

PBF/IRF-99: “Country support for Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation”

Summary Report



June 2023

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INTRODUCTION

The [PBF/IRF-99](#) “Country Support for Design, Monitoring and Evaluation” (DM&E) project (hereafter “IRF-99”) funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) was first approved in November 2014 to provide for an enhanced design, monitoring and evaluation function at the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) to directly support country-based development of peacebuilding programming and to manage country-based evaluations commissioned by PBSO. In the course of reviewing the latest cost extension proposal (July 2022-December 2023), the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) requested that a summary report of actions undertaken to date by PBF/IRF-99 is produced. This summary report therefore aims to serve an accountability function, as well as present a historical repository of various support provided through the project between 2015-2022.

IRF-99 OBJECTIVES

For most sector specialists, identifying specific peacebuilding outcomes, articulating programme logic through a theory of change, and identifying indicators that capture the desired *peacebuilding* effect is no easy task.¹ PBSO has been frequently receiving country requests for support from monitoring and evaluation specialists with specific peacebuilding experience throughout the design stage. Monitoring and evaluation support, however, does not end with the acceptance of a proposal. Robust monitoring and evaluation is an essential aspect of increased accountability and improved learning for any organization.

Commissioning high quality peacebuilding evaluations is particularly challenging for many sectoral specialists. Similar to humanitarian evaluation, the evaluation of peacebuilding interventions is a subset within evaluation practice that requires specific expertise. Peacebuilding evaluators utilize a relatively new and innovative set of tools for confronting challenges stemming from the nature of conflict and post-conflict environments. Typical challenges include fluid programming contexts and constrained access to monitoring data and beneficiaries, all of which usually signal negative implications for quality evaluations using standard techniques. In addition to these challenges, peacebuilding evaluators frequently confront projects in which the peacebuilding aspect of an intervention’s expected outcomes is not explicit or has become blurred over time. In these cases, peacebuilding evaluators must construct a *post hoc* logic model, including a theory of change and associated indicators, for assessing the specific peacebuilding gains an intervention has accomplished. In the absence of doing this, evaluations tend to assess a project’s outcomes within a given sector – education, security, local governance – at the expense of examining peacebuilding outcomes, rendering the evaluation only marginally useful for peacebuilding practice and PBF accountability. Guaranteeing quality peacebuilding evaluations requires the specific technical expertise noted above, as well as administrative and political will to ensure that sufficient resources are in place in a timely fashion.

PBF has been continually enhancing its DM&E capacities since 2010.² The impulse to improve has come internally as well externally, through the recommendations of various evaluative exercises which have

¹ Kluyskens, Jups and Lance Clark, “Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund,” May 2014, p.60: <https://www.norad.no/globalassets/publikasjoner/publikasjoner-2016/norad-collected-reviews/review-of-the-united-nations-peacebuilding-fund.pdf>.

² Between 2010-2014, PBF relied exclusively on external assistance for its M&E capacity, including the generous secondment of a Senior M&E advisor from UNDP and a JPO funded by the Government of Australia.

called for the establishment of stronger M&E systems,³ and for enhancing the integration of gender throughout PBF evaluations.⁴ The 2014 PBF Review⁵ recognized the positive impact these improvements had made, which underscored the need for continued and expanded support to country partners, specifically through the establishment of the IRF-99 project. The four project outcomes and corresponding outputs of the IRF-99 project have therefore been identified as follows:⁶

1. Joint Steering Committees (JSCs), Secretariats, Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs), and PBSO are provided with well-targeted, actionable evaluations of their work.
 - 1.1. PBSO commissions and manages timely, high-quality, gender-sensitive evaluations.
 - 1.2. PBSO coordinates communication and provides input to key evaluation documents through an active and broadly representative Reference Group associated with its evaluations.
 - 1.3. PBSO supports in-country stakeholders to submit well-considered and timely management responses.
2. Evaluations commissioned by PBF mainstream gender and are in line with UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) and UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (SWAP).
 - 2.1 Terms of reference and Inception Reports include evaluation criteria that integrate gender.
 - 2.2 Data collection tools and methods are gender-sensitive and support women's participation and empowerment.
 - 2.3 Evaluation findings fully analyze gender dynamics and are sensitive to women's empowerment.
3. PBF contributes to UN capacity development and global knowledge about peacebuilding.
 - 3.1 Thematic reviews and thematic evaluations provide in-depth analysis on pressing peacebuilding topics.
4. PBF-funded programmes and projects are better designed and more evaluable.
 - 4.1 Evaluability assessments of all Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) programmes provide recommendations for improving design, implementation and evaluability.
 - 4.2 Effective use of monitoring for management.
 - 4.3 Improved design through PBF direct country support for DM&E.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTNERS

