

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



United Nations  
Peacebuilding

**PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT**

<b>Country(ies):</b> Kyrgyz Republic	
<b>Project Title:</b> Inclusive governance and shared identity for sustainable peace and development	
<b>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):</b> 00129739	
<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>
<b>List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed by type of organization (UN, CSO etc.):</b> UNDP, OHCHR, UNICEF	
<b>List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO):</b> Ministry of culture, information, sports and youth policy (respective unit/department of Youth Affairs and the Department of inter-ethnic relations), civil society, youth, women-led and human rights organizations, educational institutions	
<b>Project duration in months<sup>1 2</sup>:</b> 24 months + 6 months NCE months with proposed new end date of June 16, 2024	
<b>Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation:</b> Tokmok city of Chui province, Balykchy city of Issyk-Kul province, Osh, Nookat and Uzgen cities of Osh province, Suzak municipality of Jalal-Abad province, Aidarken city of Batken province	
<b>Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
<b>Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization):</b> <b>UNDP:</b> \$1,150,000.00 <b>OHCHR:</b> \$ 850,000.00 <b>UNICEF:</b> \$ 1,000,000.00 <b>TOTAL:</b> \$3,000,000.00  <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account. For payment of second and subsequent tranches the Coordinating agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed.</i>	
Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):	
<b>PBF 1<sup>st</sup> tranche (70,00%):</b> Recipient: UNDP: US\$ 805,000.00 OHCHR: US\$ 595,000.00 UNICEF: US\$ 700,000.00 Total: US\$2,100,000.00	<b>PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche* (30,00%):</b> Recipient: UNDP: US\$ 345,000.00 OHCHR: US\$ 255,000.00 UNICEF: US\$ 300,000.00 Total: US\$900,000.00

<sup>1</sup> Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

<sup>2</sup> The official project start date will be the date of the first project budget transfer by MPTFO to the recipient organization(s), as per the MPTFO Gateway page.

<sup>3</sup> Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Gender Promotion Initiative

<sup>4</sup> Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Youth Promotion Initiative

<p><b>Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs):</b>  The project aims to strengthen shared and inclusive civic identity through the promotion of a Peacebuilding Architecture that encompasses governance and accountability, rule of law and human rights, age and gender equality</p>	
<p><b>Summarize the in-country project consultation process prior to submission to PBSO, including with the PBF Steering Committee, civil society (including any women and youth organizations) and stakeholder communities (including women, youth and marginalized groups):</b></p> <p>Regional Consultation on UN Peacebuilding Architecture in Central Asia, Bishkek, March 10-11, 2020. PBF eligibility/re-eligibility request consulted with the Presidential Administration and approved by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. At the design stage, the Project Document consulted with Presidential Administration, National Institute for Strategic Studies, Ministry of culture, information, sports and youth policy (respective unit/department on Youth Affairs and the Department of inter-ethnic relations), State Commission on Religious Affairs, civil society organizations (Agency for Social Technologies, PeaceNexus, Strategic Solutions), human rights defenders as well as experts and academia.</p>	
<p><b>Project Gender Marker score<sup>5</sup>: 2 - gender equality as a significant objective</b>  Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment: 50%</p>	
<p><b>Briefly explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment <sup>6</sup>:</b> (i) ensuring a meaningful engagement of women led CSOs into central and local Infrastructures for Peace (I4P) (ii) gender mainstreaming and integrating priorities of the National Gender Action Plan with national and local peacebuilding action plans (iii) empowering female civil and municipal servants and young women in local level conflict prevention and resolution (iv) ensure that data collection and analytical methodologies are gender and age disaggregated under the Early Warning and Early Response system.</p>	
<p><b>Project Risk Marker score<sup>7</sup>: 1 – medium risk to achieve outcomes</b></p>	
<p><b>Select PBF Focus Areas</b> which best summarizes the focus of the project (<i>select ONLY one</i>)<sup>8</sup>:  (2.3) Conflict prevention/management.  If applicable, <b>SDCF/UNDAF outcome(s)</b> to which the project contributes: By 2022, institutions at all levels are more accountable and inclusive ensuring justice, human rights, gender equality and sustainable peace for all  <b>Sustainable Development Goal(s) and Target(s)</b> to which the project contributes: SDGs 4, 5, 10, 16</p>	
<p><b>Type of submission:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>New project</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Project amendment</b></p>	<p><b>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</b></p> <p><b>Extension of duration:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): <b>Additional six months with new proposed end date of June 16, 2024</b></p> <p><b>Change of project outcome/ scope:</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%:</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Additional PBF budget:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization:</p> <p><b>Brief justification for amendment:</b>  <i>Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or in TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.</i></p> <p><b>The present extension is being requested due to delays and the need to adapt some</b></p>

<sup>5</sup> **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

**Score 2** for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate between 30 and 79% of the total project budget to GEWE

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

<sup>6</sup> Please consult the **PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding**

<sup>7</sup> **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes

**Risk marker 1** = medium risk to achieving outcomes

**Risk marker 2** = high risk to achieving outcomes

<sup>8</sup> **PBF Focus Areas** are:

(1.1) SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

(2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management;

(3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services;

(4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats).

	<p>of the components as a result of rapidly evolving context. Namely, the following project components require more time:</p> <p><b>Output 1.1:</b> Policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms strengthened for inclusive and accountable governance at national and local levels to increase social dialogue and trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Activity 1.1.1.</b> Operationalize the central level Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM).</li> <li>– <b>Activity 1.1.2.</b> Refining and/or reconciling interrelated legal and policy frameworks.</li> <li>– <b>Activity 1.1.6.</b> Analyse legal, policy and societal barriers to the equal representation of minorities in law enforcement and justice institutions and creating favourable conditions for young minority professionals jointly with the State Personnel Service</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Comprehensive early warning and early response system established for risk-informed development and conflict prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Activity 1.2.1.</b> Establish EWER system.</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Communities and local self-governments are capacitated to strengthen cooperation and trust among different groups and community members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Activity 1.3.6.</b> Build the capacity of children, parents, teachers, and community members to promote peace, tolerance and diversity at ECD centres.</li> </ul> <p>What follows is the outline of challenges faced by the project team which necessitated project extension.</p> <p><b>Challenges, Strategy to Overcome and Acceleration Strategy for full implementation:</b></p> <p><b>1. Peacebuilding Architecture related challenges (Activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2):</b>  The project aims to establish an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM) on Kyrgyz Jarany <b>at the top of Infrastructure for Peace (I4P)</b> as an overarching coordination platform under the Presidential Administration/Cabinet of Ministers that should have a mandate to formulate policies &amp; strategies at the strategic level for <b>conflict prevention, peacebuilding and social cohesion, M&amp;E and oversight over policy implementation.</b></p> <p>During the project timeframe, agreement was reached to establish an IMCM on the implementation of the Kyrgyz Jarany (Civic Identity) concept as an overarching platform at the top of the I4P. However, the governance arrangements of the I4P covering broader and connected issues of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and social cohesion are still being developed and further shape the policy framework for the I4P. In Kyrgyzstan, those broader issues are multi-disciplinary, cross-sectoral and to be achieved through a number of state policies such as the Civic identity (also covering inter-ethnic harmony), religious tolerance, youth development, NAP WPS 1325, National Development Programme 2026, National Security Concept, including those adopted additionally - the Concept for Spiritual, Moral Development and Physical Education of an individual and the President’s Decree “On National Tradition”.</p> <p>The IMCM that was supposed to be a driving institution in the overall Peace Architecture responsible for a broad range of issues pertaining to vertical and horizontal relations has not been operationalized within the project timeframe. Due to the ongoing reshuffling and reduction in the structure and staffing of key government agencies, less time was available to the project team to meaningfully engage with the relevant national counterparts to ensure their ownership over the</p>
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	<p>IMCM and to organize its regular work, thus slowing down progress of Project outputs 1.1. and 1.2. in particular.</p> <p>Therefore, the promotion of the I4P at the central level required additional consultations and advocacy through a wide range of consultative meetings with central and local authorities and CSOs.</p> <p><b>1.1. Strategy to overcome:</b> Sustaining an integrated policy implementation is a crucial starting point for further strengthening the Peacebuilding Architecture at all levels of governance. To this end, the agreement has already been achieved with the Presidential Administration to develop an <b>Integrated Action Plan</b> at the central level, by finding greater synergies among afore-mentioned mutually supportive policies by placing Civic Identity Concept at the core.</p> <p><b>1.2. Acceleration strategy:</b> For development of the Integrated Action Plan, UNDP will facilitate a series of central and local level consultations with central and local authorities, CSOs, community institutions, to identify structural/institutional challenges they are facing in the integrated/portfolio implementation of these policies (Sept-Oct'23). Once an Integrated Action Plan is developed, it will be replicated among all local self-governments as a blueprint to ensure greater peacebuilding impact across the country (Nov-Dec'23). However, further refining of local level development plans based on the Integrated Action Plan will go beyond the existing project life cycle (Jan-Jun'24).</p> <p><b>2. Challenges related to the role local self-governance (Activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2):</b> No Peacebuilding Architecture can be established unless the role of local self-governments in conflict prevention and peacebuilding processes is sustained within respective legislation. Namely, the current LSG legislation does not stipulate an explicit guidance and incentive for the local authorities to work on peace and cohesion issues. Pertinently the project has been facing a challenge of local ownership of project activities and results.</p> <p><b>2.1. Strategy to overcome:</b> Promotion of decentralized peacebuilding required additional consultations and advocacy at sub-national and national levels. A series of consultative processes were arranged in the regions. The results were escalated to the strategic level by engaging MPs into the discussions.</p> <p>As a result of the national and sub-national level consultative process, it was agreed with the group of MPs and relevant state institutions to further introduce changes and amendments to the law on “Local Self-Governance” to define a sustainable role of municipalities in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.</p> <p><b>2.2. Acceleration strategy:</b> Upon Parliament reconvening after its summer recess (Sept'23), the project will hold consultative meetings with MPs and relevant state institutions to further advocate for changes to the law on local self-governance (Oct-Nov'23). The adoption of draft amendments is likely to go beyond the existing project lifecycle (Dec'23-Mar'24).</p> <p><b>3. Challenges related to the “Establishment of a comprehensive early warning and early response (EWER) system for risk-informed development and conflict prevention” (Activity 1.2.1).</b> The EWER system envisioned in the Project Document is meant to be multi-dimensional covering the issues of governance, socio-cultural, economic and environmental issues. In other words, the planned EWER system is not only about monitoring of ‘traditional’ inter-ethnic conflicts, but rather focuses on broader challenges of social cohesion.</p> <p>Intended as a multi-dimensional monitoring instrument, the EWER was also supposed to be a backbone of the I4P. Pertinently the delay in the establishment of the EWER has been the result of delay in the operationalization of the I4P's IMCM.</p> <p><b>3.1. Strategy to overcome:</b> Considering the interim results mentioned above on Integrated Action Plan, the project will develop a Concept and methodology for</p>
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an EWER system, to identify roles and responsibilities and coordination mechanisms among all stakeholders concerned and arrange consultative processes to ensure national ownership and buy-in.

**3.2. Acceleration strategy:** The development of the Concept and methodology is a multi-staged process. As a first step, the project will conduct thematic studies on Climate Security and Economic data and variables further to be integrated into the multi-dimensional EWER system (Sept-Dec'23). Then, it will develop a Concept and Methodology (Jan-Mar'24) for a multi-dimensional EWER system. These two documents will inform the next steps of project implementation – building capacities, purchase of hardware and/or software (Apr-Jun'24). This strategy will be aligned with the broader initiative of leveraging the U-Report platform to gather data from youth. By integrating the U-Report data into the EWER system, the project can enhance the accuracy and timeliness of its risk assessments while actively involving youth in the data collection process.

