

Migration MPTF ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Joint Programme Title:	United Nations Pilot Project for Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion through Stakeholders' Engagement, Socio-Economic Activities and Countering Anti-Migrant Narratives in South Africa.
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	South Africa.
Project Identification Number:	00124542
Convening UN Organization:	IOM
PUNO(s) (PUNOs):	IOM, UNDP, OHCHR, UN Women, and UNHCR
Key Partners: <i>(include Implementing Partner)</i>	<p>Government partners: Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), National and Provincial Departments of Social Development (co-lead), Justice and Constitutional Development (co-lead), Sports, Arts and Culture.</p> <p>Civil Society: Institute for Social Cohesion and Skills Development, Adonis Musati Project, Zoë-Life Innovative Solutions, Consortium for Migration and Refugees in South Africa, Refugee Social Services, Scalabrini Centre, Lawyers for Human Rights, Islamic Relief Fund of South Africa, More Than Peace, Africa Unite, Umoja Project Development.</p>
Project Period (Start – End Dates):	28 October 2020 – 27 October 2022
Reporting Period:	28 October – 31 December 2020
Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	<p><i>PUNO 1: IOM – 1,000,000</i></p> <p><i>PUNO 2: UNDP – 565,570</i></p> <p><i>PUNO 3: OHCHR – 450,000</i></p> <p><i>PUNO 4: UNHCR – 300,000</i></p> <p><i>PUNO 5: UNWOMEN – 250,000</i></p> <p><i>Total: 2,565,570.00</i></p>

Total Funds Received to Date: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	<i>PUNO 1: IOM – 700,000</i> <i>PUNO 2: UNDP – 395,899</i> <i>PUNO 3: OHCHR – 315,000</i> <i>PUNO 4: UNHCR – 210,000</i> <i>PUNO 5: UNWOMEN – 175,000</i> <i>Total: 1,795,899.00</i>
Report Submission Date:	<i>March 31, 2021</i>
Report Prepared by: <i>(Name, title, email)</i>	<i>Maria Moreriane, mmoreriane@iom.int</i>

Executive Summary

The United Nations Pilot Project “Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion through Stakeholders’ Engagement, Socio-Economic Activities and Countering Anti-Migrant Narratives in South Africa” funded by the Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) from 1 October 2020 – 1 October 2022. The project, jointly implemented by IOM, UNDP, OHCHR, UN Women, and UNHCR aims to contribute to strengthen migrant, refugee and asylum seekers integration and social cohesion among populations in vulnerable situations through targeted engagement and participation of government counterparts, civil society, migrants and host communities in community level peace and socio- economic related activities.

This interim report presents progress made in the first three months of project implementation from 28 October to 31 December 2020. During this first quarter of project implementation, significant efforts were made to introduce the project to the relevant government counterparts, civil society, and host communities. Emphasis was placed on engaging the lead national authority to agree on a suitable date to launch the project as well as establish a project steering committee to ensure a multi-sectoral coordination and implementation of project activities. As the joint project is strongly aligned with the National Action Plan (NAP) adopted in 2019 to combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201903/national-action-plan.pdf synergies were leveraged with ongoing activities with the Council of Southern African Football Associations (COSFA) the Judo for Peace organization as well as the Umoja project to strengthen capacities of women community leaders in mediation and peace building approaches utilizing dialogues.

In addition, other platforms leveraged on were the National and Provincial Working Groups (PWG) formed following the 2015 anti-foreigner crisis consisting of both state and non-state international actors including UNHCR, IOM and OHCHR to tackle issues related to social cohesion and sustainable development. The national PWG is co-chaired by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and UNHCR.

Despite these modest achievements, the project also experienced challenges compounded by the COVID-19 crisis, South Africa was severely impacted by the pandemic and during the period under review was among the top five countries globally, grappling with how to flatten the curve. This slowed down the engagement with the government departments as a state of emergency was declared and government officials worked mostly from home. In addition, three agencies, IOM, OHCHR, and UNWOMEN experienced a staff turnover within the technical team members who were responsible for the implementation of the project. As a result, the Joint UN team was not able to establish clear coordination mechanisms for implementing the project and this slowed down the implementation of the project activities during this reporting quarter.