The **2020 PBF Synthesis Review** recognized the improvements in M&E practices and useful experimentation with new M&E approaches, but also emphasized that “there is still a long journey ahead for PBF, RUNOs and NUNOs [Non-UN Recipients of PBF funds] to improve project-level DM&E and to design and monitor systematically for portfolio-level results.” The **2021 UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office’s (FCDO’s) review** of its partnership arrangement with the Fund scored the PBF as

³ Kluyskens and Clark (2014), OIOS (2008), “Report of the Office of Internal Oversight on the Independent Evaluation of the Peacebuilding Fund,” Ball and van Beijnum (2009) “Review of the Peacebuilding Fund”

⁴ See recommendations from the SWAP 2014 Evaluation Performance review.

⁵ Kluyskens, Jups and Lance Clark, “Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund,” May 2014: <https://www.norad.no/globalassets/publikasjoner/publikasjoner-2016/norad-collected-reviews/review-of-the-united-nations-peacebuilding-fund.pdf>.

⁶ In its commitment to address PAC recommendation, the PBF DM&E Unit will update the IRF-99 results framework, including aforementioned outcomes and outputs, to reflect the current DM&E priorities, gaps, objectives, and types of country support requested, during the course of the ongoing extension by 31 December 2023.

“exceeds expectations” and noted that the PBF and recipient countries’ results for M&E indicators “are a testament to the excellent work of the PBSO’s Monitoring and Evaluation team,” thus underscoring the relevance and impact of the DM&E investments to date and the need for continued and expanded support to country partners. Similarly, the survey of nearly 200 PBF country-based counterparts, including in UN entities, civil society and government, conducted as part of an **independent Mid-Term Review of the PBF Strategy 2020-2024**, found that the support from PBF Secretariats and PBSO on design, monitoring and evaluation, gender and youth-responsive programming, as well as conflict sensitivity is overwhelmingly deemed as sufficient or more than sufficient (80% of responses), thus reconfirming the importance of the support provided through IRF-99.

IRF-99 FUNDS’ RECIPIENTS

The project was first implemented by **PBSO** (via M1-32PSO-000007 DM&E grant). As part of its first cost extension (CE) in 2017-2018, the project particularly focused on providing specific guidance and learning on a new priority for PBSO – youth empowerment and implementation of the commitments outlined in the Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security. Therefore, **UNFPA** became a funds’ recipient for the duration of the first CE to reflect on PBF’s first Youth Promotion Initiative (YPI) call for proposals in 2016 ⁷ and the experiences of youth-led civil society organizations in developing peacebuilding proposals, via regional consultations, in order to inform the Security Council’s Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security. By May 2019, the UNFPA component was completed, and in order to consolidate and exceed the gains in quality programming PBF has achieved in the face of considerable scale-up, the Fund committed to establishing a surge mechanism – Programme Support Team (PST) roster – of peacebuilding programming and evaluation professionals, managed by **UNOPS** as a new implementing partner, who can deploy to countries receiving PBF funds to ensure high-quality proposals and rigorous evaluations.

Through the advertisement and selection process administered by UNOPS in partnership with PBF, a first cohort of ten PST roster consultants was recruited in 2019. Seeking to diversity the roster membership with more junior and mid-level experts, a UNOPS-led recruitment of the second cohort of eleven consultants took place in 2020. In 2022, after three years of surge roster’s operations, PBF reflected on the consultants’ performance to date, renewing the contracts of 17 roster members who performed well on the assignments, and removing two consultants from the roster due to under-performance or lack of interest in PBF assignments. Between 2019-2022, three additional consultants asked to be removed from the PST roster membership due to full-time employment. In light of scaling up existing initiatives and launching new DME&L pilots and exercises (such as country portfolio-level Strategic Results Frameworks and evaluations, Community-Based Monitoring, Thematic Reviews and Synthesis Reviews, Cohort Evaluations and the reviews of the PBF Strategy), in 2022 the PBF identified the need to expand the roster composition and hired a new cohort of 14 peacebuilding DME&L experts through internal selection in accordance with PBSO’s rules, regulations and procedures as outlined in ST/AI/2013/4, bringing the roster membership to 30 consultants.

⁷ As part of the Youth Promotion Initiative first call for proposals in 2016, PBSO approved two projects, both of which with Civil Society Organizations as funds’ recipients: Kyrgyzstan (Search for Common Ground, PBF/IRF-155, \$995,000), and Mali (ACORD, PBF/IRF-161, \$800,000).

