

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



PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

Country(ies): Kyrgyzstan	
Project Title: Supporting young people's peacebuilding participation in Kyrgyzstan: integrating a youth-led mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) approach	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):	
PBF project modality: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts): <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> 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.): Saferworld (INGO)	
List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO): Public Foundation 'Institute for Youth Development Foundation' (IYD) – national CSO Peace Initiatives Association – local CSO Демилгелуу ишкер аялдар (DIA), Association of Businesswomen Entrepreneurs Foundation – local CSO	
Project duration in months¹: 18 months Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation: Batken, Chui, Osh and Issyk-Kul provinces, and Osh and Bishkek cities	
Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative ² <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative ³ <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): Saferworld: \$ 599,732.22 Total: \$ 599,732.22 <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are</i>	

¹ Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.
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

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):

PBF 1st tranche (35%):	PBF 2nd tranche* 35%):	PBF 3rd tranche* (30_ %):
Saferworld: \$209,906.28	Saferworld: \$209,906.28	Saferworld: \$179,919.67
Total: \$209,906.28	Total: \$209,906.28	Total: \$179,919.67

Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs): The project's **main goal** is to improve young people's meaningful participation in community decision-making and peacebuilding by reducing the psycho-social barriers, transforming harmful gender norms that contribute to conflict and violence, and gender-sensitively addressing their mental health concerns and priorities.

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): Prior to the submission of the feedback round to the UN PBF Steering Committee, Saferworld and all named partners (including women- and youth-led civil society organizations) held a number of remote workshops to co-design this proposal, building on our collective experience of working with stakeholder communities in all proposed locations. This was followed by a number of joint and separate meetings to finalize and agree project activities, priorities and division of roles and responsibilities, leveraging on the strengths of local and national CSOs, and ensuring complementarity with other initiatives. Drafts of this proposal were shared at multiple points for feedback with all CSO partners.

As the coordinating agency, Saferworld was also in contact with the Kyrgyzstan-based UN team to discuss various aspects of the proposed project, including discussions of how the proposed project aligns with UN priorities in Kyrgyzstan and globally. The analysis included here was based on consultations with partners who are based across the country and have regular consultations with local stakeholders. We also built on years of conflict analysis by Saferworld in which communities were consulted (especially young women and men under our previous UNPBF-funded project *Jash Araket*, which had a participatory research and analysis component to assess youth needs and priorities).

Project Gender Marker score⁴: 2 ___
58.34% and \$349,898 of total project budget allocated to activities in pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment.

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)

Briefly explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women’s empowerment ⁵: Gender sensitivity and transformation is at the heart of our approach. Saferworld and its CSO partners understand gender not only as an identify, but also as a system of power that can produce and shape conflicts or build and nurture long-term peace. Project partners will therefore ensure gender-sensitivity is embedded throughout, and apply robust safeguarding measures and risk assessments that go beyond ‘do no harm’, contributing to individual and community safety and well-being, and advancing gender equality. The baseline mapping will follow Saferworld’s ‘Gender Analysis of Conflict Toolkit’ ⁶ and participatory gender-sensitive conflict analysis methodology to identify gender-specific mental health priorities and barriers to mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) in rural/urban settings, including underlying harmful gender norms. Self-support groups will be separated as appropriate by gender and other identity groups to encourage safe discussions. Participants will be gender-balanced, as well as mentors and psychologists to ensure young people can access guidance from those of their choice. Monitoring and evaluation data will be disaggregated by gender, partner type and other factors to ensure that the diversity of experiences and differential impacts of the project on different groups are captured.

Lastly, in this project, Saferworld is working with youth and women-led CSO partners, who are experts on both their context and on how patriarchal and exclusionary power structures are driving gender inequality, GBV and women’s exclusion from peace and security spaces and discussions, among others. Saferworld and CSO partners have expertise on specific areas of work within the WPS agenda including peacebuilding, gender equality, women’s empowerment and participation, GBV prevention and response, and COVID-19 response and preparedness programming and advocacy. Saferworld will provide bespoke accompaniment and capacity strengthening support with CSOs, and promote the use of gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches to maximize the opportunities for CSOs to respond to the specific needs of young women and girls in their communities, as well as to support them to safely challenge the root causes of conflict, GBV and gender inequality, and ensure women’s meaningful participation at all decision-making levels.

Project Risk Marker score⁷: 1

Select PBF Focus Areas which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*) ⁸:

Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflicts

If applicable, SDCF/UNDAF **outcome(s)** to which the project contributes:

Outcome 2. By 2022, institutions at all levels are more accountable and inclusive, ensuring justice, human rights, gender equality and sustainable peace for all

⁵ Please consult the **PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding**

⁶ <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1076-gender-analysis-of-conflict>

⁷ **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

⁸ **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)

Outcome 4. By 2022, social protection, health and education systems are more effective and inclusive, and provide quality services

Sustainable Development Goal(s) and Target(s) to which the project contributes:






Saferworld has long supported the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially the wider SDG16+ agenda (which includes eight goals and 36 targets from across the 2030 Agenda related to peace, justice and security), with an understanding of the mutually reinforcing, interlinked nature of the agenda.

- **SDG3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
 - **3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being
 - **3.5:** Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol
- **SDG5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
 - **5.1:** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
 - **5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
 - **5.5:** Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life
- **SDG10:** Reduce inequality within and among countries
 - **10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
- **SDG16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
 - **16.a:** Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime

<p>Type of submission:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New project</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project amendment</p>	<p>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</p> <p>Extension of duration: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date):</p> <p>Change of project outcome/ scope: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Additional PBF budget: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX</p> <p>Brief justification for amendment:</p> <p><i>Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED color 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</i></p>
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	<i>signatures are required.</i>
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PROJECT SIGNATURES:

<p>Recipient Organization(s)⁸</p> <p><i>Name of Representative: Paul Murphy</i> <i>Signature</i> </p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p><i>Name of Agency: Saferworld</i> <i>Date & Seal: 20 October 2021</i></p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities</p> <p><i>Name of Government Counterpart – Soyuzbek Nadyrbekov</i></p> <p><i>Signature</i>  <i>Title</i> <i>Date & Seal</i>  <i>19.10.2021</i></p> <p>Deputy Director of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Policy</p>
<p>Head of UN Country Team</p> <p><i>Name of Representative</i> </p>	<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</p> <p><i>Awa Dabo</i></p> <p><i>Signature</i>  Deputy Head and Officer-in-Charge, Peacebuilding Support Office <i>Date & Seal</i> 22-Dec-2021</p>

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.

The last two decades have been turbulent for Kyrgyzstan, which has seen multiple revolutions, political instability and violent clashes in its cities and towns and along its borders. Tensions based on ethnic identity and competition over resources have at times spilled over into violence. The diverse southern regions of the country, which are generally less wealthy compared to northern regions, have been especially hard hit. In June 2010, inter-communal violence in and around Osh claimed the lives of over 500 people and left 80,000 displaced, and deepened divisions between ethnic Kyrgyz and Uzbek communities.⁹ In Batken, regular skirmishes along the contentious border with Tajikistan recently escalated into full-scale conflict.¹⁰

Young women and men in Kyrgyzstan – defined by the country’s youth policy as between 14 and 28 years – make up around a third of the population.¹¹ Often seen by authorities and communities as potential sources of insecurity rather than as part of the solution, they are vulnerable to police abuse, domestic violence, and recruitment into violent groups (both criminal and ideological). Saferworld’s participatory research¹² - conducted in 2019 as part of an 18-month UNPBF-funded project - provided young women and men a space to raise a wide range of issues that affect their lives and well-being in different regions across the country. These included a lack of opportunities, corrupt institutions, a lack of information and importance placed on women’s and girls’ rights, together with a lack of meaningful participation in public and political processes. One of the main conclusions was that young people’s perspectives and priorities were rarely considered, with reported feelings of invisibility and lack of agency. This in turn hampered their political activism and involvement in community or societal affairs, and lessened their ability to advocate for their interests. Many women and girls said they had little access to information about their rights and faced difficulties accessing opportunities or services, and were subjected to violence and harassment at home and in public. Added to this was a range of pressures on younger generations – to be silent and defer to elders, to follow expectations placed on them by society regarding family life and traditional gender norms, and to follow a path set by their families. Moreover, ethnic minorities, religiously observant, or LGTBI youth – many of whom would be less willing to speak openly – face compounding exclusion and marginalization, and also less access to services such as on mental health). This is despite the great mental health needs within these communities, who often face feelings of repression, isolation or a lack of self-worth due to internalized norms that can cause feelings of being ‘less than’ others. Many have nowhere to turn to discuss their problems, leading to further feelings of alienation and can lead to accompanying destructive behaviors that can make them or their communities less safe.

