

PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: Liberia
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL
YEAR OF REPORT: 2021



Project Title: “Sustaining peace and improving social cohesion through the promotion of rural employment opportunities for youth in conflict-prone areas”

Project Number from MPTE-O Gateway: please select 00113990

If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:

- ☒ Country Trust Fund
☐ Regional Trust Fund

Name of Recipient Fund: LMPTF

Type and name of recipient organizations:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) – Convening Agency)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

World Food Programme (WFP)

Date of first transfer: 14 February, 2019

Project end date: 31 August 2021

Is the current project end date within 6 months? No

Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:

- ☐ Gender promotion initiative
☐ Youth promotion initiative
☒ Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions
☐ Cross-border or regional project

Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):

Recipient Organization	Amount
FAO	\$ 760,041
ILO	\$ 405,699.81
WFP	\$ 334,258.59
Total	\$ 1,500,000

Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 98%

ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE

Gender-responsive Budgeting:

Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: **\$750,000 (50% of the total budget amount)**

Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: \$735,000

Project Gender Marker: 2
Project Risk Marker: 0
Project PBF focus area: 2.1 (Employment)

Report preparation:

Project report prepared by: **Octavius T. Quarbo – Assistant Representative for Programme – FAO; Salif Massalay – Officer-in-Charge, ILO, Michael Vawah – Programme/Policy Officer - WFP**

Project report approved by: **Mariatou Njie, FAO Representative;, Vanessa Phala – Country Director, ILO, Aliou Diongue, Country Director, WFP**

Did PBF Secretariat review the report: **Yes**

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
- *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*
- *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS

Briefly outline the **status of the project** in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):

The project has been completed with 90% delivery success. The results contribute to the sustenance of community-level peace and improvement of social cohesion by addressing two interlinked root causes of conflict. They include grievances of youth due to their limited involvement in local dispute resolution processes and lack of employment opportunities. Implemented in six communities in Bong and Lofa counties, results of project reflect changes to structural, community-level establishments and individual levels.

Based on interventions under outcome one, young men and women are adequately participating in community-based planning exercises, and local dispute resolution mechanisms. They, together with their elderly, women, persons with disabilities, and district-level, government-run service providers were capacitated to plan for and implement activities aimed at sustaining peace and social cohesion. Areas covered in community planning include use of land and natural resources, improvement in access to education, health, agricultural production, and entrepreneurial opportunities. Capacity was built on the prevention and resolution of disputes, anchored from the perspective of access to land for productive reasons.

Under outcome two, young people's livelihoods have been made more sustainable through engagements in agricultural production and value addition activities. Complemented, in instances, by an older generation of farmers, these young men and women have engaged in productive activities along the rice, vegetable and poultry value chains. A sect of beneficiaries used knowledge, skills and networks built including through the Start and Improve Your Business Programme or training provided in the areas of cooperative development, to start and grow their own enterprises.

Through group-based training and mentorship, intra-community and inter-community contact is promoted and social cohesion enhanced and sustained. In all project communities, youth-led agricultural cooperatives were formed promoting economic development and social cohesion.

Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000 character limit):

None

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize **the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500 character limit):

The project ignited and contributed to a number of institutional, structural and societal level changes. Based on work done with relevant ministries, agencies, and commissions (MAC), the Government of Liberia has emphasized in its programming, land issues, anchoring them more from the gender and age perspectives. Lessons learned and gains from land-related work done under the project – particularly on access, tenure rights and governance at the community level – fed into the UN’s support and technical assistance to the National Land Conference held in March 2022.

At the said event, stocktaking was done on the implementation of the Land Rights Act. Resulting from that conference and its pre-activity analyses, was a communique crafted with the technical support of FAO. Said declaration by the government, UN and partners, amongst other things, referenced experiences from this project and other land-related interventions of the UN. Specifically, these lessons reflected:

- a. that, practical challenges confronting the rollout of the Land Rights Act, especially on women and youth access to land and tenure rights in community, persist, despite three years since passage; and,
- b. that, structural changes, particularly on household-level demanded asset like land, are only going to be effective in practice if a balance approach, rather than a top-down one, is applied in policy implementation.