IRF-99 DURATION, BUDGET & EXPENDITURE

Between November 2014-December 2022, the IRF-99 has undergone **three non-cost extensions (NCEs)** and **four cost extensions (CEs)** with a total approved budget of **\$6,813,453**, as outlined in the table below.

IRF-99 Project Overview:

<i>CE/NCE</i>	<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>	<i>Duration (months)</i>	<i>PBSO budget</i>	<i>UNFPA budget</i>	<i>UNOPS budget</i>
Approval	5 November 2014	5 May 2016	18	\$1,999,830	-	-
NCE	6 May 2016	5 May 2017	12	-	-	-
CE	6 May 2017	31 December 2018	19	\$2,842,937	\$199,555	-
CE	1 January 2019	23 October 2020	22	-	-	\$800,000
CE	24 October 2020	31 December 2020	2	\$357,131	-	-
NCE	1 January 2021	31 December 2021	12	-	-	-
NCE	1 January 2022	30 June 2022	6	-	-	-
CE	1 July 2022	31 December 2023	18	\$400,000	-	\$214,000
Grand total			109	\$5,599,898	\$199,555	\$1,014,000

Between 2014-2022, PBF approved a total of \$1,350,270,641 for country programming, while projects have expended almost \$1 billion (\$974,434,928) during this timeframe. In the meantime, this global IRF-99 project providing country support across the entire PBF portfolio has constituted **only 0.5% from the total PBF investment, and 0.6% (\$5,943,878) of the Fund-wide project expenditure.**

IRF-99 Annualized Expenditure:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Total per RUNO</i>
<i>PBSO DM&E grant</i>	\$193,910	\$467,104	\$1,116,565	\$675,455	\$1,262,184	\$1,035,521	(\$1,311)	\$269,175	\$5,018,603
<i>UNFPA</i>	-	-	-	\$196,174	-	-	-	-	\$196,174
<i>UNOPS PST roster</i>	-	-	-	-	\$56,976	\$284,004	\$195,641	\$192,451	\$729,072
Total expenditure	\$193,910	\$467,104	\$1,116,565	\$871,629	\$1,319,160	\$1,319,525	\$194,330	\$451,409	\$5,943,878

Source: Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO): <https://mptf.undp.org/project/00092393>.

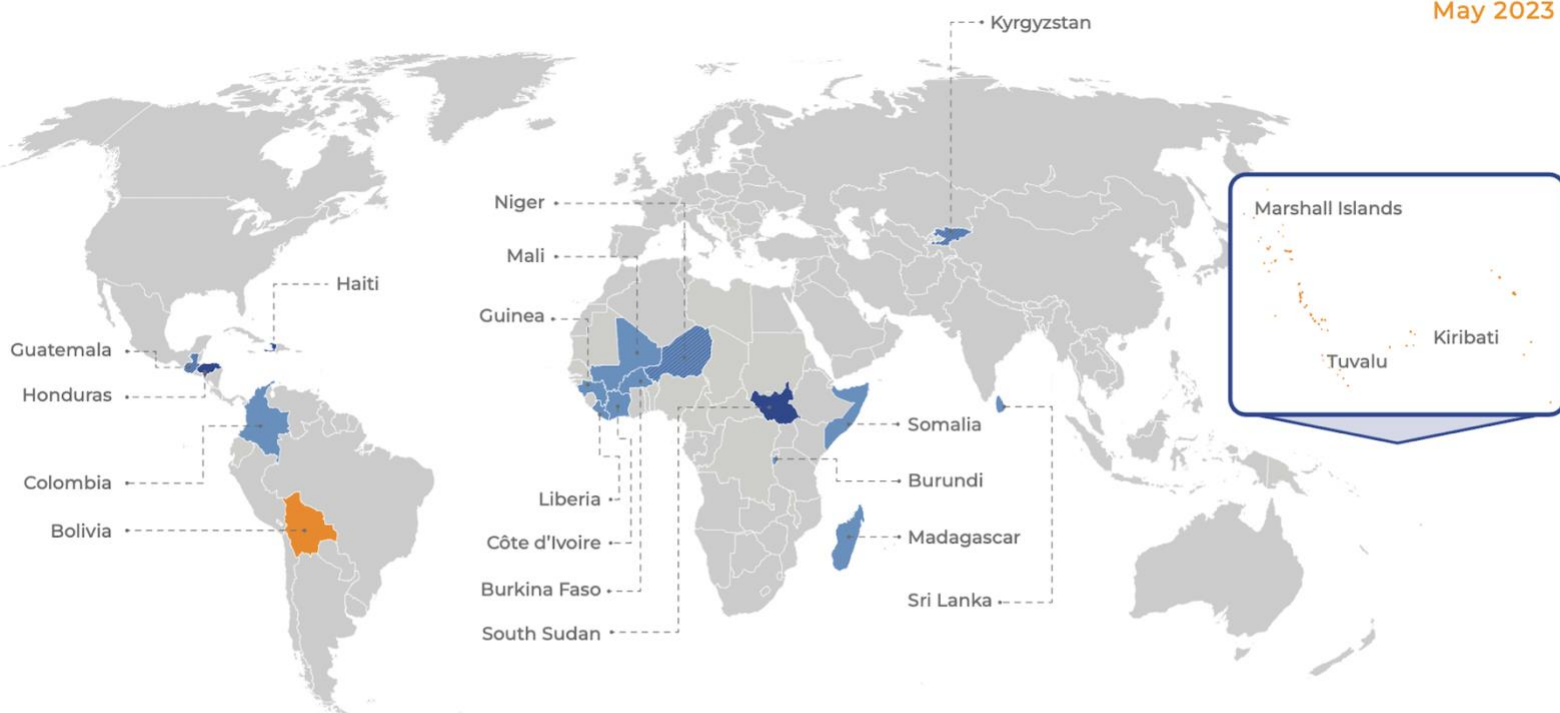
Annualized financial report for PBSO DM&E Grant is provided in Annex 1. Annualized financial report for UNOPS PST roster is provided in Annex 2.