**4. Challenges in developing and implementing effective mechanisms to prevent discrimination (Activity 1.1.6):** Advancing outstanding recommendations by UN Human Rights Mechanisms through the adoption of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation continues to require a great deal of additional consultations with national human rights institutions (*please note that the Ombudsperson, a key actor in this area, was unexpectedly replaced in April 2023*), the Government, the Parliament, as well as civil society organisations. The lack of effective mechanisms to prevent and respond to discrimination within the legal system is one of the factors that prevented law enforcement agencies from responding effectively to discrimination.

**4.1 Strategy to overcome:** The Equality Bill was initiated by Members of Parliament at the end of June and put out for public consultations. It was agreed that expert support would be provided to the initiators to finalise the Bill, as well as technical support to organise inclusive public consultations. Support to the ongoing legislative process requires additional time and support by OHCHR.

**4.2 Acceleration Strategy:** OHCHR will engage national and international expertise to provide Members of Parliament and relevant government structures legal support on anti-discrimination standards and best practice from other countries to inform public discussions and parliamentary hearings (September 2023-February 2024). Technical support for public discussions (September-December 2023) will also be provided by OHCHR.

**5. Challenges in creating an enabling environment for young professionals from minorities in the civil service (Activity 1.1.6):** The project planned to attract young professionals (including representatives of ethnic groups, women and disabled people) to the state and municipal service by organising an internship programme. In Kyrgyzstan, there has been a positive practice in previous years in organising internships, which has contributed to improving access and increasing underrepresented groups in municipal bodies. Due to legislative changes in the area of recruitment to state and municipal services through the system of personnel reserves, the interest of young professionals in internships has decreased. Two attempts to initiate internships were unsuccessful. This is explained by the fact that previously a young specialist after an internship had more opportunities, potential and motivation to participate in the competition for a specific vacancy in a particular state or municipal body.

**5.1 Strategy to overcome:** To overcome these difficulties, OHCHR initiated consultations with a government partner in adapting activities to involve representatives of ethnic groups and persons with disabilities in replenishing the pool of personnel for state and municipal services. As part of this, it is planned to translate all information and methodological materials into minority languages and adapt them to the needs of persons with disabilities.

**5.2 Acceleration strategy:** OHCHR will agree with the government partner on

	<p>areas of action. (September 2023) and will provide technical and expert support (October 2023 - June 2024).</p> <p><b>6. Addressing Capacity Challenges in Child Development Centres (CDCs) (Activity 1.3.6):</b> Within the scope of the project, a significant challenge lies in enhancing the skills and capabilities of the personnel working in the established Child Development Centres (CDCs). These centres have a specific focus on advancing early child education (ECE), with the broader goal of integrating them into the Infrastructure for Peace. This integration involves bringing together various stakeholders, including parents, teachers, and elder siblings to foster collaboration through shared concerns about children's well-being, thereby strengthening local social cohesion. To ensure the sustained success and effective execution of these initiatives, it is imperative to provide continuous mentoring support to CDC staff to be able to engage with parents and elder siblings of children in the CDC to engage in meaningful discussions and sessions on tolerance and diversity. This holistic approach encompasses not only the educators directly involved with the children but also extends to the broader familial and community context.</p> <p><b>6.1. Strategy to Overcome:</b> The project has formulated training packages to bolster the skills of CDC staff. Complementing this, mentoring assistance will be provided by district coordinators and central library heads. The mentorship framework delineates the roles and responsibilities of mentors, facilitating coordinated efforts and accountability at all levels, from local to national. Practical support will be delivered on-site through centre visits, district-level methodological meetings, and visits to foster knowledge exchange.</p> <p><b>6.2. Acceleration Strategy:</b> Enhancing the competencies of CDC staff entails a sequential and multi-stage approach. First, until the end of September 2023 – in close collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sport and Youth Policy, the project will select libraries and their personnel, earmarking locations for the establishment of child development centres. Second, from August to November 2023, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, comprehensive training will be provided to both CDC staff and mentors, enriching their expertise and capabilities. The final stage entails a continuous provision of mentoring support to the CDC staff. This phase aims to reinforce practical application of acquired skills, ensuring effective operations and sustained impact from November 2023-June 2024.</p>
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**PROJECT SIGNATURES:**

<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>9</sup> 1</b>  <b>UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Alexandra Solovieva</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Resident Representative</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 13.10/2023</p>	<p><b>Government Counterpart</b>  <b>Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Government representative</i>  <b>Mr. Almaz Isanov</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Co-chair of the Joint Steering Committee – Head of the Department of Political and Economic Studies of the Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>
<p><b>Recipient UN Organization(s) 2</b>  <b>OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Matilda Bogner</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Regional Representative for Central Asia</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 13.10.2023</p>	<p><b>Recipient UN Organization(s) 3</b>  <b>UNICEF in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Cristina Brugiolo</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Representative, a.i.</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 16/10/2023</p>
<p><b>United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Antje Grawe</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>United Nations Resident Coordinator</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>	<p><b>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</b>  <i>Name of Representative</i>  <b>F O R</b>  <b>Ms. Elizabeth Spehar</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i> [Redacted]</p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i> 27 Oct 2023</p>

<sup>9</sup> Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

## PROJECT SIGNATURES:

<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>9</sup> 1</b>  <b>UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Alexandra Solovieva</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Resident Representative</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>	<p><b>Government Counterpart</b>  <b>Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Government representative</i>  <b>Mr. Almaz Isanov</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Co-chair of the Joint Steering Committee – Head of the Department of Political and Economic Studies of the Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>
<p><b>Recipient UN Organization(s) 2</b>  <b>OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Matilda Bogner</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Regional Representative for Central Asia</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>	<p><b>Recipient UN Organization(s) 3</b>  <b>UNICEF in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Senior UN Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Cristina Brugiolo</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Representative, a.i.</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>
<p><b>United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <i>Name of Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Antje Grawe</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>United Nations Resident Coordinator</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>	<p><b>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</b>  <i>Name of Representative</i>  <b>Ms. Elizabeth Spehar</b></p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title</i>  <b>Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support</b></p> <p><i>Date &amp; Seal</i></p>

<sup>9</sup> Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

## Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support (4 pages max)

- a) A brief summary of **conflict analysis findings** as they relate to this project, focusing on the driving factors of tensions/conflict that the project aims to address and an analysis of the main actors/ stakeholders that have an impact on or are impacted by the driving factors, which the project will aim to engage. This analysis must be gender- and age-responsive.

Social cohesion in Kyrgyzstan is affected by rapidly evolving socio-political dynamics, encompassing **political, governance, security, environmental and socio-cultural development challenges** deeply entrenched in long-standing socio-political and institutional problems. These multi-faceted issues feed upon each other, erode vertical state-and-society relationships and trust and increase societal polarization, with enormous consequences for sustainable development, peace and security. They also affect social cohesion on the horizontal level: **societal relationships** in Kyrgyzstan are affected by **identity-based issues** (e.g., national civic identity, identities on the grounds of ethnicity, religion and gender) and issues with **tolerance** (e.g., ethnic, religious, gender, inter-regional), **participation and representation** (e.g., underrepresented participation in decision-making bodies across age, gender and ethnic lines). This highlights the need for an integrated programming approach to address both vertical and horizontal dimensions of social cohesion.

Despite achievements in democratization and liberalization of the economy, the past three decades have been characterized by political instability<sup>10</sup> and low per capita income, high unemployment and emigration rates, undiversified sources of income, high dependency on exports, degraded infrastructure and weak service delivery. Women, youth, and ethnic minorities are under-represented in Parliament and local councils excluding them from economic opportunities, which widens social divisions and increase risks of conflict<sup>11</sup>. As a landlocked lower-middle-income country, the economy is vulnerable to external shocks; nearly a quarter of the population lives below the national poverty line<sup>12</sup>, and the country ranks 120<sup>th</sup> out of the 189 states on UNDP's 2020 Human Development Index<sup>13</sup>. In the decades of glacier-melting and climate change, the fragility of the country is further aggravated by increasing demands on natural resources by agricultural production and regional development, driving trans-boundary and local resource-based conflicts over already limited access to fertile land and water.

Last year's political transition, which occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated socio-economic crisis, has further complicated the country's path to stability as has the ongoing cross-border conflict with Tajikistan with the most recent violence taking place in April 2021.

**Identity based polarization.** Despite rich social, ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity, perceptions of group exclusion and rural/urban divides, the horizontal dimension of social cohesion remains weak due to the under-representation of ethnic minorities, women and youth in state institutions, and the lack of clarity about the role of religion in the secular state. Most local disputes are primarily the result of competition over access to natural resources (water, land and pasture), but when different communities become involved in such technical disputes, conflicts may widen based on the intolerance between different schools of Islamic belief, between persons of different faiths or ethnic communities. This is attributed to long-standing socio-political and institutional problems have affected the social contract and the sense of a shared national identity. Negative consequences include growing ethnic, religious and identity-based tensions, inter-generational, inter-regional, urban and rural divides, violence against women and children, increased violent ideologies and practices, hate speech and inflammatory rhetoric<sup>14</sup>. In 2020, the country ranked in the bottom half of the *Global Peace Index* due to the frequency of ethnic clashes and the high economic cost of conflict.

In Batken, Osh and Chui oblasts, the percentage of respondents who feel themselves to be citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic decreased from 77% to 72%, and those who consider themselves a part of the community "Kyrgyz Jarany"<sup>15</sup> dropped from 66% to 41%. Respondents who consider their identity primarily defined by their ethnicity and religion increased significantly (from 13 to 26 per cent) and religion (from 7 to 17 per cent)<sup>16</sup>.

**Deepening religious and secular divides.** The constitution guarantees freedom of conscience and religion. It establishes the separation of religion and state and prohibits the pursuit of political goals by religious groups. It also prohibits the establishment of any religion as a state or mandatory religion. Since gaining independence, religion in

<sup>10</sup> See Annex E for summary of global indexes illustrating this

<sup>11</sup> CPA 2019

<sup>12</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.NAHC?locations=KG> (most recent year – 2018)

<sup>13</sup> <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2020.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <https://internews.kg/vybory-2020-2021/finalnyj-otchet-issledovaniya-yazyk-vrazhdy-v-pred-i-postvybornom-diskurse/?lang=en>

<sup>15</sup> Civic Identity Concept "Kyrgyz Jarany" (Kyrgyzstani citizen) was adopted through presidential decree, a successor-document of the Inter-Ethnic Harmony Concept, but with broadened scope to address state-building, nation-building, peacebuilding from the civic identity, tolerance, and diversity angles.

<sup>16</sup> UNDP Situational Reports (SitReps)

the country has evolved. National data show that in 1991 there were 39 mosques and 15 Orthodox churches; by 2019 there were 2,669 mosques and 396 Orthodox churches. There are some worrisome signs in these developments including the attempts of religious leaders to interfere in the activities of state and municipal bodies<sup>17</sup>. In such cases a religious factor is used as a political resource and religious rhetoric is observed in programmatic statements of public officials, violations of the principle of neutrality in the performance of duties by state and municipal employees, and in some cases, citizens refuse to fulfil their duties in connection with their religious affiliation. Promotion of polygamy, early marriages and other discriminatory practices based on religious concepts against women are still widely observed. Lack of a common civic identity leads to the emergence of other types of identities, including religious ones often followed by intolerance, calls for violence based on religion or belief. Inter-ministerial coordination for implementing a state policy in the religious sphere has been insufficient at all levels of governance. In response to existing challenges the State Religious Affairs adopted a second phase of a Religious Concept, which aims to promote harmonious combination to preserve the secular nature of the state and ensure human rights to religion and religious beliefs.

**Increased public protests against corruption.** In the context of the Kyrgyz Republic, social relations are deeply affected by corruption, which remains pervasive and deeply rooted in the society at large bringing low levels of trust towards governing institutions. The fight against corruption and reforming the judiciary continue to be a high demand of the society, which, if not addressed, will potentially accumulate societal grievances and distrust.