These factors vary for different age groups (for example, school-age or working), intersectional identities, as well as different regions (or even sub-regions) within Kyrgyzstan. Many women who get married do so in their late teens and into their 20s, and so face challenges relating to gender norms that a school-age girls may not. For men and boys, unemployment, labor conditions and providing for young families and in-laws can be a strain for those in their 20s, while those in school could face

⁹ <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1050-ldquoeverything-can-be-tolerated-ndash-except-injusticerdquo>

¹⁰ <https://thediplomat.com/2021/05/violent-clashes-at-the-troublesome-kyrgyzstan-tajikistan-border/>

¹¹ <https://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/%D0%BF%D0%BE%D0%B4%D1%80%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%BA%D0%B8-%D0%B8-%D0%BC%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B4%D1%91%D0%B6%D1%8C>

¹² <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1249-taking-stock-young-peopleas-ideas-on-peace-and-the-sustainable-development-goals-in-kyrgyzstan>

stressors related to bullying, racketeering, drug abuse or involvement in gangs or criminal groups. In addition, the insecurities of young people in Batken, who live along the border and who have much higher rates of labor migration, will look different from those in Osh,¹³ where people may face interethnic tensions, or targeting by the authorities. In cities, young people have access to more opportunities, but at the same time may face a different set of stressors.

The pandemic has been particularly difficult for young people who have had to adapt to worsening conditions, with many still reeling from the effects. Those still in school had to change to remote working environments – often managing difficult family situations such as increased exposure to gender-based violence (GBV) or psychological stress – while those seeking employment have faced growing strains economically and mentally. In Batken – where 31.5% of all income is made outside of the country¹⁴ – the disruption to income and accompanying unemployment has been devastating. Women and girls have found themselves stuck at home, and many are subjected to violence from partners or family members.¹⁵ Women’s education, concerns and priorities often get de-prioritized, as they are mainly expected to take care of the household and family members, facing pressure to get married and have children. Such expectations are symptomatic of patriarchal social and gender norms that perpetuate gender inequality and insecurity. This is on top of more direct psychological traumas related to deaths or prolonged illness.¹⁶

These pressures and accompanying psychological distress can disrupt education and development, obstruct opportunities and employment, and lead to frustration and increased anger that increase insecurity for young people and their communities.¹⁷ While some are visible manifestations – such as drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm or in extreme cases, suicide¹⁸ – there are many more who suffer in silence because of a lack of institutional understanding of mental health, as well as the stigma attached to seeking help, or the fear of being stigmatized if they have endured GBV. These cases, which often go undetected, can be characterized by depression, post-traumatic stress, anxiety, and a range of emotional disorders.

Women and girls, who face pressure to stay silent, can face long-lasting harms with no one to turn to. In addition, fear of being stigmatized as well as low trust in authorities or other state institutions to resolve issues in a gender-sensitive way¹⁹ can discourage many from reporting abuse or seeking help. Women often fear that raising such cases will make private family problems into ‘public’ affairs and will break apart their families. There are few places they can go to seek shelter, learn about their options or to be informed about the outcomes of different courses of action. Accessing confidential and safe spaces where they can speak with others in a similar situation or with trained mental health experts is also complicated. Apart from GBV, the huge pressures placed on many women and girls – to be the family carers and take care of all household work, while often having little to no space to voice their opinions, needs and concerns - can become a heavy load to bear. The lack of women’s meaningful participation in decision-making spaces in private and public institutions, as well as in the economy and policy-making, makes it more difficult to challenge harmful gender norms and address these inequalities.

Men and boys also face a range of pressures, which are often not discussed because of pressures and gender norms that discourage them from talking about psychological distress or emotions. From

¹³ <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1050-ldquoeverything-can-be-tolerated-ndash-except-injusticerdquo>

¹⁴ <https://www.akchabar.kg/ru/news/11-7-obshchikh-dokhodov-naseleniya-zarabotok-za-predelami-KR/>

¹⁵ https://24.kg/english/150832_Domestic_violence_grows_by_65_percent_in_Kyrgyzstan/

¹⁶ <https://www.kg.undp.org/content/kyrgyzstan/ru/home/presscenter/articles/2020/11/mental-health-training-during-pandemic.html>

¹⁷ <https://blogs.worldbank.org/health/mental-health-services-situations-conflict-fragility-and-violence-what-do>

¹⁸ <https://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/media/1936/file/ADOLESCENT%20HEALTH%20IN%20KYRGYZSTAN%20rus.pdf%20.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/05/31/young-womans-murder-kyrgyzstan-shows-cost-tradition>

pressures to conform to the ‘provider’ role for families, to pressure from peers to act tough or as defenders, the consequences can be felt across communities. These masculinities – when left unaddressed – can result in men perpetrating violence at home (asserting dominance over spouses or children), in communities (such as defending land in border areas through violent means or participating in criminal groups), or in wider acceptance of violence as a means to achieve goals of fulfil societal norms (such as forced marriage through kidnapping).²⁰ Even when masculinities do not result in violence or aggression, leaving these norms unfulfilled can do great psychological damage and a sense that men or boys have deviated or not lived up to what is expected of them – potentially manifesting in drug abuse, depression or even suicide. Having alternative values or outlets to challenge harmful gender norms and for self-expression – such as through arts, extra-curricular activities, or spaces to discuss these issues and challenges openly – could go a long way to refocusing psychological distress and finding ways to build a sense of worth, dignity and finding productive outlets that contribute to community wellbeing and peace. The results could include a lower inclination to resort to violence but for many who feel left behind, severe mental distress is a missing piece that can get in the way of participation in such peacebuilding activities. These mental health harms can act as an obstacle to active involvement in community affairs and lessen the impact of peacebuilding efforts.

Mental health, violent conflict and peacebuilding are intrinsically linked. The World Health Organization’s definition of mental health,²¹ for example, points to a holistic concept that encompasses aspects of community engagement, contribution, productivity and dignity – all crucial aspects of sustainable and inclusive peace²². While economic, political, resource and other factors play a large role as drivers of violent conflict, it is often the psychological pressures, societal norms and unaddressed grievances that push people or groups into action or disrupts social cohesion. The goal of peacebuilding – to tackle the underlying drivers of conflict and address them at their source – could not be more relevant to the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS), as many of the conflict drivers it seeks to address are in large part psychosocial (such as trauma or grievances toward specific groups), and those living in conflict-affected contexts are much more likely to be impacted. As pointed out by experts in the report ‘Mind the Mind Now’,²³ there is a huge gap in understanding and action related to MHPSS in conflict-affected contexts, with most attention going to physical damage or harm. The fact that MHPSS is relatively unexplored as a form of peacebuilding does not diminish the impact that improved services could have, in combination with other efforts and initiatives led by communities to tackle locally identified problems. Studies²⁴ have shown how integrating or specifically focusing on these mental health needs helps create greater resilience and an ability to respond to crises or challenges in a way that is better for communities, and also less prone to outbreaks of violence.²⁵ For young people, this resilience in the face of myriad challenges is crucial in order to process the impacts of conflict and to come up with solutions for addressing them in the future.

In Kyrgyzstan, despite the Republican Centre for Mental Health reporting 20% of the population experience at least minor mental health problems (UNDP 2020), MHPSS services are hampered by a lack of supply to respond to the great diversity of needs of young women and men (it is estimated that up to two-thirds of professionals do not have the training or resources they need),²⁶ and are also obstructed by misconceptions and stigma surrounding mental health. However, in recent years there

²⁰ <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1076-gender-analysis-of-conflict>

²¹ The WHO defines mental health as ‘a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.’

²² https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/nl_contribution_to_the_pba_review_2020_-_mind_the_past_to_build_the_future_0.pdf

²³ <https://www.government.nl/documents/publications/2019/10/18/mind-the-mind-now-conference-special>

²⁴ https://www.interventionjournal.com/sites/default/files/The_intrinsic_interlinkage_between_peacebuilding.9.pdf

²⁵ https://www.interventionjournal.com/sites/default/files/The_intrinsic_interlinkage_between_peacebuilding.9.pdf

²⁶ <https://www.kg.undp.org/content/kyrgyzstan/ru/home/presscenter/articles/2020/11/mental-health-training-during-pandemic.html>

has been a recognition of the importance of such support in certain contexts – for example, ‘social pedagogues’ and juvenile police inspectors, who work with children in schools, and who Saferworld has long engaged through training and technical support for workshops, discussions and meetings related to violence and mental well-being. While it is true that schools can be particularly taxing environments for mental health, scaled up and gender-sensitive services would go a long way in helping young people and whole communities, and de-stigmatizing issues surrounding mental health for a range of age and gender groups – including women facing GBV at home, men who face unemployment, ethnic minorities encountering marginalization, young people who suffer from drug abuse, or those recovering from the psychological impacts of conflict (such as recent escalations of violence along the borders and subsequent displacement). While services are more accessible in urban areas such as Bishkek,²⁷ in rural communities there are few available options and less understanding of how to access support. These community representatives would also play a key role in referring survivors of domestic violence to crisis centers, or victims of other traumatic experiences or mental health conditions to the necessary, more specialized services, in consultation and with agreement of victims.

- b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**²⁸, 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

The project will address intersecting priorities of a range of governmental and UN strategic frameworks touching on mental health, youth empowerment and peacebuilding. For example, the project is strongly aligned with *The missing peace: independent progress study on youth and peace and security*²⁹ and the dedicated UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) on Youth Peace and Security – UNSCR 2250 (2015) and UNSCR 2419 (2018).