Both the Liberia Land Authority and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection are mainstreaming lessons learned in their sub-national levels engagements. The Ministries of Agriculture, Youth and Sports, Labour, and Internal Affairs have begun leveraging their spaces towards potential replication and scale-up of the project model.

At the community-level, structures have been reformed, as processes of community-based participatory planning ensue. Decision-making processes on the use of land and other economic activities are evolving. Both horizontal/peer level: youth-to-youth; and vertical: structural inclusion of young people – have increased. Additionally, local economies are improving and beneficiaries’ contribution to the wider development of their districts gains traction.

The project contributed to the mainstreaming of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in Liberia and generated synergies with similar development interventions. Referencing this project, models of ‘creating livelihood opportunities towards peace sustenance’ are being recreated. For example, the current peace dividends project funded by the PBF in Liberia complements community-level reconciliation efforts with livelihood support.

IN A FEW SENTENCES, EXPLAIN WHETHER THE PROJECT HAS HAD A POSITIVE HUMAN IMPACT. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):

In Bong County, the Liberia Land Authority county office has reached more communities to settle land related cases/disputes as a result of the project. According to Victor Brown, the head of the local office of the LLA in Bong County, *“Based upon the technical and logistical support (mobility, furniture and office supplies) provided by the project has now equipped us to reach out to more villages, towns, etc with conflict due to land. We have been able to settle more land issues than previous years. Additionally, we no longer have to leave the office to go down the road to print or prepare documents related to land issues as we have been given laptop, printer and office supplies that help ease our work.”*

The project had positive human impacts. In addition to the livelihood opportunities and voice decision-making space they have received, recognition and networking increased for beneficiaries beyond their communities. In February 2021, youths – representing project beneficiaries – participated and got Presidential recognition at the first National Agriculture Fair held in 13 years. See human interest story¹.

In December 2020, a profile and analysis of youth, gender and land related conflicts in Bong and Lofa Counties was published under the project.²

PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME

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

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

If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.

Outcome 1: Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become active agents of peace.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

Working with the Liberia Land Authority (LLA), mapped peacebuilding and mediation structures in three districts and one municipality in Bong and Lofa counties have been strengthened as alternative dispute prevention and resolution for land and property conflict. Through the project, 96 young men and women from Boi, Konia, Yealla, Gangolata, and Salayea (Lofa county) and Totota, Salala and Tumutu in (Bong county) were trained about Liberia’s Land rights law with emphasis on private land, government land, and customary land

¹ <http://www.fao.org/liberia/news/detail-events/en/c/1377306/>

² https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---africa/---ro-abidjan/---ilo-abuja/documents/publication/wcms_762903.pdf

ownership. They have been commissioned as peace agents, with the mandate and technical support from the government and the UN to help detect, prevent and resolve disputes, using local structures. Technical and logistical supports were provided to LLA and three local peacebuilding and mediation structures. The logistical items include but not limited to motorbikes, office furniture and supplies.

In addition to these, the youth groups have been engaged towards the holding of community-level dialogues that will help strengthen peacebuilding mechanisms. These interventions come on the foundation of socio-cultural awareness raising campaigns held in all project communities. Resulting from these campaigns and capacity building of all communities to lead processes of community-based participatory planning (CBPPs), increased awareness on drivers of conflicts and practicable measures to address them, have been realized. Using participatory approaches during these peacebuilding and dispute resolution capacity building sessions, local actors – women, elders, leaders, representatives from various socio-economic groups and government-led sub-national structures, have helped provide civic spaces for project beneficiaries and other youth members – as indicated during follow-up engagements/feedback sessions.

In addition to the peacebuilding elements, the plans were revisited to accommodate activities that increase community resilience. This comes from the fact that these communities – though partly mitigated with economic incentives through temporary job opportunities under the project – have all undergone enormous stress imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a requirement for group planning, periodic review has been encouraged; and with the strengthened capacity, these have continued in each community as and when necessitated by conflict and/or other forms of shocks.