IRF-99 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Between 2015-2022, the IRF-99 project was able to provide support to evaluative exercises, country-level peacebuilding strategies and analyses, as well as programming in 20 countries, as shown on the map below.

Mapping of support provided by IRF-99 (2015-2022)

May 2023



Data:

– Evaluative exercises	– Country-level analysis & strategies	– Evaluative exercises
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burkina Faso Burundi Colombia Côte d'Ivoire Guatemala Guinea Kyrgyzstan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guatemala Haiti Honduras Kyrgyzstan Niger South Sudan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolivia Kiribati Marshall Islands Tuvalu

Global Fund-wide exercises (2015-2022):

Thematic Reviews (Transitional Justice, Local Peacebuilding, Climate Security)
 Synthesis Reviews (2017-2019 & 2020)
 External Evaluation Quality Assessment (EQA) system
 GYPI concept note reviews (2021-2022)
 Mid-Term Review of PBF Strategy 2020-2024
 SG Report on PBF 2022

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES UNDER PBSO DM&E GRANT (2015-2022)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Description</i>
Guatemala Portfolio (PPP) Evaluation 2011-2015	This evaluation of the first Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP, 2011-2015) in Guatemala aimed to assess the PBF's achievements and value added to peacebuilding vis-à-vis the \$10 million PPP.
Colombia project evaluation – “Communication for Peace”	Home-based consultancy with travel to Colombia to conduct an evaluation of a PBF-funded project.
Membership in UN Evaluation Group (UNEG)	One-time membership fee for PBSO/PBF membership in the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG), paid to UNDP.
<u>Guinea Portfolio Evaluation 2012-2016</u>	This evaluation of the second PPP (2012-2016) in Guinea aimed to assess the PBF's achievements and value added to peacebuilding vis-à-vis the \$48 million PPP.
<u>Côte d'Ivoire Evaluability Assessment 2015-2017</u>	This study aimed to analyze the evaluability of PBF-funded interventions carried out in the context of the PPP in Côte d'Ivoire during 2015-2017.
<u>Kyrgyzstan Portfolio Evaluation 2013-2017</u>	This evaluation of the first PPP (2013-2017) in Kyrgyzstan aimed to assess the PBF's achievements and value added to peacebuilding vis-à-vis the \$15.1 million PPP, in addition to \$10 million IRF support provided in 2011.
<u>Liberia Portfolio Evaluation 2011-2016</u>	This evaluation of the third PPP (2011-2016) in Liberia aimed to assess the PBF's achievements and value added to peacebuilding vis-à-vis the \$35.1 million PPP.
PBF Application Processing and Management Platform	PBF aimed to expand the scope of the platform created for the GYPI to provide a more comprehensive experience for managing PBF's relationship with funded entities over the entire lifecycle of the funding period, providing better insight into the effectiveness of PBF funding and facilitating better communication between the PBF and funded entities. This assignment pertained to Phase One – UX Design, seeking to develop an understanding of the platform users' needs, pain points, and desired features in order to have better insight into the overall scope and requirements of the platform.
Niger (2015-2018) and <u>Mali (2014-2017)</u> Portfolio Evaluations	As the PPP covering the period of August 2015-2018 was nearing the end in Niger, and the portfolio of projects covering the period of 2014-2017 had come to an end in Mali, the purpose of these Portfolio Evaluations was to assess the PBF's results achieved and analyse the portfolios' overall added value to peacebuilding in the countries.