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This project also aligns with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the Kyrgyz Republic 2018-2022,³⁰ especially outcomes 2 and 4– and more generally to UN commitments to ‘leave no one behind’, to use a human rights-based approach, to promote gender equality, and to meet commitments as outlined in the SDGs.

There are also a number of relevant national strategies and frameworks. This includes the Concept of Youth Policy for 2020-2030,³¹ which outlines a number of goals and priorities in relation to empowering and developing the potential of young people in the country (including priority 1 and results relating to health and mobilisation. Other documents with similar goals include the National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018–2040, and the “Unity, Trust, Creation” Development Program for 2018–2022. The project would also help reach the government’s goals outlined in the law ‘on protection of psychological health of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2030’, which outlines priorities for widening evidence-based and responsive services across the country, aligning with the first stage of implementation (2018 – 2022) in which evidence will be gathered and innovative approaches piloted to help later stages of implementation.³²

Finally, the project builds on Saferworld’s prior successes, such as the *Jash Araket* project funded by UNPBF, in which we established wide-ranging youth networks and lobbied for more inclusive

²⁷ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305407329_Counseling_in_the_Kyrgyz_Republic

²⁸ Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan on 1325, a National Youth Policy etc.

²⁹ *The missing peace: independent progress study on youth and peace and security*, A/72/761–S/2018/86, the UNFPA, 2018.

³⁰ <https://kyrgyzstan.un.org/en/35640-united-nations-development-assistance-framework-undaf-kyrgyz-republic-2018-2022>

³¹ <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/157204>

³² <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ky-kg/11840?cl=ru-ru>

decision-making and incorporation of young women and men’s ideas into national policies and processes (including through the SDGs). It also builds on other recent PBF and UN initiatives, such as the youth SDG ambassador project, initiatives aimed at social cohesion of Kyrgyz youth and resilience to violent ideologies, and support of youth leaders. We anticipate expanding on these networks in locations that overlap with *Jash Araket*, and continuing to build the potential of young people (including mentors and civil society groups) to advocate for inclusive and age-responsive policies.

- 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
Strengthening community-based policing in the Kyrgyz Republic (1 year)	United States Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)	Community policing, community security, youth/women community outreach campaigns	<p>The project has a large focus on joint work with the authorities, but also many similarities in terms of approach. For example, the project sets up collaborative platforms (LCPCs) which bring together youth representatives, women’s committee representatives, and others in the community to identify and address selected problems. Some of these solutions are set aside specifically for women and youth, in order to address concerns they identify.</p> <p>The centers set up under this project are also complementary, as they are a strong candidate for referrals (considering members are made up of prominent women’s/youth representatives, as well as police who may take on cases involving trauma). They can also help ensure sustainability of the self-support groups by connecting with them and providing support on local government fundraising.</p> <p>Many locations will also overlap, providing us with ready access and acceptance in communities where we work.</p>

<p>Strengthening civic engagement of young women and men in Kyrgyzstan to prevent recruitment into violent and criminal groups, and address local security concerns</p>	<p>The Public Affairs Section – U.S. Embassy Bishkek</p>	<p>Youth empowerment, civic engagement, outreach campaigns</p>	<p>Building on Saferworld and Foundation for Tolerance International’s (FTI’s) existing work on strengthening community security in Kyrgyzstan, the project expands our engagement with young women and men in Batken, Chui, Osh and Jalal-Abad provinces. Through a range of trainings, experience exchange workshops, smalls-grants and outreach at the national, sub-national and local levels, the project will provide spaces for young men and women – from both rural and urban areas – to come together and discuss the issues that affect them (such as civic identity, gender equality, family pressures, trafficking in persons, violence in schools, and recruitment into violent or criminal groups). This will lead to their greater civic engagement and joint activism to demand for young people’s concerns to be addressed. The project will provide the means for young women and men to identify their priorities locally and to come up with solutions that provide positive avenues for positive self-expression, which will reduce their involvement in violent or criminal groups that undermine peace and stability.</p>
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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).

MHPSS is an integral part of a holistic approach to peacebuilding that aims to address individual concerns and priorities and help strengthen community relations and resilience in order to improve individual and community safety and security. We believe that if young program participants and wider community members have increased access to MHPSS and trauma healing, then they would gain the confidence, coping mechanisms, knowledge and tools to resolve conflict non-violently and promote

peace in their localities, including through challenging harmful gender norms that contribute to conflict and violence. This project will contribute to learning around the linkages between psycho-social support and peacebuilding; including how integrating psychosocial interventions as part of a more holistic and transformative approach to peacebuilding promotes resilience, social cohesion and inclusion. The project's **main goal** is to improve young people's meaningful participation in community decision-making and peacebuilding by reducing the psycho-social barriers, transforming harmful gender norms that contribute to conflict and violence, and gender-sensitively addressing their mental health concerns and priorities.

The goal will be achieved by working with young women and men aged 16-28 to mitigate trauma and mental health risks, providing safe and supportive spaces for them to share problems with peers, access specialist support through referral pathways, and build collaborative problem-solving and peacebuilding relationships with each other, community leaders and government authorities. The project will focus on an approach that has not been used before in the proposed project locations: supporting and creating self-support groups for and led by young women and men. The self-support groups will be the only available mental health points of access for many young people in the selected communities, particularly in rural areas - serving simultaneously as peer-to-peer support networks, referral mechanisms, learning platforms and spaces for collaborative peacebuilding action and advocacy on gender equality or other chosen issues). Online and digital access to MHPSS will allow for technical support and resources to be available more widely across the country, especially for those who wish to remain anonymous in relation to particularly sensitive issues. Advocacy led by partners and accompanied by Saferworld and the 'Expert working group' will push for recognition by state agencies of the importance of youth- and gender-sensitive mental health services and for continued funding of self-support groups through municipal and provincial budgets, as well as inclusion of young women and men in decision-making and peacebuilding processes. The project team will make sure fundamental human rights principles are applied when providing MHPSS.

Project partners will ensure gender- and age-sensitivity is embedded throughout, and apply robust safeguarding measures and risk assessments/mitigating measures that go beyond 'do no harm', improving individual and community safety and well-being, advancing gender equality, empowering young people and contributing to peace dividends. The baseline mapping will follow Saferworld's 'gender-sensitive analysis of conflict' (GSAC) methodology³³ to identify gender-specific mental health priorities and barriers to MHPSS in rural/urban settings for youth, including harmful gender norms. Self-support groups will be separated as appropriate by gender, age and other identity groups to encourage safe discussions. For example, groups will be split by relevant age groups in and issues – for example 16-18 years for issues relating to school, or 18-26 years for issues relating to families, marriage and employment. Participants will also be gender-balanced, as will mentors and psychologists, to ensure young people can access services that are appropriate and where they can feel comfortable to discuss their concerns.

For self-support groups that choose to do so, we will support small grants initiatives led by youth that seek to address their ideas and plans to address mental health and peacebuilding needs in their communities. These can include awareness raising campaigns on key mental health issues (as well as available services or approaches for mitigating them), or plans aimed at local advocacy with authorities or decision-makers to improve mental health provision or address the drivers of conflict. This aspect of the project will directly contribute to the peacebuilding needs of communities, with a strong integration of MHPSS in peacebuilding activities, leading to a more holistic approach that addresses mental health barriers as well as directly addressing conflict drivers.

³³ <https://www.saferworld.org.uk/resources/publications/1076-gender-analysis-of-conflict>

Partnership is a defining element of Saferworld's approach to programming. We aim to make a long-term investment in and commitment to our partners, in order to support the growth of a strong, active and independent civil society that represents the views of people affected by insecurity and conflict, and who can advocate for their rights and interests. The partnerships established through this project are based on shared goals, mutual respect, equitable and transparent resource-sharing, joint accountability and two-way learning. Saferworld worked closely with all project partners to plan the design and implementation of this project through a series of remote workshops and meetings. Project implementation will also draw on the expertise of CSO partners, and will be youth-led – mentors will be drawn from existing youth networks, including trained youth leaders from Saferworld's previous UNPBF-funded project *Jash Araket*.

Saferworld mainstreams protection in all programming, including through 'Do No Harm' and conflict-sensitivity approaches. Saferworld has established accountability and protection policies including on Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse (SHEA), child and vulnerable adult safeguarding, code of conduct, whistleblowing and grievances. These detailed standards, responsibilities, monitoring mechanisms, and reporting and response procedures apply to all Saferworld personnel and consultants, regardless of location, and they form part of the contract of employment. Reporting of suspicion of wrongdoing is a mandatory obligation across Saferworld. At the start of every project we will conduct a safeguarding risk assessment with all project partners, that includes all. This assessment serves to highlight areas that require safeguarding risk management within the project.

- 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.