Based on an assessment of cooperatives and cooperative support organizations, it was observed that cooperatives enable vulnerable groups to access resources such as land, which contribute to solidarity and the resolution of conflicts. Well-managed cooperatives, when fully established, and backstopped by the Cooperative Development Agency (CDA), could create an environment of mutual respect, equality, trust and commitment, which in turn would generate a sense of belonging.

Whilst these activities are in line with the project design, they also build on findings from a study which profiled and analysed youth, gender and land related conflicts in the two counties. The study, which was validated in February 2020, reinforces the analytical basis upon which the project was designed. Among others, it found that existing peacebuilding structures provided relevant opportunities upon which the project could thrive. Relying on qualitative data generated through semi-structured interviews, focus groups discussions and surveys – the study identified land disputes, youth unemployment and the marginalization of youth and women as key challenges at the community-level.

Together, these undertakings have contributed towards increasing access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and helping youths become active agents of peace.

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

(1000 character limit)

Support to the LLA Gender Unit to facilitate the implementation of the Gender Policy and the LRA, and the planned validation of the Gender Integrated Strategy provides a legal basis for inclusion of women. The provisions in these documents advocate for gender equality, inclusion and equal participation of women in land processes and thus fostering their rights to land.

Ensuring financial sustainability of women peace huts promotes financial freedom for women and allows them the confidence and time to participate in other community engagements. Women peace huts play a significant role in peace building, and if financially empowered will continue to participate in conflict resolution within the existing mechanisms.

Women economic empowerment achieved through support to women led community-based structures such as peace huts, and creating a conducive policy environment through gender responsive policies and legal frameworks promotes inclusion of women and gender responsiveness in land governance and decision-making processes.

Community mobilization and awareness raising campaigns empowered the participation of vulnerable groups, especially young people, to promote actions towards sustaining the peace in their local communities. In this regard, awareness raising campaigns were implemented and reaching all project communities and more than 1,000 beneficiaries including through cultural performances, peace dramas and songs.

The Profile and Analysis of Youth-, Gender- and Land-Related Conflicts, which was conducted at the beginning of the project, described the age and gender dimensions of land disputes and related youth violence in Bong and Lofa counties and informed project programming.

Outcome 2: Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select

Progress summary: (3000 character limit)

Initially enrolled at 1,200 beneficiaries from the six communities, about 80% of these young men and women have accessed sustainable livelihood opportunities through the enterprises of rice, vegetables and poultry. To improve youth access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods, capacities were built in community-based asset creation for integrated lowland productivity and behavioural change.

To strengthen the development and standardization of rice, vegetable and poultry products, as well as establish market networks for these products, a need assessment was conducted in the project communities.

To address issues of standardization, especially on handling and preservation of vegetables, the project provided training in making traditional (local) baskets for vegetable. These local baskets are helping to secure and safely get the produce to the markets. In addition, two market stalls (one in Bong and one in Lofa) have been erected. These stalls have enabled farmers to preserve the quality of their produce, while on sales.

Bringing the communities of Tumutu and Totota together for marketing purposes, for example, provides them a platform to increase inter-district/municipality social cohesion. Converging on a daily basis in Salala, they, working with their colleagues in Salala Town – which is a few minutes from the market point – together lead the engagements with non-project members towards collectively act as ‘agents of peace’.

In Yealla and Konia, and Salala, rice have been produced, using infrastructure rehabilitated and constructed in the lowland ecology. Working with the Ministry of Agriculture’s District Agriculture Officers (DAOs) and County Agricultural Coordinator (CAC), inputs, training, and machineries were provided during the project implementation. Technical backstopping on crop production and integrated pest management continue, even after the project phased out.

In Tumutu, Totota and Salayea, high value vegetables including cucumber, cabbage, tomatoes, sweet and hot pepper were cultivated. Communities of Totota and Ganglota are empowered with poultry producing facilities – stocked initially with 3,000 birds – covering layers and broilers. Market linkages for sales of poultry meat and eggs were also provided.

