet shutdown" as a project specific risk.
  - o Risk level will be marked as "High"
  - o Mitigation strategy will involve:
    - ▪ "Ensure that elements of the trainings can be carried out offline, as well as online."
    - ▪ "Embed flexibility into the implementation strategy/project workplan so that, in case of Internet shutdowns, other components of the project can be carried out in the interim."
- Addition of "Political legitimacy concerns contributing to youth reluctance to intern at or engage with government institutions" as a project specific risk.
  - o Risk level will be marked as "High"
  - o Mitigation strategy will involve:
    - ▪ "Conduct sensitization sessions with young men and women, encouraging their continued peaceful participation and engagement in civic spaces."
    - ▪ "Ensure continuous dialogue with youth participants of the project, taking into consideration their suggestions and contributions to maintain youth-led element of the project."
    - ▪ "Place youth interns (or community volunteers) at UN Agencies and NGOs, as well as in government institutions."
- For the risk of "Outbreak of intercommunal violence in target locations, namely El Geneina and Kreinik, impacting access to project sites or delaying implementation", the following will be added under Mitigation strategy:
  - o "Ensuring strong engagement with leaders and community members from the disputing communities."
  - o "Preparing youth from disputing communities to peacefully and productively engage with one another ahead of joint activities (e.g., workshops, trainings, dialogues, etc.) by engaging with them bilaterally before bringing them together into one space. UNHCR, UNDP, and implementing partners will work on a joint implementation strategy, which will aim to address this issue."
  - o In addition, reference to El Geneina and Kreinik will be removed from this project specific risk since, given the increase in intercommunal violence throughout Darfur, such violence could occur in Zalingei as well. Thus, the risk will simply refer to "target locations".
- The risk of "Political instability weakening relevant government institutions (thereby impacting engagement with the authorities or leading to a temporary halt in project implementation)" will be changed from "Medium" to "High".

Totals				
	Recipient Organization 1 (UNHCR)	Recipient Organization 2 (UNDP)	Recipient Organization 3	Totals
1. Staff and other personnel	$ 168,680.00	$ 131,986.00	$ -	$ 300,666.00
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	$ -	$ 19,797.90	$ -	$ 19,797.90
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	$ -	$ 13,198.60	$ -	$ 13,198.60
4. Contractual services	$ 93,500.00	$ -	$ -	$ 93,500.00
5. Travel	$ 25,000.00	$ 47,599.30	$ -	$ 72,599.30
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	$ 340,760.00	$ 428,954.50	$ -	$ 769,714.50
7. General Operating and other Costs	$ 73,000.00	$ 59,393.70	$ -	$ 132,393.70
Sub-Total	$ 700,940.00	$ 700,930.00	$ -	$ 1,401,870.00
7% Indirect Costs	$ 49,065.80	$ 49,065.10	$ -	$ 98,130.90
Total	$ 750,005.80	$ 749,995.10	$ -	$ 1,500,000.90

Performance-Based Tranche Breakdown					
	Recipient Organization 1 (UNHCR)	Recipient Organization 2 (UNDP)	Recipient Organization 3	TOTAL	Tranche %
First Tranche:	$ 525,004.06	$ 524,996.57	$ -	$ 1,050,000.63	70%
Second Tranche:	$ 225,001.74	$ 224,998.53	$ -	$ 450,000.27	30%
Third Tranche:	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0%
TOTAL	$ 750,005.80	$ 749,995.10	$ -	$ 1,500,000.90	