**Persistent inter-regional divides and nepotism.** Regionalism—especially north-south—has been used as a stabilization factor. Since 2010, due to the parliamentary-presidential system of governance, the balance between regional elites attained a new formula: “President-Prime Minister-Speaker of Parliament”. The regionalism manifests itself in the form of loyalty and patronage in the society at large, which, inter-alia, eliminates technocrats and career civil servants impairing the professionalism of institutions.

**All of these triggers further exacerbated by the following factors:**

**Youth exclusion.** The exclusion of young people from influence and opportunities remains a key social cohesion challenge. In 2017, Kyrgyzstan scored 0.53 (out of 1) in the “Youth Wellbeing and Development Index”<sup>18</sup>. The 2021 youth situational analysis does not suggest things have improved. While children are guaranteed of medical care and basic education, after the age of 18 young people cannot count on tertiary education and healthcare. Adolescents and young people are poorly involved in the decision-making process at the local level, resulting in young people’s belief that they cannot change anything in their hometown and village. This leads to a sense of frustration and exclusion and means that governance processes lose the positive contribution of adolescents and young people. Policies and measures aimed at stimulating and improving opportunities for vocational education and employment have not yet demonstrated results: 20.5 per cent<sup>19</sup> of young people are not in education, employment, or training (NEET). Low quality education contributes to youth unemployment and growing social intolerance due to lack of exposure to alternative ideas. More than 350 thousand young people enter the labour market annually, who due to lack of job opportunities are left unemployed that contributes to tensions by increasing their feeling of being economically excluded and thus raising grievances.

**Gender inequality and GBV.** Violence against women and girls includes domestic violence, abduction for forced marriage (ala kachuu) and child marriage. The root causes include harmful social and gender norms and cultural patterns, including a patriarchal family environment. Girls and women undertake most caregiving and household work. The existence of traditional religious views and the limited access to justice for girls and women is affecting protection of their rights. Kyrgyzstan’s Gender Inequality Index (GII) equals 0.369, ranking it 82 out of 162 countries in the 2019 index. In Kyrgyzstan, 19.2% of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 99.1% of adult women have obtained at least a secondary level of education, compared to 98.3% of their male counterparts. Female participation in the labor market is 44.8% compared to 75.7% for men. As many as 83% of women suffer from various forms of violence, such as domestic violence, sexual violence, forced and early marriages, and bride kidnapping. Between 30% - 67% of rural Kyrgyzstani women and girls are married as result of bride kidnapping.

**Shrinking civic space.** Civil society organizations in the political arena influences strategic decision-making. However, a new trend is the rise of ethno-nationalistic groups, which target civic activists and human rights defenders as promoters of ostensibly pro-western culture and values and disseminate values of intolerance. Such negative trend is compounded by an expansion of official controls over not-for-profit organizations and media.

<sup>17</sup> State Policy Concept of the Kyrgyz Republic in the religious sphere for 2021-2026

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Отчеты/индекс-благополучия-и-развития-молодежи-в-кыргызской-республике>

<sup>19</sup> MICS 2018

**Non-inclusive and ineffective governance and poor service delivery.** To ensure inclusive dialogue and governance it is essential to address the non-existent role of local self-governance in peacebuilding processes, which disconnects national level peacebuilding plans and priorities from the local level and vice versa. Leveraging the role of local self-governance cannot be achieved without addressing siloes at the central level, where the interventions of various governmental institutions in sustaining peace continue to be scattered and un-coordinated further compounded by the absence of spaces for social dialogue and lack of capacities, resources and skills for prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**<sup>20</sup>, how it ensures **national ownership**. If this project is designed in a PRF country, describe how the main objective advances a relevant strategic objective identified through the Eligibility Process

This project responds to the following national policy and UN strategic frameworks:

- The National Development Strategy (2018-2040) and sectoral development policies (Youth Development Concept, National Action Plan on Gender Equality, Kyrgyz Jarany Concept, Religious Concept, Concept on Spiritual and Moral Development and Physical Education of the Person)
- The National Development Programme for 2021-2026
- Global 2030 Agenda and the principle of **'leave no one behind'** (LNOB). The project has been organized within SDG16 to create more peaceful, just, and inclusive societies through strengthened social contract and mitigating the risks of societal polarization.
- General Assembly resolution 70/262, Security Council resolution 2282 (2016), [n 1325 \(2000\)](#) and 2250 (2015) on **Youth, Peace and Security**
- "The Highest Aspiration" UN Secretary General's Call to Action for Human Rights

The project is fully aligned with the following strategic (thematic) priorities of the Strategic Results Framework for PBF engagement for 2021-2026 in the Kyrgyz Republic, which cover (i) Democratic Governance (ii) Dialogue and peaceful coexistence (iii) Cross-border cooperation.

In response to rising polarization, a Civic Identity Concept "Kyrgyz Jarany" (Kyrgyzstani citizen) was adopted through presidential decree, a successor-document of the Inter-Ethnic Harmony Concept, but with broadened scope to address peacebuilding from the civic identity, tolerance and diversity angles. The Concept aims to form a shared value of civic identity, strengthen the unity of the people, increase tolerance and respect for the values of diversity, develop multilingualism and national language, create equal access to decision-making processes and build trust in state institutions. The sustaining peace policies in Kyrgyzstan are further reinforced by the Concept on Spiritual and Moral Development and Physical Education of the Person. Therefore, the project will remain flexible to address the priority areas of this policy that are interlinked with Kyrgyz Jarany.

The underlying causes of social tension in Kyrgyzstan are widespread and deeply entrenched in long-standing socio-political, institutional and development problems that increasingly bring about worsening conditions for peace and threaten the achievement of the SDGs. Therefore, considering the complexity of problems, the project will address social cohesion as a development goal by organizing it within SDG16 and conceptually embedding it into governance frames, local sustainable development programmes as well as building formal and informal capacities for peaceful conflict resolution—namely infrastructures for peace and a more inclusive society through strengthening shared and inclusive civic identity.

C) A brief explanation of how the project fills any strategic gaps and complements any other relevant interventions, PBF funded or otherwise. Also provide a brief **summary of existing interventions** in the proposal's sector by filling out the table below.

National practice shows that the functioning of various governmental institutions, municipal authorities and civil society is still confined to sector-specific goals, tasks and policies, which have not yet been institutionally integrated with each other to ensure inclusive, whole-of-government and accountable policy implementation for increased social contract and trust. Existing elements of infrastructures for peace, such as local community-based peacebuilders, have not always succeeded in playing a role in the peaceful resolution of conflicts for these reasons. They have also not been equipped to deal with both the horizontal and vertical nature of social tension. The silo-like nature of interventions together with the weaknesses in analytical and anticipatory capacities at all levels continue to make peacebuilding disproportionately built upon crisis response. Without a prevention focus and considering the impacts of the weakened social contract that continue to manifest in various forms of societal polarization

<sup>20</sup> Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan on 1325, a National Youth Policy etc.

identified in the Conflict and Peace Analysis<sup>21</sup>, which are attaining over time more and more multi-faceted and far threatening long-term nature deeply rooted on identity-based values. The project fills these strategic gaps and complements relevant interventions by linking local and national level actors and institutions to enhance the country's infrastructure for peace (I4P) and to ensure that it is equipped to promote inclusive and accountable governance for tolerant and inclusive shared civic identity. The proposed I4P, which has never existed before in the country, is innovative due to its inclusive approach that aims to create a space for social dialogue and foster the exchange of diverse perspectives among central and local authorities and representatives from a wide spectrum of civil society actors and community leaders. On the other hand, having embedded into governance and sustainable development frames through policy-making support and advocacy, the proposed I4P will lay the ground for improved social contract and preventing societal divides. Therefore, it may be reasonably expected that successful results of and mechanisms devised under the I4P, that are tested and piloted in four target locations, will be further scaled up at the nation-wide level by offering it as an innovative model to support social cohesion in the country in an integrated and nationally owned way.

Significant gaps remain as well in youth inclusion and women's involvement in decision-making, local development and conflict prevention. Over the past decades due to socio-economic hardships, exclusion from socio-economic and political processes, unemployment, limited choices for personal growth and resulted high rates of migration, youth accumulated considerable grievances and distrust to authorities, playing a driving role in the political events of 2005, 2010 and 2020. Building on the recommendations of a recent evaluation<sup>22</sup>, adolescents and young people from minorities, out of school and girls will be identified and mobilized to participate in Youth and Child Friendly Local governance (YCFLG) and human-centered design methodologies (UPSHIFT).

Reducing the trend of increased societal polarization has been prioritized by the Government through its Civic Identity Concept Kyrgyz Jarany and the Religious Concept, which are interrelated with policies in the areas of youth development, local self-governance and regional development, human rights and rule of law and other areas.

To respond to strategic gaps, the key challenges described above, support government efforts and build upon the solid knowledge and lessons learned under the previous PBF-eligibility cycle by the United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic, the project will contribute to increasing vertical state-and-society relationships & trust (social contract) and mitigating societal polarization through mutually reinforcing interventions, specified under the next section *"Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy"*.

The project is built on and complements the existing interventions to strengthen social cohesion as provided in the Table below.

Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal
«Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism in Asia» (STRIVE Asia, EU-UN Joint partnership) 2020-2023	EU, \$350,000  Ongoing  Implemented by UNDP	Preventing violent extremism	<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to establish C/PVE advisory boards at the target locations, which could serve as part of the peace infrastructure. <b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense
Socio-Economic Recovery from negative consequences of COVID-19 in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic	Russian Federation, \$2,000,000  Ongoing  Implemented by UNDP	Socio-Economic Recovery from Covid19	<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to strengthen early warning and early response system by establishing a Data Processing Center under the National Institute for Strategic Studies. The PBF and Russian funded project will complement each other by combining resources. <b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense
Economic empowerment of youth and developing sustainable solutions for youth's entrepreneurship	Russian Federation, \$2,000,000	Economic empowerment of youth	<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to improve entrepreneurial ecosystem and support business projects of youth.

<sup>21</sup> United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic, 2019

<sup>22</sup> UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP project "Promoting Kyrgyzstan's youth cohesion and interaction towards Uzbekistan"

<b>Project name (duration)</b>	<b>Donor and budget</b>	<b>Project focus</b>	<b>Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal</b>
at the local level for fostering greater social cohesion and resilience 2022-2024	Approved by the donor  Implemented by UNDP		<b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense
Youth and Human Rights (2019-2021)	OHCHR HQ (Norway contribution) \$ 61,700  Implemented by: OHCHR	Human Rights of young people	<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to capacity building of the young people on human rights and advocacy. <b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense
KIX Project	GPE \$160, 000  Implemented by UNICEF	Integrating ECE in sector planning and implementation ECD/E sector plan	<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to strengthen ECD/E subsector in the country. <b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense
Deployment Learning Passport for ECD	UNICEF HQ \$65,860  Implemented by UNICEF		<b>Complementarity:</b> aims to roll out parenting app and learning passport for ECD workers. <b>Difference:</b> the project doesn't aim to promote social cohesion in its broader sense

Apart from the United Nations there are other development partners operating in the area of peacebuilding such as Peace Nexus (peacebuilding), International Alert (peacebuilding), Search for Common Ground, GIZ (youth), OSCE (Kyrgyz Jarany), Safer World (peacebuilding), as well as various Civil Society Organizations advocating governance, human rights, youth and women agenda. Under the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) as specified in further sections, the project will ensure greater synergies within UN and with external players for: i) integration of solutions ii) building of existing capacities and results and hence ensure that response is scalable iii) multi layered cross-sectional partnerships.

### **Lessons learnt from the previous peacebuilding projects**

Previous implementation of peacebuilding projects (funded by both PBF and other donors) revealed multiple lessons learnt, which have been taken into consideration during the project design. These allowed the team to focus on efforts to integrate ethnic minorities into local government bodies (as e.g. opposed to law enforcement). It is worth to emphasize, that the chances of inclusion of ethnic minorities into decision-making processes have increased after the adoption of the Kyrgyz Jarany Concept.

