Peacebuilding Fund Project Progress Report (Updated template October 2022)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Thank you for taking the time to complete the PBF Progress report. For projects with more than one recipient, please consult among co-recipients prior to filling out the form to ensure collaboration on the responses. You can generate a print out of the blank form by clicking on the *print* icon on the top right corner of the page. If you have any questions or require technical assistance in filling out the form, please send an email to keshni.makoond@un.org

Click Next below to start

» Report Submission

Type of report   *

◯ Semi-annual

◯ Annual

⦿ Final

◯ Other

Date of submission of report   *

2022-11-15

Name and Title of Person submitting the report   *

Marleen Spieker, Manager of Programme Quality ZOA Liberia (in consultation with ABIC)

Name and Title of Person who approved the report   *

Jaap van Kranenburg, Country Director ZOA Liberia

Have all fund recipients for this project contributed to the report? *

○ ● yes

○ no

Did PBF Secretariat or the PBF Focal point in the resident coordinator office review the report? *

If there is no PBF secretariat in country, please select "Not applicable". If there is a PBF secretariat, you should normally ensure that they have an opportunity to review.

● yes

○ no

○ Not Applicable

Any additional comment from the PBF Secretariat/ RCO Focal point on this report

In line with guidance PBF Secretariat Liberia, expenditures report are best guestimate. Final financial report and audit report are still pending

» Project Information and Geographical Scope

Is this a cross-border or regional project? *

○ yes   ● no

Please select the geographical region in which the project is implemented

○ Asia and the Pacific   ○ Central & Southern Africa   ○ East Africa

○ Europe and Central Asia   ○ Global   ○ Latin America and the Carribean

○ Middle East and North Africa   ● West Africa

Country of project implementation *

○ Benin   ○ Burkina Faso   ○ Cote D'Ivoire

○ Gambia   ○ Guinea   ○ Guinea-Bissau

● Liberia   ○ Mali   ○ Mauritania

○ Niger   ○ Nigeria   ○ Senegal

○ Sierra Leone   ○ Togo   ○ Other, Specify

Project Title *

○ 00118934: Advancing implementation of UNSCRs on Women Peace and Security (WPS) through strengthening accountability frameworks, innovative financing and Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB)

○ 00129168: Delivering Peace Dividends in Liberia: Consolidating National, Regional and Local Reconciliation and Social Cohesion Opportunities

○ 00128904: Promoting Inclusive Political Participation and Elimination of Violence Against Women in Politics

○ 00125938: Protection and Support of Enabling Environment for Women Human Rights Defenders and LGBTQI Rights Defenders in Liberia

○ 00113699: Support to LMPTF-PBF Joint Secretariat: UNDP

● 00125953: Sustainable and inclusive peace in Liberia through promoting women leadership and participation in civic and political life and their strengthened role in conflict resolution

○ 00119682: Sustaining peace & reconciliation through strengthening land governance & dispute resolution mechanisms

○ 00113990: Sustaining peace and improving social cohesion through the promotion of rural employment opportunities for youth in conflict-prone areas

○ 00133452: Promoting Peaceful Electoral Environment and Community Security in Liberia

○ 00131553: Strengthening the agency of young women in peacebuilding processes and land tenure in Liberia

○ Other, Specify

Project Start Date *

2021-02-22

Project end Date *

2022-08-21

Has this project received an extension? *

○ YES, Cost Extension

○ YES, No Cost Extension

○ YES, Both Cost and No Cost extensions

● NO, No Extensions

Will this project be requesting an extension? *

○ YES, Cost Extension

○ YES, No Cost Extension

○ YES, Both Cost and No Cost extensions

● NO, No Extensions

Is funding disbursed either into a national or regional trust fund *

○ yes

● no

Recipients

Is the lead recipient a UN agency or a non UN entity? *

◯ UN entity

🔘 Non-UN Entity

Please select the lead recipient *

◯ Action Aid   ◯ The African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)

◯ Agence de Coopération et de Recherche pour le Développement (ACORD)

◯ American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)   ◯ Avocats Sans Frontières

◯ Avocats Sans Frontières Belgium   ◯ Avocats sans frontières Canada   ◯ Christian Aid Ireland

◯ CARE International UK   ◯ The Carter Center, Inc.

◯ Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale (CECI) - BF   ◯ COIPRODEN

◯ Concern Worldwide   ◯ CORDAID   ◯ CORD Burundi

◯ DanChurchAid   ◯ Fundacion Estudios Superior (FESU)   ◯ Fund for Congolese Women

◯ Fundación Mi Sangre (FMS)   ◯ Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo de Honduras (FUNADEH)

◯ Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa (FLIP)   ◯ HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

◯ Humanity & Inclusion (HI)   ◯ Instituto Holandes para Democracia Multipartidaria (NIMD)

◯ International Alert   ◯ Interpeace   ◯ Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

◯ Life and Peace Institute (LPI)

◯ (MDG-EISA) Institut Electoral pour une Démocratie Durable en Afrique (EISA), bureau de Madagascar

◯ Mercy Corps   ◯ MSIS-TATAO   ◯ Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

◯ ONG AZHAR   ◯ OXFAM   ◯ Peace Direct

◯ PNG UN Country Fund   ◯ Red de Instituciones por los Derechos de la Niñez

◯ Sampan'Asa Momba ny Fampandrosoana (SAF/FJKM)   ◯ Saferworld

◯ Search for Common Ground (SFCG)   ◯ SismaMujer   ◯ Tearfund

◯ Trocaire   ◯ World Vision International   ◯ World Vision Myanmar

🔘 ZOA   ◯ Other, Please specify

Are there other recipients for this project? *

🔘 No other recipients

◯ Yes, other UN recipients only

◯ Yes, other non-UN recipients only

◯ Yes, both UN and non-UN recipients

Implementing Partners

To how many implementing partners has the project transferred money to date?