For the dual purposes of sustainability and social cohesion, these young people were trained into cooperative development. Efforts to establish cooperatives are well on course and should be launched once the second and third cycles of production are done in the rice and poultry enterprises. For the vegetable component, the PUNOs, through FAO, continues to provide additional irrigation support towards optimizing their level of production and value addition.

To support entrepreneurial skills, project beneficiaries were trained in the Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) Programme and then cascaded training on business development and management to 85 entrepreneurs at the community-level, of whom 65 submitted business plans. As part of this exercise, a total of 14 candidates were certified as SIYB trainers and are in a position to carry out training beyond the end of the project. To promote capacities of financial institutions to offer gender sensitive financial services in rural areas, a total of 16 representatives of institutions engaged in microfinance were capacitated to diversify their product portfolio in a strategic and cost-effective manner.

After a training-of-trainers in cooperative development, training was conducted in Salala, Totota, Ganglota-Town, Salayea and Zorzor for a total of 105 beneficiaries. During the training, some of youth groups accomplished the requirements for transformation into cooperatives and several were awarded pre-cooperative permit to operate as cooperative enterprises. This led to the establishment of seven youth-led agricultural cooperatives.

All of these sustainable livelihood opportunities emerged out of work done and income earned through temporary jobs provided during the construction phases. During the last half of 2020, the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in Liberia, 120 project beneficiaries were incentivized, through short-term, labour-intensive work done towards constructing irrigation superstructure for lowlands in four (sub) communities: Konia, Boi, Yealla, and Salala. These beneficiaries, reflecting 10% of all beneficiaries earned between \$40 - \$60 per month, cushioning the economic gap created by COVID in these communities.

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

(1000 character limit)

The project ensured equal participation of young men and women in decision making and implementation making sure that every activity is gender sensitive.

Under the residency-based, practice-driven two-month long training in poultry production held at Obasanjo Farms, Liberia, four of ten, representing 40% of the trainees were females.

Blending youths with middle-age colleagues in Yealla/Zorzor and Gangloata, both gender and inter-generational gaps are being filled in with the project interventions. Particularly in Yealla and credited to this approach, the level of organization of the group has been excellent, when compared to other sub-communities in Zorzor.

The SIYB training-of-trainers included youth representatives from the project communities and was kick-started with a briefing session from on the contribution of employment to peace and social cohesion. Trainer candidates were encouraged to consider social cohesion aspects in the roll out of training activities including through the involvement of different groups and age brackets. During the training, participants were asked to identify possible conflict drivers and possible mitigation measures. Identified needs included demand-driven training, access to land and finance, adequate storage facilities, farm-to-market-roads, agricultural cooperatives and sport tournaments. Participants eventually cascaded the training to 85 entrepreneurs as the community level.

Capacity building in the area of cooperative development led to the transformation of some youth groups into youth-led agricultural cooperatives advancing collaborative businesses and social cohesion.

These have all contributed towards ensuring increased level of age and gender inclusion and representativeness.

PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

<u>Monitoring:</u> Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)	Do outcome indicators have baselines? Yes! Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? Referencing the ILO-mapping exercise conducted at the start of the project, FAO undertook a baseline study, focusing on outcome two.
<u>Evaluation:</u> Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?	Evaluation budget (response required): \$30,000 If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations (<i>1500 character limit</i>): End-line evaluation has been held. Reasoning between management response to recommendations which were built on the evaluation findings show that whilst the project delivery was challenged in terms of effectiveness due to the extent to which COVID-19 hampered the timing and budget,

	most of the outputs were delivered contributing positive, “satisfactorily achieved” outcomes on the overall ³ .
Catalytic effects (financial): Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project.	Name of funder: Amount: UAE \$2.5 million
Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? (1500 character limit)	Project implementation accelerated once COVID-19 situation normalized. However, with second tranche not received in time, commitments to service providers weakened to the detriment of delivery of some contractual services. Additionally, COVID-19 imposed barriers to supply chains affected the budget leading to reduction in quantity of inputs that could be acquired.