The experience of PBF has that the work on the legal framework is important to continue to promote international human rights standards in the country by the UN. At the same time the low enforceability, or 'systematic non-implementation' of laws remains a weakness that sometimes prevents achievement of peacebuilding results envisaged by UN projects. The UN project team acknowledges and accepts the risk that Kyrgyz Jarany is likely to be underfunded, or other operational risks (e.g. rotation of the government). This is why the project is focusing on supporting the existing policy (rather than pushing for a new one), which has a draft implementation plan, to avoid the situation of getting into legal revisions and promoting legal changes that even if adopted are unlikely to be implemented.

Building on previous experience, the project re-balances the interventions between institutional support and local engagement by putting a greater emphasis on engaging civil society, local leaders, and their engagement in governance. Previous engagement with self-government bodies, and equipping civil society, youth and religious leaders with concrete skills, including multilingual education, critical thinking and media literacy, have a considerable impact on changing attitudes of beneficiaries. Working with religious leaders showed that they are not the group that fosters conflict, but in fact reduce the risk of incohesion in local communities.

Finally, experiences of supporting evidence-based policy making were taken into consideration. Earlier engagement showed that the acknowledgement of social cohesion risks (especially interethnic) proved to be a sensitive issue across Kyrgyzstan. The monitoring centers created under the formerly existing State Agency on Local Governance and Interethnic Relations (GAMSUMO; now dissolved with its functions moved to the Ministry of Culture) revealed some gaps in capacities of officials involved, that were only partly addressed by additional trainings and building capacity of the Analytical Centre of the GAMSUMO. Previous engagement also showed a need to strengthen linkages between the monitoring and policy making at the national level. This project addresses this gap by working on the early warning system with the National Institute for Strategic Studies. It also enables tapping into professional expertise resources, and supports the refocusing of monitoring from narrowly-defined incidents to a more comprehensive analysis of social cohesion in the country (as social cohesion risks evolve rapidly and go beyond only interethnic issues). The RUNOs are aware that this change also brings multiple challenges and risks (e.g., sustainability), which are addressed in other sections.

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

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

The project’s **overarching goal** is to contribute to strengthen social cohesion<sup>23</sup> through greater state-society (vertical) and inter-group (horizontal) trust and cooperation by promoting an inclusive, tolerant and equal civic identity, inclusive and accountable governance, that fosters dialogue and respect for the rights and interests of Kyrgyzstan’s different identity groups, as well as enhanced early warning systems for preventive action.

This project will contribute to these goals through the implementation of mutually supportive lines of work:

1. **Enhancement of inclusive and accountable governance** at national and local levels for increased social dialogue and trust by clarifying and institutionalizing roles and responsibilities across sectors, strengthening partnership with civil society and community-based organizations, integrating peacebuilding into local level development programming and promoting whole-of-government coordination.
2. **Establishment of a comprehensive EWER system that connects** national level coordination mechanisms, local authorities and CSOs so that they can: (i) monitor and analyze multidimensional risks and challenges (ii) strengthen coordination and connect central and local authorities, civil society and communities to undertake pre-emptive measures and anticipatory decisions for risk reduction through local level peacebuilding action plans.
3. **Constructive dialogue** will be fostered by providing information, tools and methodologies in seven target locations of five oblasts to engage civil society and local communities including women, youth, ethnic minority and religious leaders for strengthening shared identity and respect for diversity, multi-cultural cooperation and tolerance.

The project is fully aligned with the Strategic (thematic) areas for PBF support and its Strategic Results Framework covering (i) Democratic Governance (ii) Dialogue and peaceful coexistence and (iii) Cross-border cooperation. These areas were also fully aligned with national priorities through extensive consultations with key peacebuilding stakeholders (government, donors and development partners, civil society representatives, communities) across multiple platforms (consultative meetings, JSC meetings, strategic workshop).

### Implementation strategy

The project is based on UNDP Conceptual Framing for Social Cohesion<sup>24</sup> for strengthening vertical state-and-society relationships & trust (social contract) and mitigating societal polarization that are aligned with Governmental plans and priorities (e.g., Kyrgyz Jarany Concept, Youth Development Concept and etc).

<sup>23</sup> The project applies UNDP’s definition of vertical and horizontal social cohesion, vertical trust shall be understood as trust between government and society, including trust in political, economic or social leaders, institutions, and processes such as elections, access to justice, taxation, budgeting, and the delivery of public services. Horizontal trust shall mean trust between relationships and interactions among people in a society across divisions such as identity or other social constructs, including race or class. See Strengthening Social Cohesion: Conceptual Framing and Programming Implications. UNDP. 2020.

<sup>24</sup> Strengthening Social Cohesion: Conceptual Framing and Programming Implications. UNDP. 2020.

To strengthen both vertical and horizontal relationships and trust, the project will promote that appropriate institutional (legal, operational, methodological) frames for building Infrastructure for Peace (I4P) will be enhanced both at central and local levels through:

- a. Establishment of **Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM)** at the top of I4P as an overarching coordination platform under the Presidential Administration/Cabinet of Ministers that should have a mandate to formulate policies & strategies at the strategic level for conflict prevention, peacebuilding and social cohesion, M&E and oversight over policy implementation.
- b. Equipping relevant **sectorial line ministries and agencies, including human rights and justice institutions** with improved sectorial policies and legal framework, methodologies, coordination mechanisms and tools, to enable them to formulate and implement sector-specific policies/strategies, action plans, early warning and rapid response mechanisms as integral elements of the I4P. This is a vertical /sectorial element of I4P to be further embedded/decentralized to local self-governments' level.
- c. Supporting **local peace mechanisms** consisting of local self-governments, civil society, community, religious, youth, women leaders, frontline service providers with necessary tools, policies, strategies, operational mechanisms, horizontal and vertical coordination mechanisms and peacebuilding action plans and implementation arrangements to promote values of multi-cultural cooperation and shared civic identity as integral elements of the I4P at the local level. This is both vertical and horizontal element of I4P.
- d. Establishment of **Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system** to ensure that all above layers of I4P are mutually connected and backboned by solid analytical foundations to formulate and implement pre-emptive strategies/measures. The entire I4P should be backboned by EWER in mid-, long-run, which is both vertical and horizontal element.

The United Nations is well positioned to support the Kyrgyz Republic in establishing a nationally owned and nationally driven I4P considering long-standing institutional partnership at the central, local, civil society and communities' level. The United Nations' role in advancing a shared vision for inclusive and accountable I4P will be propelled by the technical and advisory support in line with governmental strategies (Civic Identity Concept, Religious Concept, Youth Development Concept, Regional Development Concept etc), administrative reforms ongoing as a result of the Constitutional Reform as well as international commitments adopted by the country as the member-state of UN.

Notably, the United Nations' role will encompass a wide range of engagement such as capacity building, awareness raising, brokering, convening services; various thematic assessments and studies for sensitizing and generating political will, commitment and ownership; policy making and advocacy by deploying relevant expertise for reconciling policy agendas and/or legal framework across sectors and levels of governance, devising tools, methodologies; capacity building, experimentation and scale up. These interventions, however, are challenging, but inevitable at the same time to achieve a consensus at the level of political decision-making towards institutional building and operationalizing I4P. While implementing these interventions, the United Nations will be carefully discussing and checking the overall trajectory of the project within the Joint Steering Committee to prevent possible sensitivities and preserve the neutrality and impartiality of UN.

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

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the project is built on the ToC developed in the context of strategic discussions leading to the Strategic Results Framework (SRF), as well as some of the assumptions discussed in that context are also relevant for this project. While this project aims at contributing to the ToC and outcome statements at the portfolio level (SRF), the project impact is more circumscribed.

#### Theory of Change

Supporting an inclusive and tolerant civic identity and respect for the rights and interests of Kyrgyzstan's different identity groups, when pursued through enhanced and inclusive governance and a sustainable peace infrastructure that includes accessible and transparent dialogue platforms can help overcome identified challenges to sustaining peace while fostering greater state-society and inter-group trust.

### Assumptions

A conflict and peace analysis commissioned by UNCT found that many structural factors that led to violence in 2005 and 2010 are still present in the country, including weak dialogue mechanisms between the government and the population, weak governance capacity and corruption, low state effectiveness, the persistence of gender-based violence and the exclusion of women and young people and inter-ethnic tensions. Weak rule of law has manifested in high levels of corruption, lack of trust in political decision-making, and ineffective service provision from government institutions. The government's limited capacity to implement policy, coupled with widespread perceptions of state ineffectiveness, contribute to increasing frustration among people and lack of trust in the state.

Support to governance is considered as an important investment for sustaining peace and preventing future crises.<sup>25</sup> Creation of opportunities for respectful and inclusive dialogue and cooperation, focused on areas of common interest and supported by political and other key public leaders from the respective groups is likely to lead to a reduction in inter-group tension and an increase in trust over time.<sup>26</sup> Facilitating contact between identity groups can increase mutual understanding.<sup>27</sup> Evidence also shows that civil society organizations and leaders serve as the link between the state and population, helping to influence and monitor government decisions; mobilize the population and educate them on their rights, responsibilities, and opportunities to influence government policies and lobby for reform; assist in public service delivery; and facilitate intergroup dialogue and other means for social reconciliation.<sup>28</sup>

Constitutional debates held in 2020 exposed multiple cleavages including over essential principles of the country, such as secularism and the country's name. This shows how Kyrgyzstan is lacking a fundamental agreement on the shared vision of the state and society, how still divided and incohesive it is, and how long the way is to be made to reach the common identity. Political mobilization takes place based on regional (north and south) and clan distinctions rather than issues. Increasing tensions are brewing between secular and religious parts of the population and between different streams of Islam. The absence of a shared national civic identity could allow ethnic cleavages to become entrenched. The government has adopted the concept of 'Kyrgyz Jarany', which is intended to serve as an overarching civic identity for all inhabitants of Kyrgyzstan, while protecting their ethnic, religious, political or any other affiliation.<sup>29</sup> The fourth pillar of the Kyrgyz Jarany Concept aims to ensure equality and increase the representation of ethnic and linguistic minorities in the public life of the country.

The UN team in Kyrgyzstan is aware of challenges associated with support to the implementation of Kyrgyz Jarany. The biggest risk is that implementation of the civic identity policy may not be in line with the intentions of the authors of the concept. For instance, the state (or some actors within it) may promote the state language at the expense of minority languages or could use the monitoring mechanism not for social cohesion but to legitimize its narrowly define narrative of 'peaceful coexistence'. This could be further exacerbated by the lagging financial resources for the implementation and decreasing commitment of the government over time in the context of growing risks of nationalistic rhetoric among some groups. It is worth noting that, for example, recently proposed changes (not yet adopted) to the Language Law already envisage diminishment of minority language rights. Considering the above, the UN team in Kyrgyzstan recognizes the risk of doing harm by supporting a Concept which potentially can be perceived as exclusionary, contributing also to reputational risks of the UN. Understanding of these risks however only reconfirms the importance of promoting the inclusive civic identity, and UN should continue to support Kyrgyz Jarany and contribute to positive change rather than avoid evident complexities. The project will promote international human rights standards and ensure that minority rights are respected throughout project activities. It will be achieved both through appropriate messaging at different platforms (e.g., the Inter-

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<sup>25</sup> FES (2019), Investing in Governance - Accelerating progress towards peaceful, just and inclusive societies. <https://www.fesny.org/article/investing-in-governance/>

<sup>26</sup> Adrienne Dessel & Mary E. Rogge, "Evaluation of Intergroup Dialogue: A Review of the Empirical Literature", Conflict Resolution Quarterly, vol. 26, no. 2, Winter 2008; UNICEF, The Role of Education in Peacebuilding: Literature Review, May 2011; Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Dialogue in Peacebuilding: Understanding different perspectives, 2019; Humanity in Action, Peace from the Bottom Up: Strategies and Challenges of Local Ownership in Dialogue-Based Peacebuilding Initiatives, Humanity in Action Press, 2016; Sub-Sector Review of Evidence from Reconciliation Programs, CDA Collaborative Learning for the Peacebuilding Evaluation Consortium, 2019.