1

Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each to date

Please select the type of organisation which best describes the type of implementing partner *

- ○ National youth CSO
- ● National women's CSO
- ○ Other National CSO
- ○ Subnational youth CSO
- ○ Subnational women's CSO
- ○ Other subnational CSO
- ○ Regional CSO
- ○ Regional Organisation
- ○ International NGO
- ○ Governmental entity
- ○ Other

What is the name of the Implementing Partner *

Angie Brooks International Centre For Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security (ABIC)

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner to date *

796786.2

Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner *

Please limit your response to 175 words

ABIC was mainly responsible for activities under Outcome I of the project, related to the WSR

Does the project have an active steering committee? *

- ● yes
- ○ no

If yes, please indicate how many times the Project Steering Committee has met over the last 6 months? *

3

Please provide a brief description of any engagement that the project has had with the government over the last 6 months? Please indicate what level of government the project has been engaging with? *

Please limit your response to 275 words

This project has been in constant engagement with the Government of Liberia since its approval by the government through the Ministry of Internal Affairs. One key government institution at national level that the project has engagement with is the Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO), which is the technical arm of the Government of Liberia as it relates to Peacebuilding and National Reconciliation. PBO was involved in the project as a third-party monitor. In total, PBO conducted three monitoring visits to the various project communities in the two counties and provided the ABIC and ZOA with recommendations for improvement of the project. At county level, government authorities have been involved since the inception of the project. For example, the county superintendent in Bong as well as other authorities regularly participated in project activities and continued to provide approval and support to the implementation of activities. Furthermore, for all project activities in the communities the ABIC and ZOA engaged with town chiefs, community leaders and other relevant authorities to provide updates and ensure smooth project implementation.

Financial Reporting

» Delivery by Recipient

Please enter the total amounts in US dollars allocated to each recipient organization

Please enter the original budget amount, amount transferred to date and estimated expenditure by recipient.

*Please make sure you enter the correct amount. All values should be entered in **US Dollars***

Recipients	Total Project Budget (in US $) *Please enter the total budget as is in the project document in US Dollars*	Transfers to date (in US $) *Please enter the total amount transferred to each recipient to date in US Dollars*	Expenditure to date (in US $) *Please enter the approximate amount spent to date in US dollars*	Implementation rate as a percentage of total budget *(calculated automatically)*
ZOA	1289614.83 *	1289614.83 *	1276718.68 *	99 %
TOTAL	**1289614.83**	**1289614.83**	**1276718.68**	**99%**

The approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget based on the values entered in the above matrix is **99%**. Can you confirm that this is correct? *

(●) Correct   ( ) Incorrect

» Gender-responsive Budgeting

Indicate what **percentage (%)** of the budget contributes to gender equality or women's empowerment (GEWE)? *

100

The dollar amount of the budget contributing to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) based on percentage entered above and total project budget is **US $ 1289614.83**. Can you confirm that this is correct? *

◉ Correct   ○ Incorrect

Amount expended to date on efforts contributiong to gender equality or women's empowerment is **US $ 1276718.68**. Is this correct? *

◉ Correct   ○ Incorrect

ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE. *
The templates for the budget are available <u>here</u>

annex_project_budget_expenditures (first draft 15 Nov 2022)-18_11_35.xlsx

Project Markers

Please select the Gender Marker Associated with this project *

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

Please select the Risk Marker Associated with this project *

◉ Risk marker 0 = low risk to achieving outcomes

○ Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

○ Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

Please select the PBF Focus Area associated with this project *

○ (1.1) Security Sector Reform

○ (1.2) Rule of Law

○ (1.3) Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration

○ (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)

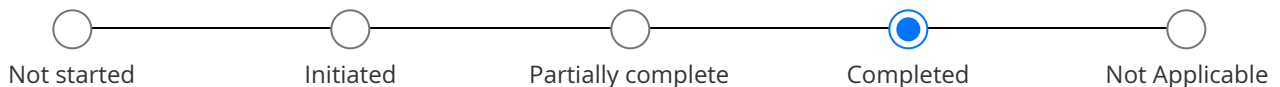Is the project part of one or more PBF priority windows? *

Select all that apply

☑ Gender promotion initiative

☑ Youth promotion initiative

☐ Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions
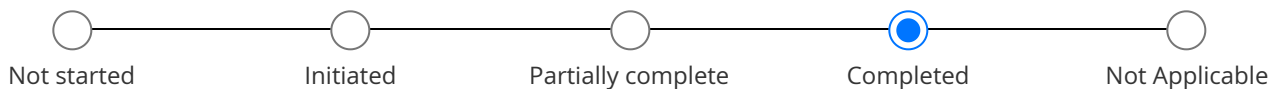
☐ Cross-border or regional project