Young women and men unable to access mental health services is an issue of supply (and, to some extent, demand due to stigma and cultural norms that prevent them from doing so), rather than one of needs. Despite significant need for mental health support among young people, there is a lack of high-quality, confidential and targeted/relevant mental health service provision in the affected areas. Those services that are available are poorly advertised or understood (with many holding negative assumptions about such services), especially in rural areas where there are few trained personnel and where opportunities to access services in cities are limited due to cost and transportation. Young people see little value in coming forward with their mental health issues and risking stigmatization, given the lack of support available - making mental health problems even more 'invisible' and deepening the associated stigma (including that related to GBV). Improving the quality and quantity of relevant mental health services, and making young people aware of pathways for accessing that support, as well as sensitizing communities on the importance of addressing these mental health needs, would contribute to breaking that cycle, as youth and their families would see more positive examples of their peers benefiting from services.

Poor mental health service provision can be traced back to low capacity on these issues and responses among primary mental health providers and community-based groups. There is institutional buy-in among relevant health service providers to prioritizing mental health support (as evidenced by the law 'on protection of psychological health of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2030') and personnel already have the motivation to provide a higher standard of service. However, this has not led to adequate capacity-building for frontline workers or community groups because of a lack resources for training and guidance. Furthermore, due to a lack of open discussions in safe spaces in relation to young people's mental health issues, there is a poor understanding of what

those prevailing issues are and how these differ for different groups. If the capacity and understanding of trained community members were improved through targeted support and opportunities to hear from youth about their mental health concerns, frontline services delivered through community groups would improve, as would referrals to more specialized services provided by medical staff.

Unresolved mental health issues are fueling cycles of violence and conflict among and between youth, which in turn reduces community security. Marginalization begets further marginalization. Young women and men who have been excluded from community life and economic opportunities due to unresolved mental health issues are often targeted for recruitment into violent and/or criminal groups; even those who do not join such groups are tainted by association. If young people and trained community members have the space and opportunities to come together to discuss prevailing mental health concerns of young people, they will be less susceptible or drawn to violent outlets to cope with mental health stressors and will be more resilient to challenges within their communities. They will have the tools/skills to come up with solutions to tackle some of those issues head-on and increase their own peacebuilding potential and the potential of those around them. Young participants and mentors of the groups will also have a better understanding of mental health needs and will be able to make recommendations for improvements in service provision to local and national authorities as well as to international organizations and donors seeking to build more MHPSS-integrated peacebuilding programming in country.

- 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.

Through implementing programs in Kyrgyzstan, all project partners have developed a **people-centered approach to building peace and human security**, which is long-term and transformative. We do this by strengthening capacities and providing opportunities for actors to identify their concerns and to plan and implement collective responses to tackle issues causing insecurity and conflict. It is context-specific and value-driven, centering community inclusivity and participation to ensure that project activities reflect people's needs and priorities. Saferworld has pioneered the development of conflict- and gender-sensitive approaches since the early 2000s. This project proposes to use these approaches by focusing on systematic gender and conflict analysis whilst emphasizing trust-building and collaboration amongst and between young people, communities and authorities to tackle the intersection between mental health, violent conflict and peacebuilding. Through the provision of MPHSS, the project aims to address a gap that is often present in peacebuilding interventions: the assessment of the impact of conflict on young women and men's mental health, and how addressing their concerns and priorities and ensuring access to support can contribute to peace and security. Our partners have specialized expertise in this area, with DIA having carried out projects and activities relating to mental health of a wide range of groups (with a team of trained mental health experts among their staff), while Institute for Youth Development and Peace Initiatives both have long-held experience working with young women and men on issues related to their security and empowerment. The project will aim to achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Youth- and women-led CSOs are supported to research the MHPSS needs of young people (including young women and other marginalized youth) in the selected locations, increasing the knowledge base for more effective programming responses and advocacy.

Young people's mental health needs are often not fully understood. Four outputs will contribute to achieving the outcome proposed above: **Output 1.1** will consist of a preliminary, participatory conflict

and gender-sensitive research; a baseline assessment will be conducted in each location to provide a knowledge base on the links between young women and men's mental health and conflict dynamics (and violent expressions), and the impact on young people's participation in their communities. Where relevant, it will also seek to understand the specific mental health priorities of young people involved in peacebuilding or activism within communities and seek to provide a platform to address such pressures and to map existing services on MHPSS and GBV. This will support the design of evidence-based approaches, including identifying gender-specific barriers to accessing MHPSS and gender- and youth-sensitive services and referral pathway mechanisms. **Output 1.2** will be a summary document incorporating the main analysis and findings from the baseline assessment, including an overall picture and location-specific context analysis, which will serve as basis for the formation of self-support groups (under outcome 2). **Output 1.3** will deliver a pre-developed set of criteria for the selection of mentors to lead the self-support groups. **Output 1.4** will help provide wider access to MHPSS for young people through online anonymous information and mental health sessions, and digital resources and outreach on conflict and mental health, including on referral pathways.

Outcome 2: Young women and men have greater access to MHPSS support and referral pathways through gender, youth and age-sensitive self-support groups and increased capacity of mentors and psychologists.

Four outputs will contribute to achieving Outcome 2: through **Output 2.1**, mentors (including youth leaders who Saferworld previously worked with in the UNPBF-funded *Jash Araket* project) will be supported with mental health training on topics, such as the basics for psychological first aid methodology for self-support groups, issues around sensitivities/confidentiality, communications, peer support, survivor-centered approaches, and GBV referral mechanisms. **Output 2.2** will focus on strengthening the capacities of primary health providers and community-based health personnel to identify and support young people struggling with their mental health. The topics chosen will be based on the findings from the research conducted under Outcome 1. **Output 2.3** will consist of the formation of 15 youth-led self-support groups with clearly defined themes to address (focusing on the intersection between peacebuilding and MHPSS). Women- and men-only groups will allow for safe, confidential discussion of issues such as GBV, or the effects of masculinities and pressures on young men. Mentors and psychologists will provide guidance and information on referral pathways, for example, GBV services, and access to individual counselling. Under **Output 2.4**, self-support groups will meet weekly with mentors, and joined by a psychologist/supervisor monthly. Mentors will be supported by psychologists to ensure they also have access to the support and guidance they need.

Outcome 3: Youth-led self-support groups and their mentors have increased capacity to address mental health issues; they are aware of how to influence decision-making processes and peacebuilding responses in their communities and are supported to conduct outreach

Five outputs will contribute to achieving Outcome 3: Through **Output 3.1**, financial, technical and logistical support will be provided to mentors and participants from self-support groups who wish to develop small-scale action plans to address a specific mental health and/or conflict-related issue of concern to them and/or to their community, e.g., an awareness campaign on prevention of violence against young women. If relevant, participants will be supported to use the SDG framework to connect with national implementation strategies. **Output 3.2** will consist of quarterly exchange experience meetings for mentors to encourage sharing learning and lessons from the youth-led self-support groups. **Output 3.3** will support the formation of a MHPSS expert working group composed of mentors and project partners who will work with young women and men to identify priority advocacy areas drawing on evidence/lessons from the project, including the research under outcome area 1. The use of digital communication will be encouraged as a way to allow greater participation of young people

and support them to raise awareness of their priorities in terms of mental health support. Young women will be encouraged to take leadership. Advocacy will challenge stigma and marginalization of young men and women, and increase sensitivity to their mental health concerns. Under **Output 3.4**, Six roundtable sessions led by the MHPSS expert working group will be organized to engage/seek support from government actors (e.g., Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Youth, Ministry of Internal Affairs, juvenile police inspectors, neighborhood inspectors, *Ayil Okmotu* (local governance) heads) on the issues identified as MHPSS priorities for young women and men in the self-support groups. Following the roundtables, Saferworld and partners will use lessons from the project to advocate for more attention to youth-related issues and support to youth-sensitive health services at local, province and national levels and contribute to Kyrgyzstan's commitments under the global youth, peace and security (YPS) agenda and youth-related targets of the SDGs (including in area of mental health). Ongoing monitoring and evaluation will compile learning to contribute to the emerging peacebuilding-MHPSS nexus.

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.

Project partners will implement project activities in Batken, Osh, Chui and Issyk-Kul provinces and Osh and Bishkek cities. These locations were selected based on needs, as well as existing networks and understanding of contextual issues by partner organizations – and to have a mix of northern and southern regions. In our context analyses from previous projects (informed by our partners' ongoing work and engagement with stakeholders in all locations), we found that each region faces unique challenges that can lead to mental health harms or disrupt social cohesion. For example, in Batken there are psychological stressors associated with cross-border conflict (especially the most recent conflict and displacement in April/May), inter-ethnic tensions and heavy dependence on labor migration (and associated disruptions due to COVID-19). In Osh, inter-ethnic tensions, trauma from conflict, isolation and grievances persist, as do difficult living conditions for families affected by labor migration. In Issyk-Kul and Chui, families have faced difficulties related to COVID-19 disruptions and street violence. We also included the two major urban areas of Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek and Osh – which will have a different set of MHPSS challenges and systems as opposed to rural areas, where such services are minimal or non-existent. These include divisions between urban and rural youth who have migrated internally (and resulting differences in identities and values), as well as other identity or family pressures for those living in the city, attending university or finding employment. As such, the selected locations will provide a holistic picture of the MHPSS landscape in Kyrgyzstan, identifying gaps and contributing to services through integration into existing health systems, referral mechanisms, and advocacy around improvements.