PART IV: COVID-19

Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 1) Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

\$14,070 – used on incentivising technicians and youthful community members working on the development of irrigation superstructures in the lowland

- 2) Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications:

No cost extension of six months was provided to allow for completion of activities, due to slowdown caused by COVID-19.

Some activities had to be adjusted and be conducted through a blended model combining in-person and remote methodologies. Training for (potential) entrepreneurs, for example, was conducted at the community level and supported remotely by a certified Master Trainer. The assessment of cooperatives and cooperative support organizations was a joint effort of an international expert and a focal point in Liberia.

- 3) Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (and include details in general sections of this report):

³ This is determinable by the fact that there were four outcome level indicators, out of which one (1.1) was graded as “partially achieved” and another (1.2) was described as “satisfactory”. For outcome 2, indicator 2.1 was graded “very satisfactory”, with 2.2 rated “satisfactory”. It is reasoned, therefore, that for an average, the positive of “very satisfactory” offsets the negative “partially achieved”, bringing both to “satisfactorily achieved”, thus averaging, on the overall, “satisfactory performance”.

- ☐ Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications
- ☒ Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery
- ☐ Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management
- ☐ Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

- ☐ Support the SG's call for a global ceasefire
- ☐ Other (please describe):

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)

120 youths were provided livelihood sources in four communities. This way, the economic burden was lessened, whilst intra-community social cohesion was strengthened, leading to a more united effort towards containing the spread of the virus.

PART V: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Using the **Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments**- provide an update on the achievement of **key indicators** at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Outcome 1 Young women and men have increased access to local conflict resolution mechanisms, with a focus on land disputes, and become	Indicator 1.1 % change in perceptions among youth, women and local leaders of their own ability to prevent, reduce conflict and cope with conflict and promote peace ⁵	Per the ILO-led baseline profiling, 51% finds the existing conflict resolution mechanism as “effective”	at least 20% increase in perception change	December 31, 2020	Evaluation findings point to “partial achievement” of this indicator.	Per the conclusion of the evaluation report, this “partial achievement” of the outcome indicator is referenced to have been a result of the perception survey not being able to assess the extent to which change occur, even though, per project progress reports, KIIs and FGDs conducted, access to local conflict resolution mechanisms under the community-based monitoring structures, with a focus on land disputes, created by the project contributed to making young men and women active agents of peace.
	Indicator 1.2 A % change in the	57.8%	At least 25%	December 31, 2020	Evaluation findings put this indicator as “satisfactory ⁶ ”.	In description, the evaluation report indicate that “large contributions to peacebuilding were made by reducing conflict on land related

⁴ Where deemed appropriate, indicators were updated using baseline findings

⁵ Proxy indicator – “perceived effectiveness of conflict resolution mechanism in community” – was one of the three recommended to measure performance of outcome 1, indicator 1.1

⁶ Evaluation scale puts “satisfactory” when indicator is achieved at 50-75% of target

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
active agents of peace.	number of land related conflicts and disputes in the project areas.		reduction in land related disputes and Conflicts.			disputes in the project areas, all of which created social cohesion among members of the recipient communities”
Output 1.1 Land, youth and gender related drivers of conflicts are mapped and documented	Indicator 1.1.1 # of land, youth and gender related conflict drivers mapped and documented	There is one existing report on the drivers of conflict in concession affected	at least 1 report on land, youth and gender conflict drivers identified and documented	December 31, 2019	100% - Verified by project evaluation and graded as “very satisfactory ⁷ ”	None
	Indicator 1.1.2 # of updated conflict profile	There is an existing conflict profile	1 updated conflict driver profile	December 31 2019	100% - Verified by project evaluation and graded as “very satisfactory”	None
Output 1.2 Young women and men and their	Indicator 1.2.1 # of community based participatory planning conducted	0	At least 4 Community Based Planning Processes in	December 31 2019	100% - Verified by project evaluation and graded as “very satisfactory”	None

⁷ Evaluation scale puts “very satisfactory” when indicator is achieved at 75-100% of target