☐ None

PART I: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS

Please rate the implementation status of the following preliminary/preparatory activities
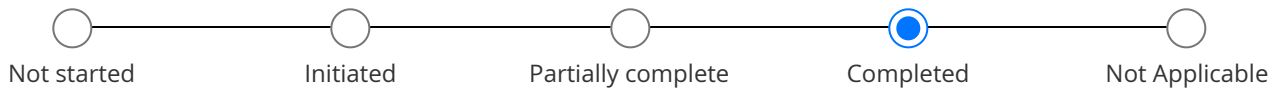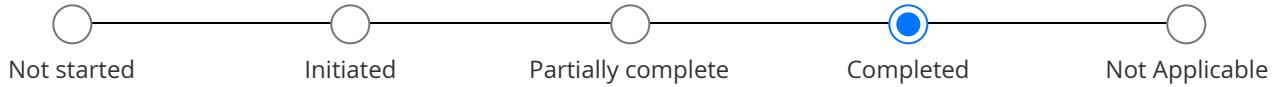
Contracting of Partners *

○ Not started —— ○ Initiated —— ○ Partially complete —— ● Completed —— ○ Not Applicable

Staff Recruitment *

○ Not started —— ○ Initiated —— ○ Partially complete —— ● Completed —— ○ Not Applicable

Collection of baselines *

Not started — Initiated — Partially complete — **Completed** (selected) — Not Applicable

Identification of beneficiaries *

Not started — Initiated — Partially complete — **Completed** (selected) — Not Applicable

Provide any additional descriptive information relating to the *status of the project* in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.)

Please limit your response to 250 words

The project, which commenced 22 February 2021, was officially launched on 28 May 2021 and ended on 21 August 2022.

All preliminary activities were completed in the early phases of the project. The ABIC was contracted as an implementing partner and four local women led civil society organizations as service providers. The ABIC and ZOA completed staff recruitment, conducted the baseline study, identified communities and selected beneficiaries to participate in the project.

Besides preparatory activities, all other activities were completed. Under outcome 1, the following activities were implemented: 20 workshop on the WSR methodology as conflict resolution tool (400 ToTs); 20 training sessions on mediation and negotiation (400 ToTs); 20 Eminent Women training (1,500 women and girls trained); 1 by-election observed (550 women and 648 youth engaged, 20 interventions); women's peace march (2,094 women); 40 youth peace dialogues (2,194 youth engaged); 82 soccer and Kickball games (3,336 women and youth engaged); 10 mediation dialogues (770 stakeholders); community interventions (228 cases); WSR Hour on community radio stations

For outcome 2, ZOA trained and regularly supervised the four selected CSOs to implement the appreciative inquiry. 200 appreciative inquiry meetings were held with 20 women's groups in Bong and Montserrado Counties. 120 meetings were held with key actors (blockers and enablers). Furthermore, several experience sharing and feedback sessions were organized between the women's groups and women's groups and key actors.

The Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO) conducted three monitoring trips to the two project counties.

Summarize the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project

Please limit your response to 550 words

100% of respondents indicated that the project has contributed to improving leadership abilities of women, and 98% believes that the project has increased women's participation in mediation spaces. Among indirect beneficiaries, 86% report that citizens are coexisting more peacefully since the 2020 senatorial bi-elections. In total, 39 women have been appointed into leadership positions in the target communities. The interviews with Eminent Women, authorities, and traditional leaders revealed that the perceptions of both men and women have changed when it comes to leadership and civic participation. Thanks to the WSR and AI interventions, women don not just feel more confident to speak up, to take up leadership positions, and to mediate in conflicts, their male counterparts are also more supportive of women's participation.

The achievements of the Women Situation Room (WSR) activities converged around peace and conflict resolution. Women Mediators have gained both the confidence and skills mediate in conflicts. Grassroots women and youth know their rights under the law when it comes to elections. They have gained skills in conflict resolution and demonstrated their skills by doing interventions at community level. Women's attitude towards being visible and creating their space at the decision-making table has been realised. Women have become confident to go on radio and discuss issues of peace and violence in their communities. Women and youth leaders from political parties have pledged commitment to do descent campaign before, during and after 2023 elections. Women, youth and chiefs have committed to campaign against the proliferation of drugs which has become the number indicator of violence. Chiefs have become bold to address the politicisation of customs to cause violence in elections. Chiefs and women leaders are able to do village to village interventions through fund support.

The achievements of the Appreciative Inquiry (AI) sessions were more associated with empowerment to breach traditional norms, boldness, and fearlessness, and leading the community towards peace and togetherness. Most men perceptions have changed. They see power sharing with the women as a new paradigm shift for them but are positive about it. The AI engagements were able to make men discover the importance of an inclusive community. They termed it as releasing stress from them, thereby prolonging their lifespan. The impact of this change is not only evident by their commitment to accept that an inclusive life is important but are ready to support and appoint women to key leadership positions in their communities. The engagements have also improved women's confidence about stepping out for power sharing with the men. Calm and civility have been restored to some communities because everyone is now beginning to have a sense of responsibility to their community for its peace and development.

PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.
- Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.
- Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.
- Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.
- In the results table, please be concise, you will have 3000 characters, including blank spaces to provide your responses

Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration).
Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.

- "On track" refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.
- "On track with peacebuilding results" refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.

How many OUTCOMES does this project have   *

0   1   2   3   4   5   more than 5

Please write out the project outcomes as they are in the project results framework found in the project document

Outcome 1:   *

Women promote co-existence and peaceful conflict resolution among political actors in the aftermath of the mid-term Senatorial Elections using the Women's Situation Room (WSR) mechanism

Outcome 2:   *

Local authorities and traditional leaders have improved perceptions on and increased commitment to women participation and leadership at local and county level

Outcome 1: Women promote co-existence and peaceful conflict resolution among political actors in the aftermath of the mid-term Senatorial Elections using the Women's Situation Room (WSR) mechanism

Rate the current status of the outcome progress   *

○ 1. Off Track   ○ 2. On Track   ● 3. On Track with evidence of peacebuilding results

Progress summary

*

Please limit your response to 350 words

Women and youth have reported an increase in sense of agency and civic responsibility to initiate mediation and conflict resolution at the community level owing to the WSR methodology as a conflict resolution tool. The women have initiated an agenda not only to demand their seats and be visible at the decision-making table.