During the early stages of the project, under Outcome 1, we will conduct context analysis for each of the project locations together with project partners. This analysis will consist of key conversations and surveys distributed through our networks to identify the main priorities and concerns of various communities. This analysis will help inform the selection of topics to tackle in the various regions but also help identify the kinds of people we would want to work with – e.g., if labor migration is selected as a major mental health concern that fuels negative behaviors or which acts as an obstacle to community participation, we will make sure to target young people who are affected by this issue in that region. The gender-sensitive conflict analysis will also seek to dig deeper into issues by breaking up seemingly monolithic groups by age and gender, and these considerations will be used to inform

the formation of the self-support groups. For example, we will likely avoid self-support groups made up of both women and men, unless there is a particular reason to do so. We will also try to ensure that members of the groups have much in common, for comfort speaking up and supporting each other, especially around the particular issue the group seeks to address – e.g., not mixing school-aged young people (16-18) with those who are dealing with pressures around young families or unemployment/labor migration (18+).

The surveys will be designed by DIA in consultation with Saferworld and other partners, with additional key interviews as needed. We will look at issues that will help us identify needs and outreach to potential participants in the project, including: mental distress caused by recent conflict with Tajikistan and ongoing uncertainty (these groups would likely not be mixed ethnicity, but at the same time the action plans could seek to build on existing sources of resilience, such as inter-ethnic relations between ethnic Kyrgyz and Tajiks who live within Kyrgyzstan's borders or near enclaves of neighboring countries); COVID-19 stressors among school-age students (mostly 16-18), such as remote learning, violence within families and feelings of isolation; women-only participants (18+) who have experienced forced marriage, domestic violence or psychological stress related to marriage or changing family situations; school-age students who face bullying, harassment, drug abuse/dealing, or involvement with criminal groups or gangs; single-gender groups of labor migrants who regularly travel to Russia or elsewhere to earn money, or the families of labor migrants who face increased discrimination or abuse due to their status; groups of ethnic minorities experiencing marginalization or particular challenges (these groups would likely be single-ethnicity and could be conducted in Uzbek/Russian/Tajik/Dungan/Uyghur or other relevant languages), or groups set up to discuss issues relating to religious identity, or participation/recruitment into violent groups.

Participants will not be directly chosen by Saferworld or partners, due to concerns around confidentiality and anonymity. However, under Output 1.3, we will develop criteria for the selection of mentors who will work directly with project participants and self-support groups. Criteria will take into account previous experience working on social/psychological issues; level of interest in learning about the topic (for example, mentors who are interested in pursuing psychology as a career path); personal characteristics as related to the context analysis (for example, in a region where domestic violence was overwhelmingly chosen as a mental health issue, at least one mentor from that area should be a woman to work with the groups, or in areas with large ethnic minority populations, one could be of Uzbek or Tajik background); experience working with relevant age groups (for example, this could include students aged 16-18); demonstrated sensitivity to social issues and unbiased approach. A mix of women and men mentors will be crucial to this work and will depend on the context analysis and the issues raised. For some of the issues, it will also be better to have younger mentors who are closer to the age of self-support group members. Due to confidentiality, these mentors will be our direct line to the self-support groups and will provide anonymized data on the groups such as age/gender breakdowns, but without names or identifying information. It is expected that approximately 30 mentors will be engaged as part of the project (approximately 15 women and 15 men) and 15-20 self-support groups will be formed in total across all project locations. The number of participants per group will likely vary depending on the issues raised (and the sensitivities around them) and the location; however, we anticipate the project will reach approximately 300 young women and men directly and 900 indirectly through the action plans and other outreach activities.

The proposed approaches and activities have been developed in consultation with all project partners, who are youth- and women-led organizations, and with specialization in MHPSS from partner DIA. In all our initiatives, Saferworld involves community members in identifying priorities for the delivery. Opportunities for multi-stakeholder participation have been integrated into all project activities. For instance, through outcome harvesting and reflection meetings involving local communities, civil

society, informal structures and local government. Special consideration will be given to marginalized groups, including young women and men, ethnic and gender minorities, and people with disabilities. Project participants will be fully involved in monitoring behavior and relationship changes in their environments. We will jointly discuss these changes, and document, review, and build on them. Continuous monitoring and reporting by Saferworld and partner staff to community members during the project period will also support accountability and transparency. All project results are shared with participants and stakeholders while giving appropriate consideration to confidentiality, as needed. Saferworld uses a number of feedback and complaint mechanisms, including written feedback forms, interviews, toll-free phone numbers, and procedures for in-person complaints, to ensure compliance with the Core Humanitarian Standards on Quality and Accountability.

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.

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: Saferworld	£20.10m (Saferworld global income for 2019-2020) \$800,068 (Saferworld Kyrgyzst an office income for year 2019-2020)	Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) at US State Department	Bishkek, Osh	9 staff (5 in Bishkek, 4 in Osh)	In Kyrgyzstan: Existing peacebuilding project coordinators, gender adviser, CA Region Manager, Finance Manager. In London (SW HQ): MEL adviser, programme support & learning adviser (including safeguarding),R egional grants manager.
Implementing partners: Демилгелуу ишкер аялдар (DIA) – Association of Women Entrepreneurs Foundation – local CSO	\$122,052	National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, USAID, Latvian MFA, Aga Khan Foundation, UNFPA, Global Fund for Women	Osh	10 staff (+ 6 regular consultants and trainers)	
Institute for Youth Development (national CSO)		DVV International, United Nations Development	Bishkek	11 staff, 3 volunteers	Director, 2 psychologists, 1 psycho-

		Program, Foundation "Soros Kyrgyzstan", Bread for the World, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kyrgyz Republic, Coca-Cola Foundation, PeaceNexus			therapist, lawyer, trainer specialists
	\$376 000				Executive Director, Project Coordinator, Communication and PR expert, consultants on research + advocacy
Peace Initiatives (local CSO)	\$102,650	National Endowment for Democracy, UNPBF, Generation for Peace, Saferworld	Batken	6 staff	Director, coordinators

- 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.

All project partners will work as a consortium, comprising of national and international organizations, with a strong track record across MHPSS support, advocacy and peacebuilding sectors. We are well-placed to implement this project because: (1) We are multi-sectoral and diverse organizations, sharing a common vision and commitment to change. Each organization shares a common vision of how a more integrated ‘system’ can be achieved and we have a documented track record of questioning our existing ways of working, adopting new practices and piloting new integrated analytical tools, program design, delivery and evaluation; (2) We each operate effectively in complex environments and have experience of partnering with local actors and working with community groups in all project locations. Each partner allocate one project coordinator, who will be completely focused on the proposed project and will devote all their time to ensuring goals and commitments are met. They will lead on liaising and pulling in others colleagues as necessary for successful project implementation. They will also be the main focal point for coordination with partners and participants, except for in locations that are assigned to other focal points in the team. A project agreement document will be signed between all project partners, outlining each one’s roles and responsibilities within the project, including partner’s responsibility for managing expenditure in line with the agreed and jointly developed budget.

Saferworld: Like other partners, Saferworld will have a Project Coordinator to dedicate 100% of their time to this project. In addition, the project will be managed by the Head of Office/Project Manager

(based in Bishkek, with a small budget contribution), as well as the Kyrgyzstan Finance Manager (based in Bishkek, with around a quarter recharge). Three existing Project Coordinators (1x in Bishkek, 2x in Osh) will support project coordination and implementation. The Regional Conflict and Security Adviser (based in Bishkek) will also support on project implementation, communications and advocacy. Regional and strategic support and management oversight will be provided by the Central Asia Program Manager (based in Dushanbe), technical support will be provided by a Gender and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Coordinator (based in Dushanbe). Support from London headquarters will include staff with small recharges (from 5-15%) reflective of their level of effort on the project, including a Regional Grants Manager, Program Support and Learning Advisor (including to support on safeguarding), and a Finance Officer. Saferworld will be responsible for overall project management and coordination across partners, MEL leadership, donor reporting, methodology and project planning, and support for advocacy/communications.

Демилгелуу ишкер аялдар (DIA) – Association of Women Entrepreneurs Foundation: In addition to the Project Coordinator who will dedicate all of their time to this project, there will also be two logistical coordinators (one for northern project locations and another for southern) who will support in all logistical and administrative matters (especially around trainings and events) in coordination with the Project Coordinator. A Finance Manager from DIA will be put on the project at 50% contribution. DIA will also be in charge of setting up approximately five to six consultancies for trainers (for the early-stage trainings and then supervision throughout the work of the self-support groups, for around six months). As part of project activities, around 30 mentors will be selected and supported. DIA, a women-led organization, will largely be in charge of the trainings in the early stages, especially in the formation of the self-support groups and the selection/training of mentors. With many of their staff being trained as professional psychologists, they will provide the bulk of support on the mental health aspects of the project.