Somalia Portfolio Evaluation 2015-2018

The Portfolio Evaluation aimed to understand and assess the achievements of the PBF's support to Somalia and PBF's overall added value to peacebuilding in the country. This was the first comprehensive evaluation of the PBF portfolio in Somalia and was intended to be a summative evaluation for the period of 2015-2018.

Côte d'Ivoire Portfolio Evaluation 2015-2019

The main objective of this Portfolio Evaluation was to provide a global and independent assessment of the added value, results and impacts of the PBF portfolio in Côte d'Ivoire from 2015 to 2019, including catalytic effects and contribution of the PBF to the transition. The scope of the evaluation included 10 projects out of a total of the 16 projects funded by the PBF as part of the second PPP (2013-2015, extended until 2018) and of the Peacebuilding Support Plan 2017-2019 (PACoP), which aimed at supporting the country through the transition phase from peacekeeping to peacebuilding.

Burundi Portfolio Evaluation 2014-2020

This Portfolio Evaluation assessed the PBF support to Burundi in 2014-2020, and also reflected on the broader lessons learned from PBF support to Burundi between 2007-2014.

2021

Climate Security and Peacebuilding Thematic Review (February 2022-April 2023)

The Thematic Review examined key global trends and approaches to sustaining peace through climate security efforts and took stock of climate security projects funded by the PBF between 2017-2021 with the purpose of understanding good practices and areas for programmatic improvement, assessing results and lessons-learned, and guiding future investments in climate security.

External Evaluation Quality Assessment (EQA)

As per [PBF Evaluation Policy 2022-2024](#), external Evaluation Quality Assessment (EQA) services provided by DeftEdge include development of a PBF-specific assessment grid and criteria for scoring evaluations based on their quality, and review of all completed project (and eventually portfolio) evaluations to define their credibility (2022 onwards). The EQA scores will be publicly available on PBF website, alongside the evaluation report.

PBF Community of Practice meetings' simultaneous interpretation

For the two virtual learning exchanges with the PBF Community of Practice in 2022 (on the topic of Climate Security and Human Rights Due Diligence Policy), PBF arranged simultaneous interpretation services (English-French and French-English) to ensure greater inclusivity and engagement for the exchange of good practices on these topics.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES UNDER UNOPS PROGRAMME SUPPORT TEAM (PST) ROSTER (2019-2022)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Description</i>
Programming support for the development of a regional project PBF/IRF-362, 363, 364 in Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu	The PST roster consultant's support was sought for the drafting of the full project document based on the concept note, ensuring that project interventions and implementation methodology respond to PBF criteria. The assignment included a co-facilitation of the project document drafting workshop in Fiji, supporting the Peace and Development Adviser in Fiji.
PBF Synthesis Review 2017-2019	The independent Synthesis Review analyzed portfolio and project evaluations of PBF-funded initiatives during 2017-2019. It is a qualitative review of 8 portfolio evaluations, 46 project evaluations, 2 lessons learned reviews, and 3 evaluability assessments conducted during this time.
Thematic Review on Transitional Justice	To advance quality assurance, knowledge management efforts and in recognition of growing demand for UN support to transitional justice and reconciliation efforts in conflict-affected countries, PBSO commissioned a Thematic Review of PBF supported transitional justice projects during 2014-2018. The review identifies good practices and lessons learned in an effort to inform future PBF investment decisions and help inform programmatic approaches in support of transitional justice measures.
PBF Sample Evaluation Terms of Reference	To ensure greater coherence and quality of DM&E, and especially evaluation, efforts at country level, a PST roster consultant was tasked with developing sample Terms of Reference for PBF evaluations that has been widely used since. Some lessons learned from this assignment have informed the PBF overall guidance to field staff and partners regarding evaluations.
Guatemala Portfolio Evaluation 2016-2019	This Portfolio Evaluation of the second PPP in Guatemala (2016-2019) covered 9 projects that focused on transitional justice, strengthening of the justice system, migration, dialogue for mediation, women's empowerment, access of women and indigenous peoples to justice and conflict resolution.
Programming support for the development of PBF/IRF-366 in Bolivia	After a Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General visited Bolivia to assess the political situation and led on the design of the PBF concept note, PBF PST roster consultant was deployed to conduct 10-day in-country consultations with RCO and fund recipients (OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP) and support with drafting of a project document, namely conflict analysis, Theory of Change, and results framework.
Liberia Evaluability Assessment	In early 2019, the PBF provided \$5 million seed funding under its PRF modality through the Liberia Multi-Partner Trust Fund (LMPTF), to support peacebuilding priorities consistent with the government's peace and development framework Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework

(UNDAF). The PBF Guidelines provide for the conduct of an Evaluability Assessment (EA) managed and/or facilitated by PBSO within the first 6-9 months of project implementation. The EA provided an opportunity for an early appraisal of the logic, approach, feasibility, and existing monitoring and reporting arrangements of the PBF portfolio. It availed a platform for needed adjustments to increase the likelihood of achieving intended results premised on identified challenges, gaps, lessons learned and way forward. The assessment also set the basis for effective final project evaluations.