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
communities have enhanced peace-building and conflict resolution capacities			Lofa and Bong Counties			
	Indicator 1.2.2 # of peacebuilding structures strengthened	TBD	At least 1 in each county including the LLA	August 2021(based on NCE)	Peacebuilding structures identified with participants trained on land and conflict resolution mechanism - Evaluation report puts it at 100% and graded it as “very satisfactory”	None
Output 1.3	Indicator 1.3 # of socio-cultural activities, community mobilization and awareness raising campaign conducted	0	At least 2 in each county	June 2019	6 held in total – Evaluation report, however, puts it at 100% and graded it as “very satisfactory”	None
Output 1.4	Indicator 1.4 # of dialogue and capacity building	0	Young women	August 2021	4 - Evaluation report, however, puts it at 100% and	None

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	for peacebuilding organized		and men participating in at least 4 peacebuilding dialogues		graded it as “very satisfactory”	
Outcome 2 Rural young women and men have access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods addressing key drivers of conflict	Indicator 2.1 % of targeted youth with access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods	16%	At least 50% of targeted youth (male: 50% and female: 50%)	February 2021	Evaluation report puts it at 75% and graded it as “very satisfactory”	Project progress reports put this at 80% given that reproductive capacities in poultry, as well as rice and vegetable production and value addition have been provided for at least 960 beneficiaries in in Zorzor, Salayea, Totota, Tumutu, Gangloata and Salala, pending FAO’s optimization of the over five hectare garden in Totota, using its core funding
	Indicator 2.2 % of participants who expect their future economic situation to be better than their present economic situation	0%	At least 50% of targeted youth (male: 50% and female: 50%)	December 2019	End-line evaluation puts it at 50% and graded it “satisfactory” with the note that data obtained was not disaggregated by gender	With the intervening factors of COVID-19 causing delay, the project acknowledges that some interest and commitment of initially enrolled beneficiaries had shifted.
Output 2.1	Indicator 2.1.1	51.84%	72%	August 2021	End line study confirms that 100%	None

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Young women and men have enhanced access to market-based entrepreneurial skills training and business development services	Percentage of youth having more than two livelihood activities increased ⁸				was achieved as livelihood options spanned three enterprises of rice, vegetables and poultry	
	Indicator 2.1.2 # of training manuals adapted to local context	0	1 TOT workshop At least 2 (SIYB and Farmer Field and Life Schools Facilitator's Guide)	December 31, 2020	Evaluation findings confirm that the indicator was met 100%, thus grading this as "very satisfactory"	None
	Indicator 2.1.3 # of mentorship and business management training conducted	0 trainings;	Target: At least 2 in Lofa and Bong	January 2021	Project progress report records 6 – trainings each targeting 80 beneficiaries have been delivered in each community; Evaluation	Positive variance of 4, given the expressed need derived from profiling, baseline and other project engagements

⁸ Updated based on FAO-led baseline study for outcome 2.

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					findings, however, notes no positive variance and considers the indicator achieved at 100%, with a grading of “very satisfactory”	
	Indicator 2.1.4 # of capacity building training conducted	0	At least 2 in Bong and Lofa.	February 2021	2 - Capacity building on improved vegetable production held in Salayea, Tumutu and Totota; Capacity building on rice production held in Salala and Yealla (Zorzor) Two-month long, residency-based capacity building on poultry value chain done;	Positive variance of 2 given the sub-community, Farmer Field School-based approach adapted

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					Evaluation findings, albeit, put it at 100% grading it “very satisfactory”	
	Indicator 2.1.5 # of financial organizations receiving technical support	0	At least 2 financial organizations per county	December 31, 2020	Project progress reports captures six days online training on Making Microfinance work: Managing Product Diversification for Financial Service Providers in Liberia was delivered to than 16 senior level managers from 14 financial institutions; Evaluation findings, however,	Financial organizations/institutions not organized by county. This model may have been found to be inconsistent with the project design, perhaps, leading to the evaluation considering that it was not achieved.