Local government actors acknowledge the key roles of women in mediation and conflict resolution. This is more pronounced in the communities within the structure of the chiefs by referencing the change in attitude of women chiefs and chairladies to resolving disputes and mitigating violent cases.

The neutrality of the WSR mechanism brings political and non-political actors on the same platform to dialogue reoccurring issues of violence related to elections, especially targeted at women and perpetrated by youth. The acknowledgement of self-blame for contributions to electoral violence has been the first step in the right direction to properly finding lasting solutions to the issues.

The relationship and network building with women in the political parties has encouraged women to see the relevance of their roles beyond the fallow activities of the women's wing. Women leaders from 19 political parties engaged in mediation dialogues have declared their intention to contest for executive roles in their parties while 3 party chairladies have decided to contest for the candidacy of their parties in the run up to the 2023 elections.

Women in active political spheres encourage other women as the premier constituency of political actors in a manner that eradicate divisiveness and solidifies their political gains in each respective party. The youth in political parties are also committed to flip the youth narrative in elections away from perpetrators of violence to reflect that of peace initiators.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth
Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome

*

Please limit your response to 350 words

The Women Situation Room is an all-inclusive mechanism, from the staff composition to beneficiaries of activities. Women and youth empowerment are at the core of the mechanism. The below tables provide an overview of the gender and age categories of project team members and beneficiaries.

Project Team Members

S/N County Sex Age disaggregation
18 - 35 35+ Total
1 Bong Female 2 0 2
Male 5 0 5
2 Montserrado Female 6 3 9
Male 3 8 11
Total 16 11 27

Project Beneficiaries registered in the database

S/N County Gender disaggregation
Women PWDs Youth PWDs
1 Bong 980 20 965 35
2 Montserrado 995 5 985 15
Total 1,975 25 1,950 50
2,000 2,000

Chiefs implementing the WSR Mediation Mobile Clinic

S/N County Women Men
Bong 28 22
Montserrado 15 35
Total 43 57
100

ABIC selected 120 women and 80 youth for Training of Trainers workshops, in which they taught them about the WSR mechanism, track II mediation, and mediation dialogues. The people who were trained subsequently went back to their communities to teach their own members about the things they learned. Additionally, peace monitors and mediators as part of the WSR coordinated peer-to-peer peace processes to prevent and reduce post-elections violence. A concrete example are also the peace messages are disseminated via radio.

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments-
provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for **Outcome 1** in the table below

- If the outcome has more than 3 indicators , select the 3 most relevant ones with most relevant
  progress to highlight.
- Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any
  explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (3000 characters max per entry)

» Outcome 1: Women promote co-existence and peaceful conflict resolution among political actors in the aftermath of the mid-term Senatorial Elections using the Women's Situation Room (WSR) mechanism

Outcome 1	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*
1.1	**% of participating women and youth who report an increase in sense of agency and civic responsibility to initiate and own mediation and conflict prevention/mitigation processes in their communities through the WSR mechanism**	**Sense of agency: 74% Civic Responsibility: 81%**	**Between 60% and 80% of participating women (all ages) and youth (between 18 – 35, male and female)**	**100%**	**Endline values are taken from the external endline evaluation (Annex)**
1.2	**% of political actors, citizens and other relevant stakeholders who acknowledge the key role of women in conflict resolution and peaceful co-existence**	**Conflict Resolution: 89% Peaceful Coexistence: 81%**	**Between 60 and 80% of political actors, citizens and other relevant stakeholders (including local authorities, traditional leaders, youth) (male and female, all ages)**	**97%**	

1.3	% of citizens in target communities who report co-existence and peaceful conflict resolution in the aftermath of the elections	89%	Between 60 and 80% of citizens in target communities (male, female, youth, elderly, diverse religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds)	86%	Assumed no progress because of high baseline value

How many outputs does outcome 1 have?

0   1   2   **3**   4   5   more than 5

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 1

Output 1.1

Selected women have knowledge on the WSR mechanism, methodology in delivering Track II mediation and have the skills to convene mediation dialogues to manage post elections expectations between conflicting political actors

Output 1.2

Local women's groups are capable of advocating for citizens' rights and responsibilities and promote peace in their communities

Output 1.3

Youth groups (male, female) have the knowledge and skills to advocate nonviolence in their communities and support women's groups in conflict resolution and mediation

For each output, and using the, project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

» Output 1.1

Output 1.1: Selected women have knowledge on the WSR mechanism, methodology in delivering Track II mediation and have the skills to convene mediation dialogues to manage post elections expectations between conflicting political actors	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant* ....
1.1.1	**# of women from local civil society groups and communities who complete the training and are certificated on the WSR mechanism and Track II methodologies**	**0**	**30 women from local civil society groups and communities are certified as Women Mediators (eminent women – above 40 years old)**	**30 women**	....