Burkina Faso Evaluability Assessment

After declaring Burkina Faso eligible in July 2018, PBF approved \$8 million support, in addition to a cross-border project with Mali, and two Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative projects approved in 2019. The Evaluability Assessment provided an opportunity for an early appraisal of the logic, approach, feasibility, and existing monitoring and reporting arrangements of the PBF portfolio, and recommended adjustments to projects necessary to increase the likelihood of achieving the expected results and facilitate the conduct of high-quality project and portfolio evaluations quality.

Madagascar Evaluability Assessment

This Evaluability Assessment focused on the second PPP in Madagascar approved in 2019 and consisting of 3 PRF projects for a total of \$7.6 million, in addition to 2 GYPI projects for \$2.4 million. The EA aimed to review the level of resources and follow-up plans as part of an updated conflict analysis and ensure that projects are positioned in a way that they can produce the intended results and that the PBF portfolio can be evaluated.

Guatemala Strategic Results Framework⁸

In 2020 the Government of Guatemala indicated its intention to re-apply for PBF eligibility for a third phase (2020-2024). PBF Secretariat and UNCT have identified two strategic priority areas, based on the findings of the conflict analysis:

1) Support to rule of law, ending impunity and bolstering judicial independence; and 2) Addressing territorial-based conflicts with a focus on dialogue and the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus. The PST roster consultant hosted 5-day virtual strategic planning workshops and helped craft SRF language, including outcomes, their Theories of Change, and indicators.

Niger Lessons Learned Exercise and self-guided training courses

Upon the end of Niger's eligibility 2014-2019 (\$38 million approved through 20 projects), the government was preparing to apply for re-eligibility. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, PBF introduced an innovative evaluative exercise – Lessons Learned Exercise. Based on a collective reflection approach facilitated and supported remotely, the LLE allowed to capture key lessons learned from the past PBF portfolio to guide future planning.

⁸ In its management response to the 2017-2019 Synthesis Review, the PBF committed to testing the development of new country portfolio-level Strategic Results Frameworks (SRFs) that will identify collective strategic outcomes at the portfolio level, including indicators that will be relevant for the five-year eligibility period of a country. These frameworks are developed in a participatory manner but are intended to remain light in terms of process and documentation.

PBF Synthesis Review 2020

The 2020 Synthesis Review included the review of 1 portfolio evaluation, 3 evaluability assessments, 1 strategic review, 1 thematic review (on transitional justice), 1 evaluative exercise, and 24 project evaluations. The 2020 review examined those exercises, documented steps that PBF took in 2020 to follow-up on the recommendations outlined in the 2017-2019 review, and highlighted the new evaluative approaches PBF experimented with in 2020 in light of the travel restrictions due to COVID-19 and other relevant developments at the PBF.

Niger Conflict Analysis

In the context of Niger's re-eligibility for the PBF, this study was commissioned with the objective of identifying and analyzing, in a gender- and age-sensitive manner, the root causes and manifestations of conflict in Niger. Based on the various studies already carried out and additional research in the field, it aimed to update the conflict analysis in order to identify areas of intervention for the United Nations system and its partners in Niger.

Sri Lanka Lessons Learned Exercise [internal]

PBF commissioned this Lessons Learned Exercise (LLE) of its five-year engagement in Sri Lanka from 2015 to 2020 through seven projects that contributed to the implementation of the PPP for a total investment of approximately \$12.5 million toward the PPP, in addition to six other projects under Gender and Youth Promotion Initiatives (GYPI) for \$6.5m which were not part of this review. The PBF decided that a full evaluation of the PPP project portfolio in Sri Lanka was not feasible at that time due to the sensitivity of discussing peacebuilding issues openly in Sri Lanka. Interviews were conducted remotely due to travel restrictions imposed by measures to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local Peacebuilding Thematic Review (including research and report drafting; animated illustration video production; After Action Review)

The 2022 Thematic Review on Local Peacebuilding was informed by youth-led primary research in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Kyrgyzstan, and the Western Balkans, and explored how 'local' peacebuilding is conceptualized and approached, what factors enable or inhibit the effectiveness of local-level peacebuilding interventions, and how the Peacebuilding Fund and other donors can support local actors better.