<sup>27</sup> All you need is contact. American Psychological Association. November 2001, Vol 32, No. 10. Jesse Singal. The Contact Hypothesis Offers Hope for the World. Social Psychology. 10 February 2017

<sup>28</sup> Michael Lund, Peter Uvin, and Sarah Cohen, *Building Civil Society in Post-Conflict Environments: From the Micro to the Macro* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 2006). The World Bank identifies seven key functions of CSOs: (1) protection, (2) monitoring and early warning, (3) advocacy and public communication, (4) socialization, (5) social cohesion, (6) intermediation and facilitation, and (7) service provision (World Bank, "Civil Society and Peacebuilding," 2006). Dziedzic/Sotirin/Agoglia, "Measuring Progress in Conflict Environments," 2008.

<sup>29</sup> Concept of Civic Identity Building - Kyrgyz Zharany-2030, (page-4)

ministerial Group) and active enactment of these principles during the implementation, especially in the area of education. The project will pro-actively shape the discourse around the civic identity towards its inclusive definition.

Women's and young people's unique contribution as peacebuilders stems from their particular knowledge and experiences of violence and injustice that include different forms of exclusion and discrimination and require responses that tackle broader issues of inclusion, trust, equality and equity. Addressing their exclusion requires meaningful engagement of women and youth in the decisions and processes that affect them and fostering the reciprocal trust between young people, women, their communities, governments and the multilateral system that is essential to building and sustaining peace. Participation can be ensured by closing the political participation gap between privileged and more marginalized or excluded youth and women groups. In doing so, grievances that are rooted in inequality will be reduced, because the ability to participate in political and civic life will be more broadly exercised. In addition, a broad-based coalition of young people and women will be able to advocate for commonly identified aims instead of being driven apart by differences<sup>30</sup>.

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

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

**Outcome 1:** A greater sense of shared and inclusive civic identity and trust enhanced through inter-group dialogue, inclusive and accountable governance and stronger capacities for prevention and peacebuilding.

#### **Output 1: Policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms strengthened for inclusive and accountable governance at national and local levels to increase social dialogue and trust**

The approved National Concept Kyrgyz Jarany outlines the necessity of establishing an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM) for implementing the concept. The IMCM, acting as an overarching strategic level component of the Infrastructure for Peace (I4P) and created with the leadership role of the Presidential Administration or Cabinet of Ministers<sup>31</sup>, with representation from all relevant line ministries and agencies and civil society, including women and youth groups, will promote a constructive dialogue and consultation and promote shared and inclusive civic identity. Ultimately, the IMCM will link together with other components of the I4P enhanced through the project to prevent conflict, in this case through whole-of-government coordination and cohesive action planning. As a first step, the project will support the establishment of IMCM by convening series of consultative platforms among all stakeholders concerned for sensitizing and generating political will and commitment, deploying relevant technical expertise to support in framing the structure and composition, defining a mandate, roles and responsibilities and coordination mechanisms of the members of IMCM as well as sustaining it through respective legal acts by giving/stimulating a leading role of the Government and taking into account neutrality and impartiality of UN. Afterwards, further operationalization and sustaining of IMCM at all levels will necessitate a wide range of policy making support through reconciling the legal framework or policy agendas across variety of sectors<sup>32</sup>, defining their sustainable roles and mandates in conflict prevention, streamlining vertical and horizontal coordination mechanisms, devising methodologies for mutually supportive central and local peacebuilding action planning, building inclusive and accountable arrangements. If preventive action fails, the I4P will enable peaceful mediation rapidly if violence were to occur.

To ensure an institutional coherence between central level IMCM and local self-governments (LSGs), the project will be clarifying and institutionalizing roles and responsibilities of local self-governments across interrelated sectors under the leadership of the State Agency on Regional Development mandated also for policy elaboration and implementation in the area of local self-governance. Notably, the RUNOs will sensitize the importance of conflict prevention and peacebuilding as an institutional role of LSGs and upon reaching a consensus to support introducing necessary amendments to the legal framework in the area of local self-governance, simultaneously reconciling them with sectorial policies and mandates. As a result, the local self-governments should become the core/backbone bodies of IMCM at the local level that unite and connect a network of interdependent systems, resources, values and skills held by frontline service providers, local governments, civil society and community institutions - all together constituting the local peace mechanism of the I4P in the five selected oblasts for further scale up. Also, to ensure a vertical and horizontal integration of interventions, the peacebuilding action plans will be devised in line

<sup>30</sup> United Nations and Folke Bernadotte Academy, *Youth, Peace and Security: A Programming Handbook*, New York, 2021

<sup>31</sup> Due to newly adopted Constitution, whether IMCM sits under the Presidential Administration or the Cabinet of Ministers, will require additional consultations

<sup>32</sup> peace, development, security, human rights, rule of law, socio-economic and cultural spheres

with IMCM's action plan and integrated into local level development programmes to enable them to allocate resources from respective local budgets for conflict prevention and community concerns, including those related to ethnic minorities and marginalized groups, jointly with community-based organizations, youth, women, religious, ethnic minority leaders, human rights defenders and their civil society groups.

Over the past decades, youth have accumulated considerable grievances due to limited choices and opportunities for personal growth, employment, political participation, and worsening standards of education in the regions. To address their frustrations and tap into their creative and problem-solving abilities, there is a need to increase youth's positive engagement into local development and decision-making.

**Activity 1.1:** Operationalize the central level Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM) through relevant legislation, frameworks and action planning stipulated by necessary consultative platforms, technical expertise for developing tools, methodologies and policy recommendations.

**Activity 1.2:** Refining and/or reconciling interrelated legal and policy frameworks to promote the sustainable role of central and local authorities for enhancing a mutually integrated I4P and cohesive action planning, delineation of functions and responsibilities, human rights and gender, participation in decision making processes, creating equal opportunities and preventing discrimination in line with Kyrgyz Jarany and, possibly, interlinked Concept on Spiritual and Moral Development and Physical Education of the Person.

**Activity 1.3:** Support regular dialogues both at central and local levels under the leadership of IMCM and local level peace mechanisms and capacity building for joint visioning and action planning consisting of LSGs, adolescents and young people, youth, women, ethnic minorities, religious leaders, civil society and frontline service providers.

**Activity 1.4:** Build capacity for participatory and inclusive local governance<sup>33</sup>, starting with an adolescent and young people-led visioning exercise to identify what it means to be Kyrgyz Jarany, promoting tolerance and diversity, and personal and community level actions. Key issues will be raised by young people at local planning meetings, or through young people's representatives (as identified by their peers) using information gathered from digital platforms. They will advocate for action by the local self-government (LSG), including allocation of budget. A support platform will be created amongst the LSGs for peer mentoring in participatory governance

**Activity 1.5:** Build capacities of law enforcement, human rights and justice institutions in the field of ethnic minority rights, non-discrimination and tolerance by development and implementation of appropriate training programmes. Enhancing the competences and skills of law enforcement officials in dealing with ethnic minorities, using human rights-based approaches, will lead to greater trust and equality, which will be the basis for accelerating integration

**Activity 1.6:** Analyze legal, policy and societal barriers to the equal representation of minorities in law enforcement and justice institutions and creating favorable conditions for young minority professionals jointly with the State Personnel Service for increased representation of ethnic minorities both women and men, in state and local government bodies.

## **Output 2: Comprehensive early warning and early response system established for risk-informed development and conflict prevention.**

Within previous PBF-funded projects, a Monitoring Centre of Inter-Ethnic Tensions was operationalized under the State Agency on Local Self-Governance and Inter-Ethnic Relations (LSG Agency), which was abolished several times since gaining independence (the latest abolishment occurred in early 2021 due to Governmental restructuring). The Monitoring center was fundamentally focused on inter-ethnic tensions, however, while essential, it was not always sufficient to reveal and manage the risks of social tensions in a comprehensive way for which the LSG Agency didn't have a sufficient authority and mandate.

The proposed Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system will sit under the Presidential Administration and the Cabinet of Ministers, which became a unified structure after the Constitutional Reform, and will include local peace mechanisms as an experimentation of moving beyond risk monitoring to prevention. The Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy will serve as a custodian of the EWER system, which will be linked to the Ministry's (and wider government) decision-making process in the area of promoting diversity and civic identity. The analytical work under EWER will be carried out by the National Institute for Strategic Studies (NISS). The EWER system will also engage with a wide range of stakeholders. A comprehensive EWER system has never

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<sup>33</sup> The Youth and Child-Friendly Local Governance (YCFLG) will contribute to strengthening vertical social cohesion by increasing influence of young people in decision-making and training local government officials to actively understand, solicit and engage views of young people, including on their views on key social cohesion challenges. Girls' involvement will be prioritized. YCFLG will contribute to horizontal social cohesion by creating interaction across and building trust between religious and ethnic groups through collaborative skills-building, articulation of key community challenges and development of solutions, etc. These interventions will strengthen the skills and capacities of adolescent boys and girls, community members from different groups and government to collaboratively address community challenges across divides while strengthening bonds and social cohesion. Monitoring identified that ongoing mentoring and supportive supervision is required as it seeks to change strongly held beliefs about the role of adults and young people, particularly girls, in decision making.

been attempted at this high level. Under this output, a Data Processing Centre (DPC) will be established to strengthen analytical and anticipatory capacities of the IMCM and local self-governments. The DPC will collate the data received from central and local level peacebuilding interventions after putting in place appropriate inter-disciplinary methodologies, tools and procedures for data collection and analysis related to evidence-based monitoring, evaluation and formulating pre-emptive measures and strategies. The data collection and analysis will be synergized with Digital Transformation Agenda – “Tunduk” to ensure inter-disciplinary data exchange. Adolescents and young people will be able to provide information through U-Report (as a monitoring tool) and in decision-making on data through YCLFG. Overall, this output ensures linkages between Outputs 1 & 3.

**Activity 2.1:** Establish EWER system by developing methodologies, tools and procedures, soft- and hardware for data collection and analysis of conflicts both at national and local levels.

**Activity 2.2:** Build capacities of all relevant actors on the new EWER system, including on digital rights, digital hygiene, cyber and/or digital resilience.

**Activity 2.3:** Integrate analytical data and findings that were produced by EWER system into long term sectorial and local development programmes to address risks and drivers of conflicts, including discussion of these findings through YCLFG to ensure adolescent and young people’s involvement.

### **Output 3: Communities and local self-governments are capacitated to strengthen cooperation and trust among different groups and community members**

This output aims to promote the shared value of Kyrgyz Jarany civic identity by strengthening the unity of people, increasing tolerance and respect for the values of diversity, development of multilingualism and of national language, creating equal access to decision-making processes and building trust in state and local institutions. This will complement and reinforce the results of outputs 1 & 2 and inform them. The institutional foundations of the local peace mechanisms created under the policy level work of Output 1 (i.e., delineation of functions across sectors and cohesive action planning) will be modelled at the local level and then scaled up. The local self-governments serving as the backbone of the IMCM at the local level will be capacitated with appropriate knowledge, skills and resources to formulate contextualized local peacebuilding action plans in line with analytical data of EWER and implement them in an inclusive and pre-emptive way by addressing communities’ needs, promoting tolerance and diversity and preventing the risks of conflicts. This output will strengthen the connection of the I4P to local contexts and build the capacity of community members and civil society to hold sensitive conversations within their communities and to engage with LSGs on key issues around social cohesion from both horizontal and vertical perspectives.

**Activity 3.1:** Raising public awareness through public dialogues, participatory workshops and engagement with media to nurture a shared understanding and ownership around the concept of Kyrgyz Jarany civic identity.