Institute for Youth Development: In addition to the Coordinator who will work 100% on the project (based in Bishkek), IYD will also have a PR/Communications Specialist devote around 50% of their time to this project, especially toward the end when there are action plans/awareness campaigns, as well as externally facing advocacy and communications from the expert working group. IYD will also have a Finance Manager (50%) and Executive Director (20%) working on the project. They will also support engagement of experts and members of the working group set up in the second half of the project, and which will be in charge of doing much of the advocacy and communications – especially around financial sustainability, integration of services into healthcare, referral mechanisms and improvements to national systems. It is expected that around 10 of these experts (including some partners and mentors) could be engaged for this group. Overall, as a youth-led organization, IYD will support with youth mobilization, advice on engaging with youth groups on sensitive issues, use of innovative communications/advocacy channels, and national-level engagement.

Peace Initiatives: Based in Batken, Peace Initiatives will contribute one full-time Coordinator to this project at 100%, and an Accountant at 50%. The Director of the organization will also dedicate around 20% of time to this project. As a youth-led CSO based in Batken, Peace Initiatives will support on implementation and youth mobilization, especially in border regions in Batken, and will advise on issues of gender/conflict sensitivity.

Saferworld will convene monthly coordination meetings between all partners, as well as regular one-to-one coordination/check-ins, to ensure that all staff are coordinated and that any issues can be addressed in a timely manner. Implementation and outcome harvesting will be done jointly between all partners and where possible will involve participation or inputs from mentors and other stakeholders (ensuring principles of anonymity and protection of self-support group participants are protected).

- 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)
The COVID-19 pandemic and measures introduced in response cause disruption and delays to activities and pose risks to those taking part in in-person activities.	High	Saferworld’s COVID-19 support teams will advise on program adaptation and safe delivery of activities. Thorough risk assessments and standard operating procedures for activities during the pandemic are in place (includes smaller group activities, providing face masks, social distancing, and safer travel). Regular risk assessments of current context will be conducted. Some activities will be delivered remotely/online.
Some project activities put participants at greater risk, or reinforce stigmatization or marginalization due to inappropriate behavior of participants/mentors/staff, or disapproval of family/peers.	Medium	Saferworld employs a strict ‘do no harm’ approach, and ensures all activities and methodologies are conflict/gender sensitive. We also have stringent safeguarding policies (which will be explored in trainings with partners and mentors) to ensure participants are protected (Saferworld’s Gender and Safeguarding Coordinator can provide support as needed). Trained MHPSS experts will provide advice throughout. Identities of participants of self-support groups will be kept confidential (only known to mentors). Any incidents or negative reactions will be immediately addressed by partners, Saferworld and mentors to ensure participant safety first and foremost.
Specific groups within communities – including women, young people and ethnic/religious minorities – are reluctant (or unable due to gender norms) to engage in project activities.	Medium	Saferworld will conduct community needs assessments; and a clear presentation of the project and key goals to build understanding amongst community members will take place. Activities related to women’s involvement are supported by CSO partners with long-standing local knowledge. Women-only discussion groups will be conducted and support from Saferworld’s Regional Gender Adviser will be received. Sensitization will be carried out with various trusted institutions/individuals in communities, who can act as champions for the groups. Conflict/gender-sensitive outreach will be conducted with vulnerable groups, with all relevant anonymity and confidentiality concerns in mind, with measures in place to ensure safety for participants.

Changes to the political situation (near border communities, or national-level events) mean delays or challenges to project implementation.	Low	While flare-ups of conflict in border areas are common, and political instability can disrupt engagement with national representatives, these are unlikely to have a major impact. Still, Saferworld will conduct ongoing context analyses, including through consultation with partners, communities, authorities and external security actors. The risk/mitigation plan will be updated regularly, and staff/partners will follow the appropriate security policies and procedures.
Changes of the heads of those state bodies which we want to engage in advocacy activities.	Medium	While changes in government can have an impact on the relationships that the project team has built with them, all project partners will ensure that we are engaging with the relevant authorities at all time and are informed (As much as possible) of any upcoming changes to the staff.

- 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 project results framework outlines a full range of quantitative and qualitative indicators at outcome and output level for assessing the extent to which project activities are being implemented and leading to the changes we expect to see as indicated in the project theory of change. Perception-based indicators in the results framework are complemented by behavior-based indicators, generating data that will help us validate or amend the project theory of change. See for example outcome indicators 2a and 2b - we will first discuss with mentors how the capacity of the self-support groups to address their own MHPSS needs has improved and then assess the extent to which the self-support groups are motivated to use their enhanced capacity by tracking how many of them choose to implement their non-mandatory action plans.

Output indicators will be tracked on an ongoing basis using administrative data from project implementation, such as participants lists, research outputs and distribution lists. Most outcome indicators will be baselined in the first three months of project implementation by Saferworld and partner MEL staff. Indicators relating to the knowledge and confidence of mentors will be baselined following their identification and recruitment. Relevant data collection activities and tools for outcome indicators will include surveys, pre- and post-training questionnaires and mentor advocacy logs.

Saferworld's approach to outcome monitoring is based on Outcome Harvesting (OH), a participatory evaluation methodology that works backwards from identified outcomes to identify their significance in the context and in relation to project goals, and to analyze the contribution of Saferworld and partners to these outcomes, as well as getting input from project participants and other stakeholders. Outcomes are framed in terms of changes in the behavior and relationships of significant actors (from community members to civil society organizations to governmental authorities), or in the broader conflict system. OH is simple, yet powerful, participatory process that moves beyond retrospective analysis to identify the implications of these outcomes for the project Theory of Change and any adaptations required for the project to meet its goals in a dynamic, ever-changing environment. It also

enables the documenting of unexpected positive or negative outcomes that would otherwise be missed through monitoring of the project results framework. OH is also linked to the project results framework, specifically with respect to outcome 3 on the medium-term results of the advocacy activities and the self-support groups' action plans. We will conduct biannual OH sessions with project partners and project participants (such as mentors) in person, though we will also support all participants to gather relevant data on an ongoing basis to feed into these sessions to ensure that outcomes are evidence-based. Far from being a standalone event, the OH process will be tightly integrated with the wider project MEL plan, ensuring that it is inclusive of a range of actors (including outside of Saferworld and immediate partners). For example, data from community perception surveys or focus groups will be fed into the OH process to ensure that all analysis is based on sound evidence, contextual realities and community views. Equally, the outputs of the OH process can in turn feed into further MEL activities, including through external evaluation (see below), which involves talking to a wide range of stakeholders to validate the outcomes.

All project MEL activities will be conducted such that the anonymity of youth self-support group members will be maintained. The perceptions and opinions of self-support group members will not be sought directly but rather through the mentors. During the project induction meetings for mentors in Bishkek and Osh (see Output 2.1), mentors will be trained on project MEL requirements and the data collection required to meet them, including a suite of tools and an introduction to the OH methodology; mentors will also receive ongoing support from the project management team to gather this data in a way that is consistent and complementary with their other activities. Mentors will also be involved in project outcome harvesting sessions (see above). Participant data will be anonymized, though Saferworld, partners and mentors will gather relevant demographic data (in particular gender and age) that will allow for appropriate disaggregation, to understand how the project is affecting different groups. Conflict-, gender- and mental health-sensitive approaches to MEL will be mainstreamed throughout, for example in providing single-gender spaces for focus group discussions on sensitive issues, or working with mentors to ensure self-support group surveys do not include questions that could stigmatize or retraumatize individuals. The context analysis conducted at the beginning of the project will be crucial in informing these approaches.

A mixed-methods evaluation will be conducted during the lifespan of the project to assess the quality of implementation and the overall value and impact of the project, including by soliciting input from mentors and other project stakeholders (keeping in mind anonymity and safeguarding concerns). Our project MEL activities are designed to support and align with the evaluation. We can provide the potential external evaluators with a selection of the most significant outcomes gathered through OH, which the evaluator can then verify, reject or amend based on complementary data collection and analysis. This process allows the evaluators to build on the momentum and quality analysis generated by the participatory OH process and reduces redundancy in data collection.

Ideally, MEL data collection activities will be conducted in-person through visits to project sites. However, if the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan evolves in such a way that this is not possible, Saferworld and partner staff will draw on the experience of remote MEL that they have built over the past 18 months, conducting group activities online or via telephone, SMS or WhatsApp when contacting individuals. OH sessions may be adapted in this case, moving from the default set-up involving one large group session with all staff, partners and mentors in attendance, to multiple, 'modular' sessions to ensure meaningful participation of all individuals present.

Saferworld and partners' commitment to strengthening MEL capacity and systems at project and programmatic level is in line with the recommendations of UNPBF's recent [Synthesis Review](#), which highlighted the need to "invest in initial design and insuring program quality and strong M&E systems" to avoid over-reliance on external evaluation. Saferworld's Regional Gender and MEL Coordinator

will assume overall responsibility for the management and implementation of the project's MEL plan, receiving technical backstopping support from Saferworld's MEL Adviser in London. Partner staff with MEL responsibilities will also be briefed on project MEL requirements and trained on approaches at a dedicated workshop during the project inception phase; this session will involve a Training of Trainers (ToT) element, to enable partners to cascade what they have learned to mentors (see above). As noted above, all participant data will be anonymized and stored in password-protected folders if moved online; outcomes data will be stored on Saferworld's secure, password-protected Kwantu monitoring and reporting system. Saferworld and its partners will bring extensive MEL experience to bear throughout project implementation. Within the peacebuilding sector, Saferworld pioneered the use of outcome harvesting for outcome monitoring at programmatic and organizational levels (see our widely read learning paper on OH [here](#)). Since mainstreaming OH in our MEL several years ago, we have been approached by a number of international organisations, including Sida and Tearfund, to provide bespoke OH training, and we have also run several training workshops on the methodology for a wider range of actors.