South Sudan Strategic Results Framework

Upon the end of South Sudan's eligibility in 2019, the Resident Coordinator's Office worked on the re-eligibility process and conducted an in-depth conflict analysis that identified the following priority areas for future PBF funding: 1) Strengthening national democratization, justice and accountability processes; 2) Addressing conflict resulting from and around displacement; and 3) Strengthening local peace mechanisms and conflict prevention. The consultant conducted virtual validation meetings with stakeholders and helped craft SRF language, including outcomes, their Theories of Change, and indicators.

Kyrgyzstan Strategic Results Framework

In 2020 the Government of Kyrgyzstan indicated its intention to apply for PBF re-eligibility. The Resident Coordinator's Office and UN Country Team have been supporting the preparation of the re-eligibility package to be submitted

to the UN Secretary-General for a third phase of PBF funding (2021-2026). The Government's eligibility request was anchored in a broad strategic priority that aims to foster inclusive and peaceful dialogue and cooperation between the state and society and among various societal groups in Kyrgyzstan including in border areas. The consultant conducted virtual validation meetings with stakeholders and helped craft SRF language, including outcomes, their Theories of Change, and indicators.

Niger Eligibility Request

At the end of the first PPP (2015-2018) and as part of Niger's re-eligibility for the PBF which expired on 31 December 2019, the PBF conducted a study updating Niger's conflict analysis. This update was essential to formulate the request for re-eligibility, in order to better plan and guide the thematic and geographical programming of future PBF interventions. PST roster consultant was recruited to support the High Authority for Peacebuilding, the Government of Niger, the Resident Coordinator's Office, and the PBF Secretariat to prepare a re-eligibility package.

GYPI 2021 stage 1 Concept Note Review

The objective of this assignment was to support the PBF staff with reviewing incoming concept note submissions for the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) as thematic experts on gender and/or youth. The review was based on the GYPI review criteria and required filling out a score card per each concept note reviewed. Two consultants were hired to accommodate for two languages – Spanish and French respectively.

Haiti Portfolio Monitoring Guidance and Training

PBF supported a capacity building process to develop a portfolio-level monitoring guidance for Haiti's remaining eligibility period (2021-2024). PST roster consultant was asked to develop 4 trainings modules and lead 4 training workshops involving relevant in-country stakeholders, i.e., Resident Coordinator's Office, UN Country Team, and relevant government and civil society counterparts, as well as to develop a strategic country-level monitoring guidance for the PBF programming in Haiti. In light of political instability, only 1/4 virtual training was conducted, 2/4 training modules were developed (on conflict analysis and theories of change), and the monitoring guidance was successfully prepared by the consultant.

[Madagascar Portfolio Evaluation 2015-2019](#)

This summative Portfolio Evaluation focused on the results of the PBF-funded projects during the 2015-2019 PPP, as well as their collective contribution to peacebuilding in Madagascar. It also assessed the management of the support provided by the PBF as well as progress made against the recommendations of the PBF-commissioned Evaluability Assessment. In addition, the cumulative and catalytic effects of PBF-funded initiatives were also analyzed.

Honduras Strategic Results Framework

In 2020 the Government of Honduras indicated its intention to apply for PBF eligibility. In support of this effort, the UN Country Team and the Resident Coordinator's Office supported the Government in the definition of three priority areas to guide PBF investments for a period of five years: 1) Dialogue and conflict prevention; 2) Participation; and 3) Access to justice and human rights. The consultant conducted 3-day in-country workshops and helped

craft SRF language, including outcomes, their Theories of Change, and indicators.

GYPI 2022 stage 1 and stage 2 Concept Note Review

The objective of this assignment was to support the PBF staff with reviewing concept note submissions for the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) as a thematic expert on gender and youth during two stages of the competitive call.

Mid-Term Review of PBF Strategy

Mid-Term Review of the PBF Strategy 2020-2024 aimed to take stock of results achieved to date and to allow the Fund to make adjustments to its Strategy as needed. The Mid-Term Review aimed to provide evidence about whether the current Strategy is suited to enable the PBF to successfully support effective peacebuilding approaches and operational practices, as well as highlight areas where the PBF performed less effectively than anticipated. Specifically, the Strategy assessed the effectiveness of PBF's work within three priority windows as well as in terms of the introduction of Strategic Results Frameworks.