1.1.2	**% of Women Mediators who demonstrate acquired skills and knowledge of the WSR mechanism and methodologies of Track II mediation by convening mediation dialogues.**	**0**	**Between 60 and 80 % of Women Mediators (above 40 years)**	**96% of women beneficiaries**	
1.1.3	**# of mediation dialogues with conflicting political actors convened by Women Mediators to mediate issues among conflicting political actors**	**0**	**20 (10 per county)**	**20 mediation dialogues convened**	

» Output 1.2

Output 1.2: Local women's groups are capable of advocating for citizens' rights and responsibilities and promote peace in their communities	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*

1.2.1	# of women participating in peace marches organized by women's groups in their communities	0	2,000 women (all ages)	2,094 women peace activists	
1.2.2	# of peace statements delivered by political actors and women	0	120	120 peace messages have been recorded and are being played on air	
1.2.3	% of participating women who report to have the capacity to advocate for citizen's rights and responsibilities	0	Between 60 and 80% of participating women (all ages)	96% of women beneficiaries	

» Output 1.3

Output 1.3: Youth groups (male, female) have the knowledge and skills to advocate nonviolence in their communities and support women's groups in conflict resolution and mediation	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*

1.3.1	# of youth trained in the WSR mechanism and conflict resolution	0	400 (200 females; 200 males) and 10 peace monitors (5 female, 5 male) (between 18 and 35)	410 youth	
1.3.2	# of peer to peer peace dialogues conducted by peace monitors and # of participants	0	40 (20 per county) with around 2,000 youth participants (male and female)	20 peer to peer peace dialogues after the first 9 months of the project	Updated needed on final figures by ABIC
1.3.3	% of trained youth who report nonviolence and peaceful conflict resolution in their communities in the aftermath of the senatorial elections	0	Between 60% and 80% of youth beneficiaries (male and female)	91% of youth beneficiaries	

Outcome 2: Local authorities and traditional leaders have improved perceptions on and increased commitment to women participation and leadership at local and county level

Rate the current status of the outcome progress   *

○ 1. Off Track   ○ 2. On Track   ● 3. On Track with evidence of peacebuilding results

Progress summary

Please limit your response to 350 words

The appreciative inquiry meetings have contributed to significant changes in the communities. Traditional leaders, local authorities and male community members are more positive about women's leadership and have become champions for inclusive participation in the decision-making of their communities. This is demonstrated by the appointment of 39 women to different leadership positions, including town chief, assistant town chief, quarter chief, assistant quarter chief, block leaders, elder council member, development chair, and community police officer positions.

Women have gained more confidence, are better able to represent their own interests at major community meetings and have increased awareness on the importance of their participation in leadership, which gives them a voice at the decision-making table and promotes an equitable society. Women's group members also feel more responsible for their communities and contribute to initiatives which promote community welfare, such as constructing public toilets, town halls and women's centres, while others are undertaking community farm projects. Generally, these activities have contributed to cohesion amongst group members.

In several communities, locally led agreements were made between women and the leadership of their communities. Some of these agreements gained written commitment. In Gbelekpelai (Bong), it is being listed that women will always have the chance to have representations in all major areas in the community leadership. In Chocolate City (Montserrado), the position of 3rd vice chair for women and children is being spelled out in the community constitution. The co-chair on the Elders council position is also allotted to a woman. In King Grey (Montserrado), the leadership is officially open to everyone regardless of gender.

The appreciative inquiry engagements made people focus more on the positive, appreciate themselves and others, and think about possibilities that could define for them a future that is participatory, productive and sustainable. Local community leadership realized that a community is more peaceful and productive towards growth and development when the decision-making processes are inclusive and participatory.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome

Please limit your response to 350 words

At the start of the project, the power analysis was conducted to gain understanding on the way in which power influences women's leadership and participation. The CSOs training and women's group selection ensured the inclusion of both men and women in the promotion of inclusive civic and political life. It also guaranteed the involvement of youthful men and women as well as Middle Ages. The CSOs training which was intended to ensure that the appropriate skills are acquired to implement the appreciative inquiry method under outcome 2, trained a total number of 43 persons. The first table reflects the CSO staff who have been trained on the AI disaggregated participation by gender and age. The second table shows the number of CSO staff who are carrying out the AI activities in the communities. Of the 43 CSO members trained, 22 of them are implementing the appreciative inquiry. Of the 22 persons, 17 are females and 5 males.

County Sex Age disaggregation
18 -35 35+ Total
Bong County Female 8 7 15
Male 1 2 3
Montserrado Female 5 16 21
Male 2 2 4
Total 16 27 43

County Sex Age disaggregation
18 -35 35+ Total
Bong
7 7
Male 1 1 2
Montserrado Female 3 6 9
Male 1 2 3
5 16 21

The inclusion of women and men ranging from key actors, male champions, and women's groups are seen in the table below. The project recruited in total 20 key actors, however out of the 20 actors, only 17 (8 in Montserrado and 9 in Bong) have been active in the project. Additionally, the CSOs are meeting with the county superintendents in the two counties, who are both females.

No Stakeholder Number per category Youth participant Adult participant
1 Women's group 400 180 (45%) 220 (55%)
2 Male champions 100 40 (40%) 60 (60%)
3 Male actors 10 2 (20%) 8 (80%)
4 Female actors 7 0% 7 (100%)

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for **Outcome 2** in the table below

- If the outcome has more than 3 indicators , select the 3 most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight.
- Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

» Outcome 2: Local authorities and traditional leaders have improved perceptions on and increased commitment to women participation and leadership at local and county level

Outcome 2	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant* ....
2.1	**% of participating local authorities / traditional leaders who accept there is a problem of under representation of women in political and civic life**	**Women Underrepresented in: Leadership: 66% Civic Life: 57% Politics: 55%**	**between 60 and 80% of participating local authorities / traditional leaders (male and female, all ages)**	**89%**	....
2.2	**% of participating local authorities and traditional leaders who report improved perceptions and increased commitment to women participation and leadership**	**35%**	**between 60 and 80% of participating local authorities and traditional leaders (male and female)**	**100%**	....

| 2.3 | # of locally led solutions which are agreed upon by women's groups and actors, gain written commitment and are implemented | 0 | At least 4 ideas (2 per county) gain written commitments, becoming tangible outcomes for local institutions. | Three written commitments | 6 locally led solutions have been captured by ZOA and ABIC throughout the project, alongside many (informal) promises by community leaders. These did not gain written commitment. |

How many outputs does outcome 2 have?