**Activity 3.2:** Build the capacity of local self-governments to analyze, understand and respond to social cohesion challenges integrating these functions into existing local community structures and engagement with civil society (youth, women, religious leaders) and peacebuilding action plans.

**Activity 3.3:** Support to relevant target municipalities and state authorities in implementing local development and sectorial action plans at the local level through small seed funding that are conflict sensitive and peace responsive, including through the angle of shared civic identity and strengthening inter-group respect and tolerance (e.g., religious concept, youth development concept).

**Activity 3.4:** Support local initiatives that bring people together from across different identity groups to address their communities’ needs, as identified during visioning, through community-based dialogue (e.g., UPSHIFT<sup>34</sup>), with seed funding provided for promising solutions.

**Activity 3.5:** Promote multi-cultural education and civic education including review and revise existing non-formal life-skills and learning modules to promote tolerance, diversity and non-discrimination and share them through digital platforms.

**Activity 3.6:** Build the capacity of children, parents, teachers and community members to promote peace, tolerance and diversity at ECD centers through: 1) Promoting early learning and Early Child Development (ECD) centers to become part of the I4P by bringing whole communities together (parents, teachers, children) to collaborate across divisions around shared concern over well-being of children and to strengthen local social cohesion; 2) through play

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<sup>34</sup> UPSHIFT builds skills to identify problems and find solutions – using human-centred design methodology. It can be used independently and within YCLFG. A recent evaluation of UPSHIFT in a PBF-funded social cohesion project concluded that it contributed to increased youth empowerment, recognition of the leadership role that the youth can play within their community, and mutually respectful relations among peers and with local self-governance bodies. The UPSHIFT content for younger ages will be reviewed, peer to peer support implemented and young people’s promising solutions linked to existing start up and entrepreneurship programmes. These alternative pathways to learning and skills building will address the issues around non-participation and NEET

and learning, including multi-lingual education, with other children. Evidence <sup>35</sup> suggests that promoting opportunities for early learning and ECD has a positive impact on addressing the structural drivers of violence and violent behavior.

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

The proposed project will be implemented both at national (policy work) and local levels. At the local level the proposed geographic zones include Tokmok city of Chui province, Balykchy city of Issyk-Kul province, Osh, Nookat and Uzgen cities of Osh province, Suzak village municipality of Jalal-Abad province and Aidarken city of Batken province. These locations are multi-ethnic and characterized by high levels of inter-ethnic tensions as well as other identity-based risk drivers further fueled by socio-economic development challenges. These locations are from northern and southern regions of the country and have been consulted with Presidential Administration, State Agency on Regional Development, Civil Society Organizations (PeaceNexus, Agency on Social Technologies, Strategic Solutions). At the initiation stage the RUNOs will devise a joint implementation strategy in the proposed target locations.

**Tokmok city** is an administrative center of Chui district of Chui province, which is located 60 km far from Bishkek. It borders with Kazakhstan and has a total population of 62,000 people, which consists of 68 ethnicities (Kyrgyz - 46,8 %, Russians - 20,5 %, Dungans - 16,5 %, Uzbeks - 8,6 %, Other – 7,6%). Monitoring of the interethnic situation in Tokmok has shown that due to the proximity of Tokmok city to Naryn and Issyk-Kul provinces, there is an increased internal migration from these regions. At the same time, there are around 400 Kyrgyz families - Kairylmans, who moved from Tajikistan in 1992-1993, live in urban and peri-urban areas of Tokmok city. Thus, the internal migration is often followed with localized inter-ethnic clashes, mainly btw Kyrgyz and Dungans over economic resources. The biggest inter-ethnic clashes took place in April 2010, when 4 people died and 24 injured (<https://www.for.kg/news-117269-ru.html>). On the other hand, Tokmok city borders with neighboring Kordai district of Kazakhstan, where the inter-ethnic conflict btw Kazakhs and Dungans in February 2020 caused 11 deaths and 185 injured. All these proves there is a high level of inter-ethnic tensions in Tokmok and surrounding areas.

**Balykchy city** is located at the juncture of Bishkek-Karakol and Bishkek-Naryn-Torugart transport corridors, which gives a great potential for further development. However, the local strategic development plan identified the following challenges such as high rates of unemployment, lack of infrastructure for positive engagement especially among youth, limited access to economic activities, low participation of youth in local development and decision-making, school racketeering and crime. The ethnic composition is represented by Kyrgyz (90%), Russians (7,3%), Kazakhs (0,6%) Uzbeks (0,5%), Uigurs (0,5%), Tatars (0,4%) and other nationalities (0,7%). The total population is 42 875 people, of which 20 376 male and 22 499 females.

**Osh city** is the second biggest city with total population of more than 312 thousand people including both living in urban and peri-urban areas. According to the 2009 census, Kyrgyz made up 48.31% of the urban population, and Uzbeks - 43.05%. The other ethnic groups include Russians, Turks, Tatars, Uighurs, Tajiks, Azerbaijanis and other ethnic groups. Osh city experienced two interethnic violent clashes btw Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in 1990 and 2010. The 2010 events caused 470 deaths, more than 2 thousand people were injured, and 19 people are still missing. In accordance with Conflict and Peace analysis identified self-isolation of Uzbek minorities - there is a strong feeling that the tensions that led to the June 2010 conflict have not yet subsided. These signs indicate risk of increasing distrust and weak inter-ethnic relation in the country.

**Nookat town** is an administrative center of Nookat district, which is located 43 km far from Osh city. As per 2009 census, the population is 15,460 people (female -7036, male -8424) consisting of: Uzbeks – 88,17%, Kyrgyz-11,28%, Other nationalities – 0,53%. The consultations with Mayor's office highlighted that there are risks of inter-ethnic conflict, compounded by the high rates of poverty and weak socio-economic development. The other risk factors include absence of youth development strategy, limited access to cultural, entertainment and youth centers for positive leisure, lack of opportunities for professional education, low motivation of young people to cooperate with local authorities in solving local problems, high level of migration, exclusion from local decision-making processes.

**Uzgen city's** total population is about 61 582 people, of which 30 920 female and 30 662 males. Ethnic composition represented by Kyrgyz – 8,9%, Uzbeks – 86,8%, other nationalities – 4,3%. In 1990 the Uzgen city experienced a violent inter-ethnic conflict, which left 305 people dead, and 1371 people injured. Similarly, to Osh city, the Kyrgyz

<sup>35</sup> Baiburaeva.B, 2020, Documenting UNICEF's ECD for social cohesion and peace project in KR

and Uzbek communities live in isolation. The economic decline in 1990-s also caused massive growth of religiosity of the population, including on non-traditional movements of Islam.

**Suzak municipality** is the administrative center of Suzak district, which was also a hot spot during 2010 inter-ethnic clashes in the south, which left 12 people dead, and 30 people injured. The total population is 47 244 people, of which 23 880 male and 23 364 females. The population is represented by Uzbeks (78.6%), Kyrgyz (16.9%) and other nationalities (4,5%). Like to Uzgen and Osh cities, the Kyrgyz and Uzbek communities live in isolation, growth of religiously, as well as there were number of cases of joining terroristic movements abroad among citizens.

**Aidarken town's** population is around 12,000 (52,48% male, 48,52% female) people as per Statistical Agency, of which Kyrgyz - 60%, Tajiks - 33%, Russians - 5%, other nationalities - 2%. As of January 1, 2021, the total number of young people aged 14 to 28 is 2,336 people (973 male, 1363 female), of which only 190 people are employed, making unemployment rate very high – 88,6%. Local police register regular conflicts among Kyrgyz and Tajik schoolchildren. The other risk factors are similar as the Nookat town faces with.

**Criteria for selection of beneficiaries:** marginalized and disenfranchised groups without sustainable sources of livelihoods, unemployed young men representatives of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities with a particular focus on informal women's leaders.

Building on the recommendations of a recent evaluation<sup>36</sup>, adolescents and young people from minorities, out of school and girls will be identified and mobilized to participate in YCFLG and UPSHIFT to ensure we are reaching those who are most often excluded from decision-making. ECD centres will target children aged 0 – 3 (though some children may be older) and their parents, particularly younger aged parents.

**Stakeholders** include: National level ministries including Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy (respective unit/department of Youth Affairs and the Department of Inter-Ethnic Relations), staff of local self-governments and frontline service providers:

- 4 target locations x 100 people in average = 400 municipal and civil servants in total for two years (30% female), ethnic minorities, community members including parents of children attending ECD centers, ECD teachers/librarians, women and religious leaders (50% female),
- children (aged 0-6) participating in ECD centers (50% girls)
- adolescents and young people aged 14 – 24 years old (60% girls).
- Total expected number of DIRECT beneficiaries: at least **2,470 people** (at least 50% female).  
INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES: 2,000

## II. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list all direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local knowledge and existing capacity.

Agency	Total budget in previous calendar year	Key sources of budget (which donors etc.)	Location of in-country offices	No. of existing staff, of which in project zones	Highlight any existing expert staff of relevance to project
<b>Convening Organization: UNDP</b>	2021 budget = \$23 million	EU, PBF, UNDP-Russia Trust Fund for Development, Japan, UK, Swiss, Global Fund, thematic regular resources	UNDP: Bishkek, Osh&Jalal-Abad, Batken	UNDP: 2 in Bishkek, 1 for Osh and 1 for Batken	Senior Adviser on Social Cohesion will be directly responsible for this PBF project, who will be supported, when needed, by relevant UNDP staff engaged in RoL, Climate Resilience, Water Management, DRM etc.

<sup>36</sup> UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP project “Promoting Kyrgyzstan’s youth cohesion and interaction towards Uzbekistan”

Implementing partners:	Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy; State Commission on Religious Affairs; National Institute for Strategic Studies; State Agency for Youth; CSOs: Center for Public Technologies; Ololo House; Welcome Kgo; John Gault				
<b>Recipient Organization: UNICEF</b>	2021 budget = \$9.2 million	EU, GenU, PBF, thematic, regular resources, Japan, GAVI, UK, USAID,	UNICEF: Bishkek and Osh	UNICEF: 4 in Bishkek, 3 under recruitment (1 for Bishkek and 2 for Osh), 1 consultant	Consultant working with respective unit/department on Youth Affairs and the Department of Inter-Ethnic Relations under the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy; 4 UNICEF staff in ADAP and education
Implementing partners:	Ministry of Education and Science; Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy, Youth of Osh (NGO); Aizhan (NGO), LSGs in 4 cities				
<b>Recipient Organization: OHCHR</b>	2021 budget = \$1.2 million	Regular and unearmarked resources; TBCBP funds; EU; PBF; Norwegian funding	OHCHR: Bishkek and Osh	OHCHR: 3 in Bishkek, 1 in Osh	Consultant working on Kyrgyz Jarany
Implementing partners:					

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

### **The project coordination and oversight arrangements**

#### **Joint Steering Committee (JSC)**

A Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will be established, meet at least once every six months, guide and oversee overall project implementation and be responsible for providing advice and guidance to the Project, including making, endorsing, and/or approving recommendations as the case may be (for project work plans, revisions, etc.) to ensure a coherent and timely project implementation. The JSC will consist of representatives of the Presidential Administration, central and local authorities, civil society, the Resident Coordinator (RC) and the Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs). The JSC will be co-chaired by the Representative of the Presidential Office, and the UN Resident Coordinator. Members will consist of representatives of the Lead Agency (UNDP) and representatives from each participating UN agency, i.e., UNICEF and OHCHR. The Committee may decide to invite other participants as observers.

The project will be jointly implemented and monitored with the government with an aim to strengthen national ownership and leadership, as well as sustainability and introduction within all relevant national and UN frameworks and plans, of activities and results. This will include due investment into developing the capacity of national counterparts to sustain results past the life of the project and application of the UN harmonized approach to cash transfers where appropriate.