Guinea Strategic Review

PBF commissioned an independent Strategic Review of its investments in Guinea over the period 2017-2022 (\$30.2 million of investments through 20 projects until mid-2022 with an additional program of \$7.4 million transition support approved in Q3 2022). This exercise aimed to assess the PBF implementation modalities, achievements, and overall added value to peacebuilding in Guinea, beyond individual projects.

SG Report on PBF

In light of staffing gaps within PBF DM&E Unit typically responsible for leading the writing of the annual Secretary-General's Report on the PBF, the services of a PST roster consultant were sought in 2022. The consultant was tasked with drafting the report under the supervision of PBSO (experimenting with a thematic rather than geographic structure of the report), consulting requisite partners across the UN system as required, and addressing consolidated feedback in further iterations of the report.

Annex 1: PBSO DM&E Grant annualized financial report



Project: Support for Design, Monitor, Evaluation

Project No. IRF 99 Grant No. M1-32PSO-000007

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Cumulative total
Income									
Voluntary contributions from UNDP MPTF	1,999,830.00	-	2,842,937.00			357,131.00		400,000.00	5,599,898.00
Investment income / ^a									167,271.00 /a
Total income	1,999,830.00	-	2,842,937.00	-	-	357,131.00	-	400,000.00	5,767,169.00
Expenditures									
Staff and other personnel Cost	189,285.53	397,224.66	1,025,566.43	522,441.63	1,054,560.19	886,121.02	(60,782.36)	82,144.00	4,096,561.10
Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture	3,675.00	-	-	-	-	90.00	-	-	3,765.00
Contractual Services	82.50	1,687.48	4,192.62	4,923.87	7,144.98	4,539.84	-	2,485.38	25,056.67
Travel	-	37,309.98	12,965.54	51,940.61	33,318.59	(3,502.76)	(2,615.99)		129,415.97
Transfers and Grants								159,873.13	159,873.13
General Operating and Other Direct Costs	-	325.00	793.03	51,959.77	84,587.68	80,528.50	7,244.50		225,438.48
Total direct expenditures	193,043.03	436,547.12	1,043,517.62	631,265.88	1,179,611.44	967,776.60	(56,153.85)	244,502.51	4,640,110.35
Indirect Support Costs (United Nations)	865.90	30,558.27	73,046.27	44,188.67	82,572.59	67,744.40	(3,930.76)	7,522.79	302,568.13
Indirect Support Costs (Implementing Partners)								9,592.39	9,592.39
Total indirect expenditures	865.90	30,558.27	73,046.27	44,188.67	82,572.59	67,744.40	(3,930.76)	17,115.18	312,160.52
Total expenditures /^b	193,908.93	467,105.39	1,116,563.89	675,454.55	1,262,184.03	1,035,521.00	(60,084.61)	261,617.69	4,952,270.87 /b
Available Balance (unspent balance) 31 Dec 2022									647,627.13

Notes:

a/ Interest income estimate as of 30 June 2022

b/ Includes outstanding commitments of USD 236,424.90

Ghennet Tesfamariam-Desta
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Nigina Khaitova
Project Lead: Nigina Khaitova
 Peacebuilding Knowledge Management Officer, FPB/PBSO/DPPA

Note: MPTF Report as of 31 Dec 2022 shows expenditure of \$5,018,603. The above table shows total expenditure of \$4,952,270.87. The difference of \$66,332.13 is that the reversal of expenditure (or return of funds) indicated in negative in 2021 and associated PSC was not recognized in the MPTF totals.

Annex 2: UNOPS PST roster annualized financial report

UNOPS

Country Name: Global
 Project Number: 21288-001
 Project Title: Programme Support for provision of Experts to Monitoring and Evaluation capacity

Interim Financial Statement as of 31 Dec 2022

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
<u>1) INCOME</u>					
Contributions	800000			214,000	1,014,000
TOTAL INCOME					<u>1,014,000</u>
<u>2) EXPENDITURE</u>					
Supplies, Commodities & Materials		55.57			56
Contractual Services	28000	212322.26	159163.59	159332.56	558,818
Travel	10559.34	10295.98	1236.59	9727.65	31,820
General Op& Other Direct costs	14689.6	42730.48	22492	10800	90,712
Indirect Support cost	3727.43	18579.66	12798.89	12590.22	47,696
TOTAL EXPENDITURE					<u>729,102</u>
PROJECT ADVANCES					0
COMMITMENTS					0
<u>3) FUND AVAILABLE / (REQUIRED)</u>					<u>284,898</u>

* All amounts are in USD. Transactions in non-USD have been converted to USD at the UN operational rate of exchange as on the date of

* This is an interim statement provided for information purposes only. Figures are not final.

* The report includes fee projections for open period(s).

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Certified by
 Ana Tsivtsivadze
 Finance Oversight Specialist