0   1   2   3   4   5   more than 5

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 2

Output 2.1

Local authorities and traditional leaders reflect on and understand the barrier's women face to participate in decision-making

Output 2.2

Local women's groups have the confidence, knowledge and skills to represent women's issues, demands and aspirations at local and county level decision-making processes

Output 2.3

Inclusive dialogue with key public actors and representatives of women's groups to discuss contextualized solutions for women's civic and political participation

For each output, and using the, project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

» Output 2.1

Output 2.1: Local authorities and traditional leaders reflect on and understand the barrier's women face to participate in decision-making	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*
2.1.1	# of appreciative inquiry visits with local authorities and traditional leaders	0	120 visits – 72 with driving actors and 48 with blocking actors	108 meetings (72 with enablers, 36 with blockers)	Not all the blockers were always committed to attend the meetings, as such the number of meetings below the target is 12.
2.1.2	% of participating local authorities and traditional leaders who can mention and elaborate on the key structural barriers for women participation in their community / area	Education & Skills: 58% No barriers: 47% Self-Confidence: 41% Finances: 36%	between 60 and 80% of participating local authorities / traditional leaders (male and female, all ages)	100%	
2.1.3					

» Output 2.2

Output 2.2: Local women's groups have the confidence, knowledge and skills to represent women's issues, demands and aspirations at local and county level decision-making processes	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*
2.2.1	**# of appreciative inquiry visits with women's groups**	0	**200 visits (100 per county, 10 per women's group) with between 300 and 400 participants (female of all ages)**	**200 visits**	
2.2.2	**% of participants in the appreciative inquiry visits who report increased confidence, knowledge and skills to represent women's issues, demands and aspirations**	0	**Between 60% and 80% of participants (female of all ages)**	**TBD**	

| 1.2.3 | # of participating women who takes a leadership position at local or county level withing the project period | 0 | 20 | 39 women; 36 appointed and 3 elected. | |

» Output 2.3

Output 2.3: Inclusive dialogue with key public actors and representatives of women's groups to discuss contextualized solutions for women's civic and political participation	Performance Indicators *Describe the indicator*	Indicator Baseline *State the baseline value of the indicator*	End of Project Indicator Target *State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project*	Indicator progress to date *State the current cummulative value of the indicator since the start of the project*	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) *Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant*
2.3.1	# of participants at solution sharing workshops held between women and local authorities and traditional leaders (1 per county)	0	60 representatives of women's groups (30 per county) (female all ages) and 20 local authorities and/or traditional leaders (at least four female)	60 women, 20 authorities / local leaders	

2.3.2	# of contextualized solutions which are considered feasible by representatives of women's groups and key public authorities	0	at least four solutions (2 per county)	9 locally led solutions (3 gained written commitment)	
2.3.3					

PART III: Cross-Cutting Issues

Is the project planning any significant events in the next 6 months (eg. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc.)

- ( ) yes
- (●) no

Human Impact

This section is about the human impact of the project. Please state the number of key stakeholders of the project, and for each, please briefly describe:
i. The challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation
ii. The impact of the project on their lives
iii. Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

*

How many key stakeholders does this project have?

4

* 1

Key Stakeholder :

Eminent women

*

What were the challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation?

The acknowledgement on the important role of women in mediation and conflict resolution remains behind. This is partly caused by traditional gender roles and sociocultural norms as well as by the lower levels of education of women. Women who have made significant contributions are less visible than men, while they could be important role models for other women.

What has been the impact of the project on their lives

Please limit your response to 350 words

Women Mediators have been trained on the WSR mechanism and gained both the confidence and skills to mediate in conflicts. The eminent women have practiced these skills during several mediation dialogues in which the formed an example for other women. Eminent Women acknowledge that women play a key role in conflict resolution and peaceful coexistence. All Eminent Women also acknowledge that the project helped in increasing female representation in civic, political, and mediation positions.

*

Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

Please limit your response to 350 words

"They have been talking to some major actors and even those like politicians that might trigger conflicts and disputes in the community or county."
"They are making peace faster than the men and they are succeeding."
"Women use their kind influence more than men. The women always try to make all parties feel happy after investigation."
"The women are the one who are fast to engage in my community than men who response are very slow"

*

2

Key Stakeholder :

Women

*

What were the challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation?

Socio-cultural gender norms confine women to family and domestic duties in the private sphere, whereas men are breadwinners and control decision-making, thereby causing gender unequal socio-economic outcomes. Liberia has a persistent, largely male dominated culture of violence and impunity. Domestic and Gender Based Violence are rampant, mostly affecting women, children and disabled persons as a result of unequal power relations in which men have asserted the right to control and use violence. This is exaggerated when men feel threatened by women in leadership roles challenging the traditional position of men in charge. Gender-based political violence and harassment are also deeply rooted in Liberian society; personality-based politics is more pronounced than issue-based politics compounded by social norms on the domestic role of women and results in unfairly and unjustifiably intimidation and attacks on them in the cycle of an election, swinging on a pendulum of unequal power relations. Structural barriers for women to participate in decision-making and politics are persistent due to unequal access to resources and discriminatory gender norms. Whereas men have a central role in formal processes, women's voices remain largely confined to informal spheres. Although education levels, especially among women and girls, have improved in the past years, the low levels of education still remain one of the largest barriers for women leadership and participation, because it contributes to low self-confidence, perceived lack of skills and apprehension to enter politics.