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					puts it at “not achieved”	
	Indicator 2.1.6 # of products competitive in the market against imported products	0	At least 3 products (rice, assorted vegetables and poultry products)	December 31, 2020	Rice, maize, poultry meat (broilers) have been available to local markets ; Evaluation findings, however, puts this at 33%, citing that only poultry products became competitive at a recognizable scale	Other products of rice and vegetables were found to be less competitive as they were marketed at micro- to small scale, except for poultry products which the evaluation found to be at a recognizable scale
	Indicator 2.1.7 # of market network established measured by % of farmers linked to buyers	24.37%	At least one functional market networking targeting 50%	February 28, 2020	Market network established for Tutumu, Salala and Totota producers at Salala Check Point; Market linkage established for	The evaluation report, whilst confirming that market stalls were constructed, state that the evaluators found no evidence that a network was established and made functional

	Performance Indicators ⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					Yealla and Konia at Zorzor City market; Evaluation report also considers this indicator delivered as “partially achieved”	
	Indicator 2.1.8 # of agro-processing centers established	0	1 equipped center	February 2021	1 – Zorzor Rice processing center in Yealla; With full equipment of the established facility outstanding as at the time of evaluation, the evaluators put it as “partially achieved”	Delay in international supply chain leading to very late arrival of procured agro-equipment; tractor, mill, thresher, harvester...
Output 2.2: Youth farmers’	Indicator 2.2.1 # of local partners engaged in developing/supporting	Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) is the only existing	At least 2	December 2020	1 – having resulted to partnering solely with CDA, given its mandate to lead cooperative	Needs assessment of cooperatives and cooperative support organizations for social cohesion and peacebuilding through cooperative development conducted; support provided to youth-led organizations on

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
have enhanced capacity to manage their agricultural cooperative effectively	youth agricultural cooperatives identified	partner involve with cooperative development			development (training, establishment, and mentoring), the project acknowledged that only one partner was identified; The evaluation report therefore puts it at 50%, describing it as “moderately satisfactory”	cooperative development; CDA involved in capacity building activities around cooperative development.
	Indicator 2.2.2 # of financial institutions identified/assessed	0	At least 2 in Bong and Lofa	February 2021	8 – Evaluation again puts it at 50%, with the description “moderately satisfactory”	Overview of financial institutions in Liberia conducted with information on 8 financial institutions.
	Indicator 2.2.3 My.COOP training package adapted	0	My.COOP training package	February 2021	1	Training manual for training of trainers in cooperative development and management to

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	and available in the local language		available in the two selected counties		Evaluation findings put it at 100%, with the grading of “very satisfactory”	cooperative support organizations in Liberia developed.
	Indicator 2.2.4 # of TOT workshops conducted;	0	2 TOTS workshops	February 2021	1 TOT and 5 stepdown trainings were conducted in the 6 project communities directly benefiting 105 beneficiaries. Evaluation findings put it at 100%, with the grading of “very satisfactory”	After the TOT cooperative development training was rolled-out to 105 beneficiaries leading to the establishment of 7 youth-led cooperatives
	Indicator 2.2.5 Number of youth groups trained in the formation of cooperatives using the My.COOP training package	0	6 youth and women groups trained	February 28, 2021	7 youth-led agricultural cooperatives were trained and established Evaluation findings put it at 100%, with	

	Performance Indicators ⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					the grading of “very satisfactory”	
Output 2.3 Thirty (30) hectares of integrated community lowland for rice and vegetable production rehabilitated and developed through employment-intensive techniques	Indicator 2.3.1 # of hectares identified and selected	0	30ha in Lofa and Bong	September 2018	100% - 30 hectares of lowland have been identified in Bong and Lofa, with irrigation support provided; Percentage (100) reported above by project verified and confirmed by evaluation with the grading of “very satisfactory”	None
	Indicator 2.3.2 % of participants who report feeling comfortable working alongside a member of other social group	0	at least 50% of targeted beneficiaries (male:50%, female: 50%)	February 2021	Evaluation found it at 100% with the grading of “very satisfactory”	None