#### **Project Coordinator**

A Project Coordinator will be recruited and hosted by UNDP as lead agency for the project. The Project Coordinator will be responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day technical and overall coordination of implementation, and monitoring, ensuring timely achievement of project activities and associated results, and supporting project visibility and knowledge management. The Project Coordinator will facilitate cross-fertilization and coordination among UN agencies and different components of the Project. S/he will monitor the implementation of project activities, and shall coordinate production of timely, quality progress reports as required

by the Project according to PBF guidelines, and in coordination with the relevant UN agencies. S/he will chair the Technical Coordination Group (TCG), provide substantive and secretarial support to the Joint Steering Committee, and liaise with the PBF Secretariat and the Peace and Development Advisor, as required. The Project coordinator will also take part in project meetings organized by the PBF Secretariat to improve coordination with other PBF projects and ensure information exchange.

The Project Coordinator will be based in UNDP and will lead the joint monitoring of project implementation and results across all three agencies. The TOR of the Project Coordinator will also include focus on strengthening national capacities and sustaining project results through national systems. S/he will be supported by a Finance, Administration, Communications and M&E capacity. The Project Coordinator will take regular travel to the relevant geographic areas for project implementation.

### **Technical Coordination Group (TCG)**

A Technical Coordination Group (TCG) will be established and meet at least on a monthly basis to ensure adequate coordination between RUNOs and update on the implementation of the project. The TCG will be organized and chaired by the Project Coordinator and will include technical representatives from each RUNOs (i.e., UNICEF, OHCHR, UNDP). The Peace and Development Advisor and PBF Secretariat under the UN Resident Coordinator will also support and participate as required.

The TCG will ensure effective technical coordination and integration at the local and national levels, the implementation of activities, facilitate coordination and cross-fertilization of activities among all implementing partners, as well as develop a joint work plan, joint M&E, joint communication and identification of new opportunities and gaps. The TCG may also support capacity building activities as may be required to enhance project efficiencies and effectiveness. Members of the TCG might also participate in meeting organized by the PBF Secretariat, in coordination with the Project Coordinator, as required.

### **Role of Participating UN Organizations**

Each participating UN Organization will be substantively and financially accountable for the activities designated to it in the joint Project. The participating agencies will be individually and collectively responsible for: ensuring the timely implementation of the activities and delivery of the reports and other outputs identified in the project document; updating of the results framework quarterly; contracting and supervising qualified local and international experts; financial administration; monitoring, reporting and procurement for the activities they are responsible for; and carrying out all the necessary tasks and responsibilities in a timely, coordinated and integrated manner to support the Project Coordinator, Technical Coordination Group, Joint Steering Committee and PBF Secretariat.

UNDP will serve as lead agency for the coordination of the project and will be responsible for donor reporting. The project will closely coordinate with the envisaged YPI and GPI projects to complement each other and maximize results.

The UN RC will convene quarterly meetings of RUNOs and technical staff to discuss and review project implementation and to address risks that may arise. When necessary or requested by RUNOs, RC may convene ad hoc meetings on the same topics.

**UNDP:** Programme and Policy Analyst UNDP CO (10%) - quality assurance; Senior Social Cohesion Adviser (50%) - project management, implementation and coordination; Programme Specialist - programmatic support (100%); The TOR of the Programme Specialist will also include focus on strengthening national capacities and sustaining project results through national systems. Communication specialist (10%) - communications/PR and advocacy strategies; Two field specialists Osh, Batken (30%) - implementation and coordination of project activities in the fields; Administrative Finance Assistant (100%) – administrative, financial, procurement services. UNDP will engage existing gender team to ensure relevant expertise at no cost to the project and engage Programme Associate (10%) who represents UNDP at the UN Youth Thematic Group.

**UNICEF:** Chief of child protection and youth – technical support; paid by UNICEF funds. ADAP officer Bishkek – grant management, oversight and implementation; paid by UNICEF funds. ADAP officer in Osh – field implementation and monitoring (focus on Osh and Batken); 25% funded year 1 and 60% funded year 2. Programme Associate – finance, supply, procurement; 50% funded year 2. Consultant – technical support to YCFLG and youth participation; 100% funded. The TOR of the Consultant will also include focus on strengthening national capacities and sustaining project results through national systems. Chief of Child Survival and Development – technical support; paid by UNICEF funds. ECD officer Bishkek – oversight and implementation; paid by UNICEF funds.

Consultant – technical support to ECD centres; 50% funded. Chief of Osh Field Office – engagement with authorities at regional and district levels and monitoring; Driver (75% Osh).

**OHCHR:** National Programme Officer/Kyrgyzstan Programme Team Leader (50%) - quality assurance, grant management and oversight; National Programme Officer (100%) - coordination and project implementation; The TOR of the National Programme Officer will also include focus on strengthening national capacities and sustaining project results through national systems. Administrative Finance Assistant (100%) – administrative, financial, procurement services. OHCHR will contribute in kind from our regular budget to PBF project implementation Driver cost, \$10,000 and 25% of the car cost (\$5,000), as well as 5% of management cost of P5 position of Regional Representative salary. OHCHR will use the capacity of the office, including at Headquarters, to provide relevant expertise without cost to the project.

#### c) Risk management e

Project specific risk	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)
Political instability may lead to conflict and potential violence which will affect overall implementation of project	High	Introduce regular consultations on implementation of project activities with all involved actors.  The UN/RUNOs will monitor the security situation and adjust project activities, as necessary, to ensure conflict sensitivity and the achievement of peacebuilding outcomes.
Lack or weakening political will of state actors to implement Kyrgyz Jarany policy	Medium	Engage state and civil society counterparts into multi-level dialogue to advocate for change and implementation. The project will be scanning the environment regularly to reveal the risks and to take preemptive actions
Government re-structuring – changes in key Ministries, departments and agencies; changes in high level decision-makers and technical staff	High	Continual engagement with stakeholders at all levels
High turnover of government civil servants	Medium	Assist newly appointed Government representatives in the implementation of most important tasks through consulting/advisory, experts and technical support.  The RUNOs will continue to engage with government and partners at different levels, to ensure strong ownership and sustainability of implementation even in the face of staff changes.
Weak implementation capacity of local stakeholders and implementing partners	Medium	The RUNOs will establish rigorous selection process of implementing partners and monitor implementation.
Activities supported through the project touch on potentially sensitive topics	Medium	RUNOs will follow “Do No Harm” and conflict sensitivity principles throughout project implementation and will build capacities of the implementing partners on the same areas
Rise of ethno-nationalistic groups, which target civic activists and human rights defenders as promoters of ostensibly pro-western culture and values	Medium	Introduce regular consultations on implementation of project activities with all involved actors.  The UN/RUNOs will monitor the security situation and adjust project activities, as necessary, to ensure conflict sensitivity and the achievement of peacebuilding outcomes.

Project specific risk	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)
Low buy-in from local governments to address youth perspectives and take their participation seriously	Low	Leverage leadership role of the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy (the respective unit/department of Youth Affairs and the Department of Inter-Ethnic Relations); collaborate with local youth-led organizations to support implementation and use their connections and relationships to address concerns
Ongoing multiple crises context (Covid19, political instability and associated reforms, economic recession, Batken crises) makes the overall socio-political situation volatile, fluid and rapidly unfolding	Medium	Mitigate the impacts through the JSC as a strategic decision-making body of the project as well as by working with medium level managers of partnering institutions.
The post-conflict situation in Batken province, regular incidents at border areas	Medium	In cases of escalation the situation, the project will follow the guidance from UNCT
Possible divergence between the concept's intentions and its implementation, which can be unintentionally/intentionally harmful.	Medium	The risks will be quarterly reviewed jointly by RUNOs (Joint M&E Task Force) under the leadership of UN PDA and if needed to escalate to the level of UN Heads of Agencies and UN Resident Coordinator.

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

Approximately 5% of the total budget will be allocated to M&E. A final independent evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project to measure progress of the project's achievements against outputs, outcomes and indicators. The budget for this exercise is **\$60,000**. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the project will follow the PBF monitoring, and evaluation arrangements as outlined in the PBF Guidelines by involving M&E Officers of RUNOs.

The project's Results Framework provides a basis for project monitoring. During the first three months of project implementation RUNOs will develop an Integrated M&E plan with a clear vision of joint responsibilities and timeframe. To ensure cohesiveness in M&E, the RUNOs will establish a joint M&E Task Force. During the project life cycle, the baseline and end-line assessments will be conducted to verify results and measure the progress achieved against indicators of the project. For baseline and end-line assessments the Leading Agency (UNDP) will allocate - **\$40,000**. Therefore, in total, **\$100,000** will be reserved for M&E and baseline and end-line purposes under the lead agency's (UNDP) budget.

Through the support of UN PDA, the Heads of Agencies and UN Resident Coordinator will meet on a quarterly basis in order to discuss the risks that might emerge in the political environment.

The Project Steering Committee will monitor project implementation and provide recommendations based on meetings conducted every six months. Data on project implementation will be undertaken by implementing partners who will report against the common results framework of the project. Progress under the outputs will be closely monitored by RUNOs on monthly basis to ensure good coordination, application of best practices, lessons learned and timely adjustments in the activities when needed. Pre and post test results of trainings will be used to assess changes in the knowledge, skills and attitudes of participants. FGDs, individual interviews and mini surveys among stakeholders and beneficiaries will be carried out to assess changes as a result of project interventions. Quarterly meetings of RUNOs to review monitoring results will be held to inform project implementation in a coordinated way. For monitoring activities, the RUNOs under their respective project budgets will allocate budgets as following: **UNDP - \$20,000; OHCHR-\$20,000 and UNICEF - \$33,000.**

The project team intends to use Community-based Monitoring (CBM) in order to monitor and evaluate the progress of the project and its impact. Locally-driven CBM approach will lead to a more horizontal type of monitoring and evaluation, which will be carried out by a community-based group of people, who are already actively involved in social cohesion strengthening in the community. The aforementioned group would collect answers to specific questions from the affected population, which then would be passed on to the Project Coordinator and Technical Coordination Team to compile the analysis. This type of monitoring and evaluation was chosen due to the fact it will have to be carried out amongst specific, remote communities, it is more cost effective and can provide more frequent or real-time data, however that does not negate the possible need to use perception surveys as means to collect data for M&E purposes, as required.

The project team will also ensure that CBM is linked to the other community-oriented activities, such as support to Local Peace Working-Group and Local Self Government, when and where relevant.

Overall, the project will spend **\$173,000** for M&E purposes, which stands at 5% of the total budget.

e) **Project exit strategy/ sustainability** – Briefly explain the project’s exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do concretely and pro-actively to try to ensure this support from the start. Consider possible partnerships with other donors or IFIs.

The exit strategy is taken into account from the onset - at project formulation and design stages. In this respect, the project has been already been discussed with Presidential Administration and relevant national stakeholders. The PBF re-eligibility request signed by the President of KR serves a solid foundation to ensure political will and commitments towards national ownership and sustainability. Planning and implementation of respective activities will be carried out through inclusive and participatory way so that “shared responsibilities” of national counterparts are ensured. Besides, the exit strategy will be ensured through institutionalization of project results within Civic Identity Concept Kyrgyz Jarany both at local and national levels through policy making, advocacy, dialogue and capacity building and national financing of the project activities through the national budget. RUNOs will apply respective corporate Results-Based Management tools throughout the project's life cycle, by aiming to deliver the development results, ensure national ownership and sustainability which are vital from the “exit strategy” perspective. The project will be implemented as part of the National Development Programme (2021-2026) and its action plan and consolidated as part of RUNOs' Country Programme Documents, so that project results are further taken forward beyond the project lifecycle.

### III. Project budget

Provide brief additional information on projects costs, highlighting any specific choices that have underpinned the budget preparation, especially for personnel, travel or other indirect project support, to demonstrate value for money for the project. Proposed budget for all projects must include sufficient funds for an independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit. Fill out **Annex A.2** on project value for money.