What has been the impact of the project on their lives

Please limit your response to 350 words

The project has contributed women's increased recognition of their own value, their improved confidence, skills and knowledge to demand their seat at the decision-making table, and to the

Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

Please limit your response to 350 words

Female project participant from Millionaire Quarter in Bong County: As a person with disability (PWD), I was very shy and felt too ashamed to talk to people. In my community, people did not recognize the worth of PWDs. But I got to know that I am important and I can make an impact on society. Now, I am proud to go out and voice my opinion. We, the women in this community, learned to take our rightful place in society. This representation is crucial because it allows us to advocate for issues that affect us. For example, women continue working throughout their pregnancy because there is no law to protect them. But if other countries pass bills for maternity leave, why not us? And there is much more. Our women die in the hospital because of electricity issues; our children get into the criminal circuit; we see men abandoning their families. All of this is because there is not enough female representation. We, the women, know the problems we face and what the consequences feel like. If you go to the House of Representatives, women are not represented there. As a result, issues that affect women have been downplayed. So we want to get into the house of representatives so our voice will be heard in this country.
People can give me a tough time for being vocal because not everyone is ready to accept a female PWD speaking out. But I am patient with them. I keep explaining to them the importance of women entering politics, and I win people over in the end. I feel good, and I am thankful for coming this far. I used to fear people would laugh at me, but I am confident now.
I dream of becoming the zonal head because the current head is retiring. When elected, I will ensure every little fund is used for the intended purpose. We will look at our single mothers and disadvantaged children and establish laws that benefit our community and progress development. Let decision-making be inclusive. Let us get at the table.

3

Key Stakeholder :

Youth

What were the challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation?

Corruption in the political system and the abuse of power by a small group of mainly male elites contributes to exclusion and marginalization of women and youth. Among male dominated state and political actors, the struggle for power dominance and to exert influence, especially during election periods, has ascended the utilization of youth to instigate violence within communities. The weakened socio-economic status of young Liberians leaves them vulnerable to these mobilization attempts by political actors who promise financial incentives and better prospects, especially targeting disadvantaged male youth in urban Bong and Montserrado and male and female university graduates with limited employment perspectives. This type of political mobilization and violence is exaggerated by inter-generational tensions. Decision-makings is controlled by elderly people and youth feels excluded and does not socially and economically benefit, causing mutual tensions and disrespect exaggerated by more progressive gender beliefs among both young (urban) women and men.

What has been the impact of the project on their lives

Please limit your response to 350 words

The project has contributed to more opportunities for women as well as youth to participate in civic and political life. Youth have been trained and were capacitated to make valuable contributions to peaceful co-existence in their communities. Youth who participated in the WSR training reported an increase in the sense of agency and civic responsibility to initiate and own mediation and conflict prevention / mitigation processes in their communities through the WSR mechanism.

*

Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

Please limit your response to 350 words

"In the training we learned that to make peace you must talk less, listen more, and don't take sides in a conflict."

"From this training I have been able to create a women's group called Girl Shine."

"I can talk to the people in confusion together to make peace together. I can do the talking together and not one on one."

"I am brave. I have good listening skills I can judge very well, thanks to the protection of this program."

"Because of the program I am now able to make peace between people. I now know my rights and responsibilities in the home and community."

*

4

Key Stakeholder :

Local authorities and traditional leaders

*

What were the challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation?

Local authorities and traditional leadership positions are dominated by men. Leaders are keen on maintaining their power position and often devalue female leadership. Sociocultural norms on the domestic role of women reinforce negative perceptions of leaders on women participation and often the underrepresentation of women at the decision-making table and the general lack of inclusiveness is not recognized a problem.

*

What has been the impact of the project on their lives *

Please limit your response to 350 words

Local authorities agree that women's leadership capabilities have improved, and that the project helped in increasing women's opportunities in politics, civic functions, and mediation activities. The participating key actors have increased their commitment towards promoting women participation which is demonstrated by an increase in the appointment of women into leadership roles. Most of the key actors accept there is a problem of under representation of women in political and civic life, and they (themselves) have changed their perceptions on women participation and leadership. Key actors also understand the key structural barriers for women participation in their community, including fear and shame to deviate from traditional norms, feelings or male superiority and entrenched interests, socio-economic marginalization, and a lack of confidence among women.

Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group *

Please limit your response to 350 words

"Most of the women are afraid because of marginalization and inferiority complex. They are even feeling that it is not important because of marginalization. We need to continue to encourage women to drive away inferiority complex from them and the government should help them financially"

One of the male blockers, a rubber farmer, and a highly respected young man, who strongly opposed women's participation in leadership because he believed that their forefathers cannot be wrong to have limited women back in the days. He claimed that the decision to limit women in the days of old was evident by women not having the right to vote in time past, which is also subscribed to by the bible. But the AI Meetings have transformed his perception to recognize that women are more transparent than men, and are particular about their character. "women da good leaders more than men. They na like corruption business. Their hand can be clean and fair when they doing something. So it good for them to be in ley leadership business".