USD 42,052 (7.01% of project budget) will be set aside in total for project MEL activities, including . USD 15,701 will support MEL training for partners during the project inception phase and ongoing monitoring, including regular Saferworld monitoring visits to project sites, biannual outcome harvesting sessions and activities related to development of community indicators of change and corresponding mini-perception surveys. This budget is not inclusive of the baseline assessment, which is budgeted as a project activity under Output 1.1 as its scope will also include context analysis and needs assessment, in addition to activities to baseline relevant indicators in the project results framework. The indicative MEL timeline is as follows:

MEL Activity	Approximate timeline
Partner MEL training	Q1 (with ongoing mentoring tbc)
Baseline assessment	Q1
Saferworld monitoring visits to project sites	Ongoing, at least quarterly
Mini perception surveys	Annually
Outcome harvesting	Q2, Q4, Q6

- 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.

Saferworld will ensure sustainability primarily by: strengthening young women’s and men’s, youth leaders’, partner CSOs’ and local authorities’ capacities to identify, respond to and address MHPSS priorities and peace and security concerns; promoting long-term relationships by creating a network of mentors who have an understanding of mental health needs, gaps and approaches, as well as linking up like-minded, motivated young women and men and CSOs who understand the roles they can play in furthering their communities’ peace and security, and how these can constitute an essential building block for future peaceful development across the country; increasing the trust between youth and the authorities and ensuring that knowledge and information generated about the importance of adopting a holistic approach to peacebuilding that integrates MHPSS as part of its response, are shared widely to inform policy-making at all levels will strengthen existing policies and practices and maintain relationships well beyond project completion. We intend to draw on this project’s learnings to advocate for the institutionalization of and approach to MHPSS that is gender and conflict sensitive, and

responds to young people's priorities and concerns. This will feed into Saferworld's longer-term strategy of reducing our direct implementation, and, instead, offer technical support to actors in-country. For example, we will reach out to *Ayil Okmotu* (local self-governments) to assess whether these self-support groups can be included in their budgets after the project ends. Additionally, some of the issues that will be discussed in the self-support groups will also be relevant to the Local Crime Prevention Centers (LCPCs) – structures that Saferworld has been working with for over ten years. The LCPCs often are the main point of contact for community members who seek MHPSS support. The youth and women committee members that are part of the LCPCs could also provide information on the services if it's of interest of the person who came to them. The project will identify existing referral mechanisms (including GBV) that are available in each project location. Information about these services will be widely shared (with community members and local authorities) to ensure this information continues to be available and regularly updated beyond the scope of the project. We will also work with partners to provide bespoke mentoring, accompaniment and capacity strengthening support to build up a constituency of CSOs that can continue to work on this and similar issues in Kyrgyzstan.

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.).

Staff costs: Saferworld staffing costs on this project are consistent with those required for delivering similar work in Kyrgyzstan, where Saferworld has been working for over ten years. A total of 21.84% of the budget will be going to staff costs, to ensure enough resources are available to successfully deliver the project outcomes. This project requires substantial management and technical expertise of Saferworld staff in-country to both directly implement components of the project and to support our CSO partners. In addition to Kyrgyzstan-based staff, we will draw on support from regionally- and headquarters-based managers and advisors, who play an important role in

overseeing project management and providing technical support. Additionally, as part of our mitigation measures against inflation (which has been increasing in Kyrgyzstan in the past three years – as of October the rate is 14%), we add a 3% increase to staff salaries each year. We will allocate a project coordinator to dedicate 100% of their time to this project, and ensure they have relevant experience (particularly in relation to MHPSS and peacebuilding) to provide adequate support to all project partners and participants. Existing Saferworld staff (who support Saferworld’s community security/policing project funded by the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs) will also be involved to provide any additional support as needed.

Partnership: Saferworld is committed to establishing and maintaining equitable relationships with our partners, to ensure that our partners have a greater say in everything we do. Resources are an important part of this relationship. Like Saferworld, our partners need to be able to cover the real costs of implementing programmes, including flexible income to foster financial sustainability and organisational autonomy. Saferworld develops budgets jointly with partners and ensures programme budgets include enough funds for partners (relevant to the context and needs), including contributions to staff and indirect costs. In line with this, Saferworld implements an overhead share policy with all partners is reflected in the budget, which is reflected in this project budget (where the total 7% overhead allocation is shared with all project partners). Additionally, and also in line with our commitment to share resources equally with our partners, 60% of the total project budget is going towards them.

Environmental impact: All project partners have made a strong commitment to contributing to tackling the challenges brought by climate change. This commitment has guided our approach to designing and resourcing project activities in a way that minimizes climate footprint as much as possible (for example, minimizing air travel by either finding an alternative, cost-efficient road travel route, or conducting a higher number of activities as part of one single trip).

Monitoring, evaluation and learning are an important part of this project, hence we have allocated \$5,000 for an independent audit and \$ 42,052 for MEL activities (which amounts to 7% of the total budget). Also crucial is the contribution allocated to **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment**, which constitutes 58.34% of the total project costs

Annex A.1: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question			Implementation
Planning			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	Yes		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission	Yes		
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	Yes		
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.	Yes		Presentation to Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy on 18.10.2021, received signature/stamp on 19.10.2021
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?	Yes		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	Yes		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?	Yes		Discussion with Ministry Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy to discuss potential collaboration during project
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	Yes		
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 UN Women colleague provided input)?	Yes		
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	Yes		
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?	Yes		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?	Yes		

Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question			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?	Yes		
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.	Yes		
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.	Yes		
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?	Yes		The nature of our work does not typically include high implementation costs, but rather focuses on people-to-people interactions that mean high staff and consultant costs. With fewer costs going to infrastructure/equipment, we focus on involving a range of experts, specialists and stakeholders who contribute their knowledge and expertise to the project – requiring considerable staff time but with minimal costs in other areas.
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?	Yes		
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 money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.		No	
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.		No	
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.		No	

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
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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)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i>	

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 be refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in 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	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or

may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it		Head of UN Country Team where it does not.
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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)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</i>	

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

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

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

Public Disclosure

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (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.

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

- Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation.
- Has a current valid registration as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization with a social based mission in both the country where headquarter is located and in country of project implementation for the duration of the proposed grant. (**NOTE:** If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project, in order to receive subsequent funding tranches).
- Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant.
- Commissions audited financial statements, available for the last two years, including the auditor opinion letter. The financial statements should include the legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the country of implementation, if applicable) as well as the activities of the country of implementation. (**NOTE:** If these are not available for the country of proposed project implementation, the CSO will also need to provide the latest two audit reports for a program or project-based audit in country.) The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is part of the nationally qualified audit firms.
- Demonstrates an annual budget in the country of proposed project implementation for the previous two calendar years, which is at least twice the annualized budget sought from PBF for the project.³⁴
- 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.

³⁴ 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	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<p>Outcome 1: Youth- and women-led CSOs are supported to research the MHPSS needs of young people in the selected locations, increasing the knowledge base for more effective programming responses and advocacy</p> <p>(Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to) - see SDG section in introductory table</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>		<p>Outcome Indicator 1a: Percentage of Saferworld and partner staff surveyed who report an increase in their level of knowledge related to the MHPSS needs of young people</p> <p>Baseline: TBC Target: 80% of individuals (including at least 80% of women) surveyed report an increase in their knowledge relative to baseline level</p>	<p>MoV: SW and partner staff survey</p> <p>Frequency: Baseline (inception), following completion & internal dissemination of context analysis</p>	12 months: 80%
	Output 1.1	<p>Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of young women and men participating in baseline assessment</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 900 (150 per location) youth aged 16-28</p>	<p>MoV: Baseline assessment participant list</p> <p>Frequency: Collected during baseline assessment, analyzed once following conclusion of assessment</p>	6 months: 900
	Output 1.2	<p>Output Indicator 1.2.1: Number of baseline assessment reports produced</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 1</p> <p>Summary document incorporating main analysis and findings from the baseline assessment, including overall picture and location-specific context analysis serves as basis for formation of self-support groups.</p>	<p>MoV: Baseline assessment report</p> <p>Frequency: Once, following production of report</p>	6 months: 1
	Output 1.3	<p>Output Indicator 1.3.1: Criteria for mentor selection and self-support group methodology is developed</p> <p>Baseline: No Target: Yes</p> <p>Criteria for the selection of mentors and methodology for self-support groups is developed.</p>	<p>MoV: Criteria</p> <p>Frequency: Once, upon completion of criteria</p>	6 months: Yes
	Output 1.4	<p>Output Indicator 1.4.1: Number of online sessions</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 6</p> <p>Six online anonymous information/outreach sessions on conflict and mental health are</p>	<p>MoV: Session plan, session recording</p> <p>Frequency: Collected after completion of each session</p>	9 months: 3 18 months: 6