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

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

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

In the first Excel budget table in Annex D, please include the percentage towards Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE) for every activity. Also provide a clear justification for every GEWE allocation (e.g.,

training will have a session on gender equality, specific efforts will be made to ensure equal representation of women etc.).

### Annex A.1: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
<b>Planning</b>			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	X		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission	X		
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	X		
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence of the project? Please state when this was done or when it will be done.	X		Presidential Administration, National Institute for Strategic Studies, Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy (respective unit/department of Youth Affairs and the Department of Inter-Ethnic Relations), target municipalities
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done? If not, what analysis remains to be done to enable implementation and proposed timeline?	X		Conflict and Peace Analysis, Regional Consultation on UN Peacebuilding Architecture in Central Asia, Bishkek, March 10-11, 2020, UN Socio-Economic Response Framework to Covid19 as well as various analyses and evaluation reports under previous PBF-funded projects.
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	X		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?	X		
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	X		
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?		N/A	
<b>Gender</b>			
10. Did UN gender expertise inform the design of the project (e.g., has a gender adviser/expert/focal point or UN Women colleague provided input)?	X		
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	X		
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?	X		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?	X		

### Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question	Yes	No	Project Comment
1. Does the project have a budget narrative justification, which provides additional project specific information on any major budget choices or higher than usual staffing, operational or travel costs, so as to explain how the project ensures value for money?	X		
2. Are unit costs (e.g., for travel, consultancies, procurement of materials etc.) comparable with those used in similar interventions (either in similar country contexts, within regions, or in past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.	X		
3. Is the proposed budget proportionate to the expected project outcomes and to the scope of the project (e.g., number, size and remoteness of geographic zones and number of proposed direct and indirect beneficiaries)? Provide any comments.	X		
4. Is the percentage of staffing and operational costs by the Receiving UN Agency and by any implementing partners clearly visible and reasonable for the context (i.e., no more than 20% for staffing, reasonable operational costs, including travel and direct operational costs) unless well justified in narrative section?	X		
5. Are staff costs proportionate to the amount of work required for the activity? And is the project using local rather than international staff/expertise wherever possible? What is the justification for use of international staff, if applicable?	X		
6. Does the project propose purchase of materials, equipment and infrastructure for more than 15% of the budget? If yes, please state what measures are being taken to ensure value for money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.		X	However, under Output 2, the project is planning to purchase necessary hardware and software for establishing Early Warning and Early Response System for less than 15% of the budget.
7. Does the project propose purchase of a vehicle(s) for the project? If yes, please provide justification as to why existing vehicles/ hire vehicles cannot be used.		X	
8. Do the implementing agencies or the UN Mission bring any additional non-PBF source of funding/ in-kind support to the project? Please explain what is provided. And if not, why not.	X		

## Annex B.1: Project Administrative arrangements for UN Recipient Organizations

*(This section uses standard wording – please do not remove)*

The UNDP MPTF Office serves as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the PBF and is responsible for the receipt of donor contributions, the transfer of funds to Recipient UN Organizations, the consolidation of narrative and financial reports and the submission of these to the PBSO and the PBF donors. As the Administrative Agent of the PBF, MPTF Office transfers funds to RUNOS on the basis of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between each RUNO and the MPTF Office.

### AA Functions

On behalf of the Recipient Organizations, and in accordance with the UNDG-approved “Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi Donor Trust Funds and Joint Programmes, and One UN funds” (2008), the MPTF Office as the AA of the PBF will:

- Disburse funds to each of the RUNO in accordance with instructions from the PBSO. The AA will normally make each disbursement within three (3) to five (5) business days after having received instructions from the PBSO along with the relevant Submission form and Project document signed by all participants concerned.
- Consolidate the financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF annual consolidated progress reports to the donors and the PBSO.
- Proceed with the operational and financial closure of the project in the MPTF Office system once the completion is completed by the RUNO. A project will be considered as operationally closed upon submission of a joint final narrative report. In order for the MPTF Office to financially closed a project, each RUNO must refund unspent balance of over 250 USD, indirect cost (GMS) should not exceed 7% and submission of a certified final financial statement by the recipient organizations’ headquarters).
- Disburse funds to any RUNO for any cost extension that the PBSO may decide in accordance with the PBF rules & regulations.

### Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

Recipient United Nations Organizations will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

Each RUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent from the PBF account. This separate ledger account shall be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures, including those relating to interest. The separate ledger account shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to the RUNO.

Each RUNO will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Semi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

Financial reporting and timeline

Timeline	Event
<b>30 April</b>	Annual reporting – Report <b>Q4 expenses</b> (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<b><i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i></b>	

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

<b>31 July</b>	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
<b>31 October</b>	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.

#### **Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property**

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in the RUNO undertaking the activities. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the RUNO shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

#### **Public Disclosure**

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website ([www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund)) and the Administrative Agent's website ([www.mptf.undp.org](http://www.mptf.undp.org)).

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

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<b>Outcome 1:</b> A greater sense of shared civic identity and trust enhanced through inter-group dialogue, inclusive and accountable governance  (Any SDG Target that this Outcome contributes to) <b>Target 16.6:</b> Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels <b>Target 16.7:</b> Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels <b>Target 10.2:</b> By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status		<b>Outcome Indicator 1.a</b> Fragile States Index (FSI)  <b>Baseline:</b> FSI – 76,4 (score)  <b>Target:</b> FSI – 74 (score)	FGI: fragilestatesindex.org  Annually	2022: FSI - 76,4  2024: FSI - 74
		<b>Outcome Indicator 1.b</b> National Trust Index (NTI)  <b>Baseline:</b> NTI – 43,2 (score for LSGs)  <b>Target:</b> NTI – 45 (score)	NTI: stat.kg  Semi-annually	2022: NTI: - 43,2  2024: NTI - 45
		<b>Outcome Indicator 1.c</b> A sense of shared civic identity and trust increased by in target locations  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD by baseline research  <b>Target:</b> Increase by 20% in target locations (TBC by end-line research)	Baseline and end-line research	2022: TBD  2024: 20%
	<b>Output 1:</b> Policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms strengthened for inclusive and accountable governance at	<b>Output Indicator 1.1:</b> Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism (IMCM) for greater inclusion at all levels established and operational  <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Target:</b> Yes	Official data and reports of the Cabinet of Ministers  Annually	2022: IMCM established 2023: IMCM operationalized
		<b>Output Indicator 1.2:</b>	Official data and reports of the Cabinet of Ministers, Parliament	2022: No 2024: Yes

(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)	national and local levels to increase social dialogue and trust.	Necessary institutional (legal, operational, financial) framework for I4P (IMCM, preventive centers, youth centers etc.) developed and adopted <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Target:</b> Yes	Annually	
		<b>Output Indicator 1.3:</b> Number of adolescent and young people and women applying new skills to influence decision making at local level <b>Baseline:</b> (ado/YP = 80). <b>Target:</b> adolescents/young people = 280 (80 male, 200 female; 200 aged 14 – 19 and 80 aged 20 – 24)	Survey and/or community-based monitoring	Design and roll out survey to determine baseline and target
		<b>Output Indicator 1.4</b> % increase of ethnic minorities' representatives enrolled into the trainings of State Personnel Service in target communities <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> 100 (30% female)	Official data and reports of target Local self-governments / Annually	2022: 50 2024: 50
	<b>Output 2:</b> Comprehensive early warning and early response system established for risk-informed development and conflict prevention.	<b>Output Indicator 2. 1:</b> A Data Processing Center for early warning and early response established and operational <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Target:</b> Yes	Official data and reports of the Cabinet of Ministers Annually	2022: No 2024: Yes
		<b>Output Indicator 2.2:</b> # of policy decisions and local development plans adopted based on gender and age sensitive analytical data and findings produced by EWER <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Target:</b> 7	Official data and reports of the Cabinet of Ministers and target LSGs Annually	2022: No 2024: Yes

	<b>Output 3:</b> Communities and local self-governments are capacitated to strengthen cooperation and trust among different groups and community members	<b>Output Indicator 3.1:</b> # of people who are aware of Kyrgyz Jarany Concept <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> At least 10,000 (50% female) direct beneficiaries	Media reports, Annually	2022: 3,000 2024: 7,000
		<b>Output Indicator 3.2:</b> # people capacitated in target locations on conflict prevention, Civic Identity Kyrgyz Jarany, democratic governance, multi-cultural education, human rights, gender, freedom of religion and belief. <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> 400 people (30% female)	Project progress reports, LSG data Annually	2022: 0 2024: 400
		<b>Output Indicator 3.3:</b> # of local initiatives developed and supported for implementation <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> At least 20 initiatives	Official data of LSGs and project reports Annually	2022: 4 2024: 16
		<b>Output Indicator 3.4:</b> # adolescents and young people with increased skills to enable them to address their own and communities' concerns. <b>Baseline:</b> 80 <b>Target:</b> 160 (60 male, 100 female; 100 aged 14 – 19 and 60 aged 19 – 24)	Project reports / 6 monthly, perception surveys and/or community-based monitoring	UPSHIFT curriculum adjusted for younger age group; priority participants (out of school, girls, ethnic minorities) mobilized to participate;
		<b>Output Indicator 3.5:</b> #of pre-school age children, librarians and parents benefiting from quality integrated peace and social cohesion in ECD at Child Development Centers. <b>Baseline:</b> 3000 children and their parents, 100 librarians. <b>Target:</b> 2000 children (aged 0 -3) + parents (18 and above); 70 librarians.	Report of Librarians / 6 monthly	2022: 3000 children and their parents, 100 librarians. 2023: 2000 children and their parents; 70 librarians.

## Annex E

Indexes (with sub-dimensions)	Overall score	Global Rank
<b>Rule of Law Index 2020:</b> <sup>37</sup> Accountable Government Security and Fundamental Rights Open Government and Regulatory Enforcement Delivery of Justice	0.48 (scores range from 0 to 1, with 1 indicating the strongest adherence to the rule of law)	87 out of 128 countries and jurisdictions
<b>Corruption Perceptions Index 2020</b> <sup>38</sup>	31 (100 is very clean and 0 is highly corrupt)	124 out of 180 countries/territories
<b>Worldwide Governance Index 2020:</b> <sup>39</sup> Voice and Accountability Index Political Stability and Absence of Violence Index Government Effectiveness Index Regulatory quality Index Rule of Law Index Corruption Control Index	46,14 (0 - lowest rank, 100 - highest rank)	124 out of 200 countries and territories
<b>Freedom in the World 2020:</b> <sup>40</sup> Political rights Civil liberties	(0 – the smallest degree of freedom, 4 - the greatest degree of freedom)	195 countries and 15 territories
<b>Global Peace Index 2021</b> <sup>41</sup> (composite index of 23 indicators)	1,998 (scores from 1 to 5, the lower the score the more peaceful the country)	76 out of 163 countries
<b>Fragile States Index 2020</b> <sup>42</sup> <b>Cohesion indicators:</b> Security Apparatus Factionalized Elites Group Grievance <b>Economic indicators:</b> Economic Decline Uneven Development Human Flight & Brain Drain <b>Political indicators:</b> State Legitimacy Public Services Human Rights & Rule of Law Social and cross-cutting indicators: Demographic Pressures Refugees & IDPs External Intervention	76,4 (from 10 to 120, the lower the score, the better)	178 countries

<sup>37</sup> [https://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/documents/WJP-ROLI-2020-Online\\_0.pdf](https://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/documents/WJP-ROLI-2020-Online_0.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> [https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/CPI2020\\_Report\\_EN\\_0802-WEB-1\\_2021-02-08-103053.pdf](https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/CPI2020_Report_EN_0802-WEB-1_2021-02-08-103053.pdf)

<sup>39</sup> <https://solability.com/the-global-sustainable-competitiveness-index/the-index/governance-capital>

<sup>40</sup> <https://freedomhouse.org/country/kyrgyzstan/freedom-world/2021>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/maps/#/>

<sup>42</sup> <https://fragilestatesindex.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/fsi2021-report.pdf>