In addition to the stakeholder specific impact described above, please use this space to describe any additional human impact that the project has had

Please limit your response to 650 words

Countless beautiful examples were recorded and are attached in the annexes as well. ZOA Facebook and ZOA International Page equally had some updates

You can also upload upto 3 files in various formats (picture files, powerpoint, pdf, video, etc..) to illustrate the human impact of the project

OPTIONAL

File 1

For photos, please use high resolution JPEG format

women-oh-women-single-page_compressed-18_43_46.pdf

File 2

For photos, please use high resolution JPEG format

ZOA-ABIC-UNPBF - Endline 2022 - Final Evaluation - 20221107-18_36_28.pdf

File 3

For photos, please use high resolution JPEG format

she-can-lead-too-final_compressed-18_43_52.pdf

You can also add upto 3 links to online resources which illustrate the human impact of the project
OPTIONAL

Link 1

https://www.facebook.com/zoaliberia.org

Link 2

https://www.zoa-international.com/my-sisters-my-daughters-my-friends-find-your-voice

Link 3

Monitoring

Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period *

Please limit your response to 350 words

Throughout the project period, the ABIC and ZOA regularly monitored project activities through their M&E staff. In the last months of the project, the focus of monitoring shifted more from activity monitoring to monitoring of progress towards outcomes. The team conducted a performance review across the project communities to identify potential course corrections and to contribute to learning.

Additionally, the Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO) conducted three independent monitoring visits and provided recommendations for project improvement to the ABIC and ZOA.

UNPBF colleagues from New York joined on a monitoring visit and ZOA and PBO staff conducted a joint monitoring visit to compare the appreciative inquiry as part of the UNPBF funded project to the appreciative inquiry as part of an Irish Aid funded project.

Do outcome indicators have baselines? *

If only some of the outcome indicators have baselines, select 'yes'

- ⦿ yes
- ◯ no

Please provide a brief description *

Please limit your response to 350 words

An external consultant conducted the baseline study. Due to dissatisfaction with the quality of the evaluation report, the ABIC and ZOA collected additional baseline data to provide baseline values as referred to in the logical framework of the project.

Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? *

- ⦿ yes
- ◯ no

Please provide a brief description *

Please limit your response to 350 words

At the start of the project, a power analysis was carried out to gain a better understanding of power dynamics in target locations and identify key public stakeholders, decision-makers and other influential persons who have power over and influence women participation and leadership. Several surveys were conducted to assess the level of knowledge, skills and confidence of women to participate in politics, civics and to attain leadership positions. The project team furthermore focused on collecting impact level stories. An adapted version of the most significant change was used to collect stories among the women who participated in the appreciative inquiry. In total, 14 diverse stories were collected showing the diverse project impacts. The stories have been bundled in a story book with illustrations.

Evaluation

Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? *

(•) yes

( ) no

Evaluation budget (in USD): *

10000

If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations

Please limit your response to 350 words

The external end evaluation was conducted during the reporting period. The ABIC and ZOA launched a competitive bidding process and selected Liberia Monitors as the preferred institution to conduct the end evaluation. Data collection took place in September 2022. The final evaluation report is attached as an annex to the final report.

Catalytic Effect

Catalytic Effect (financial): Has the project led to additional funding from other sources? *

( ) yes

(•) no

Catalytic Effect (non-financial): Has the project enabled or created a larger or longer-term peacebuilding change to occur (Ways in which the project has supported the expansion or creation of programs and policies supporting peace, both within and outside the UN system)? *

( ) No catalytic effect

( ) Some catalytic effect

( ) Significant catalytic effect

( ) Very Significant catalytic effect

( ) Don't Know

(•) Too early to tell

Does the project have an explicit exit strategy. *

( ) yes

(•) no

Please describe any steps that have been taken to ensure the sustainability of peacebuilding gains beyond the duration of the project *

Please limit your response to 350 words

The project did not have an explicit, written exit strategy document but sustainability was considered throughout implementation. The project aimed at supporting women, empower them, and increase agency to participate in society in leading positions. Data shows that 39 women have been appointed in leadership positions. The WSR is expected to contribute to an improved environment characterized by peace and stability which allows individual Liberians, groups and institutions to develop themselves especially in the period leading up to the Presidential and Legislative Elections 2023.

Incremental changes towards improved women empowerment are usual; The WSR and AI mechanism contributed to this by changing the beliefs and skills of women and youth in Montserrado and Bong, as well as increase their participation in civic and political life. The project included male counterparts and influential stakeholders. Anecdotal evidence of Blockers changing behaviour and becoming Enablers during the project period evidence this. By ensuring an increased number of women are willing to take up leadership positions, coupled with a more conducive environment for female participation, an improved landscape for the near future is expected.

The project further builds the capacity of local stakeholders, especially the four CSOs, who are expected to continue. To ensure the AI-methodology can be multiplied by (other) interested stakeholders; a manual was developed and shared widely. The AI-methodology was finetuned, ABIC and ZOA cross-checked implementation vis-à-vis the progress in the Irish Aid funded project which ZOA implements jointly with PBO.

Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations?

N/A, but ZOA and ABIC are grateful for the smooth cooperation with the donor and the PBF Secretariat in Liberia.

Annex: Please use this space to upload any additional document you may want to the report (ex. Additional detail on indicator reporting)

Click here to upload file. (< 5MB)

Thank You. You have finished the report. Please Click on the SUBMIT button below. When the report is submitted, a confirmation note will appear on a yellow banner on top of the page. This can take a few seconds.