	made available to young men and women, using digital resources.			
		Output Indicator 1.4.2: Number of participants in online sessions Baseline: N/A Target: 180 (of which at least 40% are women/girls)	MoV: Anonymized participant data Frequency: Collected after completion of each session	9 months: 90 18 months: 180
<p>Outcome 2: Young women and men will have greater access to MHPSS support and referral pathways through gender-sensitive self-support groups and increased capacity of mentors and psychologists, through a survivor-centered approach, leading to greater resilience to security and social problems they face in their lives, as well as increased confidence participating in community peacebuilding action</p> <p>(Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to) - see SDG section in introductory table</p> <p>3.4: By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being</p> <p>3.5: Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol</p> <p>5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life</p>		Outcome Indicator 2a: Level of satisfaction of people with mental health and psychosocial problems and/or their families regarding the care they received [IASC MHPSS Standard Indicator 5.8] Baseline: TBC Target: 60% of respondents (including at least 60% of women/girls) report increase in satisfaction relative to project baseline by endline	Link to IASC MHPSS in Emergencies Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework MoV: Anonymous group member multidimensional survey administered through mentors, mentor feedback Frequency: Once following establishment of self-support groups, and again at project end-line	12 months: 40% 18 months: 60%
		Outcome Indicator 2b: Number of young women and men in the selected locations who were referred to the gender-sensitive self-support groups from other service providers/centers Baseline: 0 Target: 1-2 members per group	MoV: Mentor feedback Frequency: Collected on an ongoing basis, analyzed biannually	12 months: 1 member per group 18 months: 1-2 members per group
		Outcome Indicator 2c: Percentage of mentors trained on MHPSS issues who report increased confidence in their understanding of mental health and peacebuilding issues in their communities and on appropriate methodologies for addressing them Baseline: TBC Target: 80% of mentors (including at least 80% of women)	MoV: Mentor survey Frequency: Once upon identification of mentors (baseline), once 6 months later and again at project end-line	9 months: 50% 18 months: 80%

<p>10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>	<p>Output 2.1</p> <p>Two-day induction trainings for mentors in Bishkek (for participants from the north – Bishkek, Chui, Issyk-Kul) and Osh (for participants from the south – Osh/Batken) covering introduction to project, mental health issues, gender/conflict sensitivity, context analysis findings</p>	<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1: Number of mentors participating in two-day induction trainings</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 30 (15F, 15M)</p>	<p>MoV: Training session plan, photographs, participant lists</p> <p>Frequency: After completion of each training</p>	<p>3 months: 30</p>
	<p>Output 2.2</p> <p>Two 2-day trainings on mental health for all mentors together – one in Osh and one in Bishkek (both to be held soon after the induction training). Topics will cover more in-depth mental health training, psychology, methodology for self-support groups, issues around sensitivities/confidentiality, communications, ongoing support from partners</p>	<p>Output Indicator 2.2.1: Number of mentors participating in two-day mental health trainings</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 30 (15F, 15M)</p>	<p>MoV: Training session plan, photographs, participant lists</p> <p>Frequency: After completion of each training</p>	<p>3 months: 30</p>
	<p>Output 2.3</p> <p>15 self-support groups (approximately 3 per location) formed and with clearly defined themes to address</p>	<p>Output Indicator 2.3.1: Number of self-support groups formed</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 15</p>	<p>MoV: Group Terms of Reference</p> <p>Frequency: After formation of group</p>	<p>6 months: 10</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 2.3.2: Number of members of self-support groups</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 150</p>	<p>MoV: Anonymized membership data</p> <p>Frequency: After formation of each group and after 6 months (to assess retention)</p>	<p>6 months: 75</p>

	Output 2.4 6 monthly supervision visits by psychologists to support mentors	Output Indicator 2.4.1: Number of monthly supervision visits by psychologists Baseline: 0 Target: 6 per group	MoV: Activity report Frequency: Monthly	8 months: 2 per group 12 months: 6 per group
Outcome 3: Youth-led self-support groups and their mentors have increased capacity to address mental health issues, participate in decision making and peacebuilding responses in their communities and advocate with authorities for more youth- and gender-sensitive approaches to mental health and other peace and security priorities of young people – helping create improved services and access for young people that will enable them to resolve problems and take an active part in their communities (Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to) - see SDG section in introductory table 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere 5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries,		Outcome Indicator 3a: Percentage of mentors who report an increase in self-support groups' capacities to address their MHPSS needs beyond the project lifetime Baseline: TBC Target: 80%	MoV: Multidimensional survey of mentors Frequency: Once following identification of mentors and establishment of self-support groups, once 6 months later and again at project end-line	9 months: 40% 18 months: 80%
		Outcome Indicator 3b: Percentage of youth groups that proceed to implement their own action plans Baseline: N/A Target: 80%	MoV: Activity reports, action plans Frequency: Ongoing	6 months: 0 12 months: 30% 18 months: 60%
		Outcome Indicator 3c: Examples of significant outcomes from action plan implementation, including increased community activism among participants Baseline: N/A Target: Example outcomes demonstrate youth's MHPSS needs, including gender- and age-specific needs, being effectively addressed	MoV: Outcome harvesting (OH) sessions, mentor feedback and evidence Frequency: Biannually	6 months: No outcomes from action plans harvested yet 12 months: Few outcomes harvested, not yet highly significant 18 months: Example outcomes demonstrate youth's MHPSS needs, including gender- and age-specific needs, being effectively addressed
	Output 3.1 5-10 action plans and/or awareness raising campaigns developed and implemented by mentors and self-support group participants (supported by project partners).	Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of action plans and/or awareness-raising campaigns developed by self-support groups Baseline: 0 Target: 5 – 10	MoV: Action plans Frequency: Upon completion of action plans	3 months: 0 9 months: 5 18 months: 10
	Output 3.2 Quarterly exchange experience meetings for mentors to encourage sharing learning and lessons from the youth led self-support groups.	Output Indicator 3.2.1: Number of mentors attending quarterly experience meetings Baseline: 0 Target: 15 (50% women 50% men)	MoV: Photographs, participant lists Frequency: After completion of each training	6 months: 0 12 months: 2 18 months: 3

<p>to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>	<p>Output 3.3</p> <p>MHPSS expert working group composed of mentors and project partners is established, to agree on issues to advocate/communicate on (including via digital networks), drawing on lessons and analysis gathered throughout the project (referral mechanisms, self-support group sustainability, youth-friendly mental health services, legislation, access to MHPSS services)</p>	<p>Output Indicator 3.3.1: Number of meetings of MHPSS expert working group</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 5 meetings (online and in-person)</p>	<p>MoV: Photograph, WG meeting minutes Frequency: After completion of each meeting</p>	<p>15 months: 2 18 months: 5</p>
	<p>Output 3.4</p> <p>1 roundtable session led by the MHPSS expert working group to engage/seek support from government actors (e.g., MOH, Ministry of youth, Ministry of Internal Affairs, juvenile police inspectors, neighborhood inspectors, <i>ayil okmotu</i> heads) on the issues identified as MHPSS priorities for young women and men in the self-support groups.</p> <p>Short briefing produced, showcasing the main lessons learned and advocacy messaging to promote/scale the project in other locations/ensure sustainability and replication.</p>	<p>Output Indicator 3.4.1: Number and description of government actors (institutions) engaged through roundtable sessions</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 10 institutions represented</p> <p>Activity indicator 3.4.2 Output Indicator 3.5.1: Number of briefings produced</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 1</p> <p>Activity indicator 3.4.3: Number of key stakeholders and decision-makers reached through outreach and dissemination</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200</p>	<p>MoV: Photographs, participant lists Frequency: Upon completion of each roundtable</p> <p>MoV: Briefing Frequency: After completion of report</p>	<p>18 months: 10</p> <p>12 months: 0 18 months: 1</p>



For MPTFO Use

Totals				
	Recipient Organization Saferworld	Recipient Organization 2	Recipient Organization 3	Totals
1. Staff and other personnel	\$ 130,996.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,996.80
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	\$ 5,400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,400.00
4. Contractual services	\$ 29,904.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,904.00
5. Travel	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	\$ 342,410.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 342,410.00
7. General Operating and other Costs	\$ 21,786.60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,786.60
Sub-Total	\$ 560,497.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 560,497.40
7% Indirect Costs	\$ 39,234.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,234.82
Total	\$ 599,732.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 599,732.22

Performance-Based Tranche Breakdown					
	Recipient Organization Saferworld	Recipient Organization 2	Recipient Organization 3	TOTAL	Tranche %
First Tranche:	\$ 209,906.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 209,906.28	35%
Second Tranche:	\$ 209,906.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 209,906.28	35%
Third Tranche:	\$ 179,919.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 179,919.67	30%
TOTAL	\$ 599,732.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 599,732.22	