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	Indicator 2.3.3 # of farm implements sets, planting materials and agro processors distributed to beneficiaries	0	1.Assorted hand tools and rain boots (cutlass, regular hoe, axe, shovel and sharpening files): 1000 pieces 2.Rain boots:1,000 pieces 3.Planting materials (assorted rice and vegetable seeds): Rice seed (NL-19, S8):12.5Mt 4.Vegetable (assorted):	October 2018	Project progress report had put it at 90%, pending the arrival of the agro-machines; the Evaluation, however, put it at 100%, apparently because they had already considered the minus to the agro-processing center	None, per the evaluation findings which placed the agro-machinery under the agro processing center

	Performance Indicators ⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
			50Kg 5. Implements 1. Power tiller: 8 2. Leveler: 30 locally made			
	Indicator 2.3.4 # of irrigation schemes rehabilitated and developed	0	8 simple irrigation technology	December 2020	80% - three irrigation schemes have developed for lowland rice cultivation in Yealla (site two), and Konia (sites one and two) all in Zorzor, Lofa County). Evaluation report, however, puts at 62.5%, with a grading of “satisfactory” citing that 5 out of 8 were	Additionally, for vegetable production in Tumutu (Bong) and Salayea (Lofa) boreholes and irrigations system installed. Totota’s irrigation system to be augmented under FAO core funding towards ensuring full production

	Performance Indicators ⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					achieved to an appreciable level	
	Indicator 2.3.5: # of post-harvest facilities constructed	0	2 in Lofa and Bong	February 2021	<p>50% - Equipment of model garden with post-harvest facilities could not be delivered in Totota till project funding phased out;</p> <p>With emphasis on the word “constructed”, the evaluation put this at 100%, given that more the model garden designed to integrate post-harvest services, had been constructed</p>	<p>Progress report revealed challenges with accessing value addition services for vegetable and poultry using the farm-from-the box approach meant for Totota model garden. FAO to complete using its core funding.</p> <p>Per the evaluation findings, there would be no variance for this indicator, as constructions were completed!</p>
Output 2.4 Poultry	Indicator 2.4.1 # of sites	0	4 sites in 2 counties	June 30 2018	100% - Two sites (each with two poultry producing	Of the six pre-selected communities, preference for poultry production were confirmed in two. hence, two distinct forms of

	Performance Indicators ⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
production and productivity improve	identified for poultry production				facilities) identified in Totota (Bong) and Ganglota (Lofa) due to beneficiaries preference, relying on findings from value chain analyses and baseline studies; 100% and very satisfactory are the evaluation's findings	poultry production – broilers and layers – were ensured for the two sites in Ganglota and Totota
	Indicator 2.4.2 # of raw material identified locally	0	At least 3 local raw materials (maize, beans and supplements)	June 2018	1 - Maize production identified locally in Bong County; Given the realization of the overall context of animal feed ingredients in	Initial consultations/market exploration found (Soy) Beans to not be an ideal feed option; hence, not much is available from local production; There is certainly no variance!

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					Liberia, the evaluation considered this indicator met at 100%, grading it “very satisfactory”	
	Indicator 2.4.3 # of birds and associated poultry materials distributed to beneficiaries	0	Day-old chick: 5,000 Feed: 16.5 Mt	February 2021	85% - 3,000 birds procured and delivered to four poultry facilities, two sites; Evaluation findings, having taken into consideration reproduction/restocking options, confirmed that a total of 5,000 birds and feed of 16.5 mt were delivered.	With COVID-19, price of inputs and supply mechanism/transportation increased significantly, thus the reduction of number of birds; With restocking and reproduction options, the variance is put at none!
	Indicator 2.4.4 # of training conducted	3.4%	4 trainings in	February 2021	100% - Residency-based, practice-driven ToT	

	Performance Indicators⁴	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	measured by % of youth trained		Lofa and Bong targeting 50%		delivered for participants of Totota and Ganglota at Obasanjo Farms, Liberia Limited; in-service rollout to respective communities followed; Evaluation findings confirmed it at 100%, with a description of “very satisfactory”	