Quarterly Progress

1. Summary and Context

The Joint project aims to support and complement the existing efforts by the Government and other stakeholders to implement the NDP and the National Development Plan, which Chapter 15 has a focus of uniting the country. Specifically, the project intends to support ongoing national efforts to reduce vulnerabilities of the affected communities by promoting social enterprises and employment creation to opportunities to strengthen community resilience as part of COVID-19 recovery process, reinforce the

strategic approach to promote livelihood solutions for affected host communities and migrants as well as addressing drivers of violence and outbreak of xenophobic attacks, and support efforts to strengthen early warning systems. It is envisaged that because of this project, capacities of National and local systems will be improved to respond to violence and victims of violence, support social inclusion and peaceful coexistence between host communities, migrants and refugees and strengthened institutional systems with understanding of the causes and dynamics of crisis and violence. There has been a delay with implementation of some of the project activities due to the COVID-19 crisis, where the country had to go into a second lock down in the last quarter of the year and in the turnover of project staff in three critical agencies.

This has had an impact on the timely start of some project activities such as the official launch of the project, the mapping of targeted communities and development of a strategic engagement plan and assessment of knowledge and capacity gaps and development of training tools and package on human rights. In this next coming quarter better coordination systems will need to be put in place among the UN implementing agencies for better coherence and synergies to deliver as one.

Results

Outcome 1: National and local systems and capacities improved to prevent and respond to violence and victims of violence

Output 1.1: Community members and civil society organizations are capacitated to better respond to the occurrence of xenophobic violence.

The mapping of targeted communities and multi-stakeholder analysis was envisaged to be carried out in the first quarter of project implementation. There have been delays in conducting this mapping and it is envisaged to be carried out in the second quarter to identify the needs in the community. Community focal points, community conflict prevention and mediators will be identified and capacity building sessions on peacebuilding and conflict resolutions conducted using the Community Capacity Enhancement approach.

Output 1.2: A training package on the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination and xenophobia for state and non-state actors is developed and delivered.

In preparation for the implementation of the capacity building sessions for government officials and civil society in relation to human rights, OHCHR launched a social media campaign raising awareness on the training tool kit on changing migration narratives on 18 December 2020, the International Migrants Day. The campaign aims to counter the rising tide of hate and reframe the narrative around migration, to emphasize the human rights values that shape the foundations of our societies. This is a critical initiative of the joint programme and will be leveraged upon during the capacity building sessions in Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu-Natal and Western Cape to reframe narratives and public messaging on migration and migrants in order to uphold and promote the human rights of all migrants, and to enable progressive narratives – rather than populism and discourses of exclusion and hate - to establish the boundaries within which migration policy is made.

OHCHR will identify other UN training packages in collaboration with IOM and UNHCR for the training sessions. One training tool kit has been identified as mentioned above and will be adapted and tailor made

for the South African context and used in the trainings on the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination, and xenophobia.

Output 1.3: Increased awareness and access to legal and psychosocial support and administrative support for victims of xenophobic attacks, including those who have experienced sexual and gender-based violence.

The COVID-19 pandemic added to the stress of societies in general and persons of concern particularly. UNHCR adjusted to the new normal, to stay and support its persons of concern by seeking new partners and to also encourage hosts and persons of concern to cooperate more to overcome the psychosocial challenges. UNHCR developed relationships with the Sophiatown Community Psychological Services which has the vision “to contribute to the creation of a society in which emotionally healthy individuals, families and communities are able to work together for the common good of humanity” and mission “to provide culturally and socially appropriate forms of psycho-social support to economically disadvantaged individuals, families and communities in distress; to build and strengthen networks of support for vulnerable individuals and families in communities; and to continuously work with others towards social justice and constructive social change.”

Partnerships were strengthened with the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture-appointed Social Cohesion Advocates by making them aware of the project, the mandate and work of UNHCR in South Africa, especially the ones covering the three provinces (Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape) under this project. It was agreed that in 2021 joint programmes would be developed for enhancing integration, mental- health and safety of victims of violence through socio-cultural initiatives. These relationships will be very beneficial for all organisations involved in this project and will enhance their capacity to support persons of concern.

Outcome 2 - Social inclusion and peaceful coexistence reinforced between migrants, other groups and host communities

The focus of UNHCR and its partners, through its social cohesion programmes is for hosts and persons of concern to lead in providing inputs which are then supported. This way people are “taught to fish” or their “fishing skills” are improved rather through “giving them fish” which makes/continues their dependency on others. Various host and persons of concern social cohesion endeavours were supported during the reporting period as outlined under activities implemented.

Output 2.2 - Outreach and social media strategies on migration narratives developed and implemented

To partner with all relevant stakeholders to consolidate existing research on public perceptions and migration narratives in South Africa including the three target provinces, and draw lessons learned from prior communication and outreach initiatives has not been carried out yet.

However, preparatory meetings took place through the platform of the Protection Working Group with the Government Communication and Information Systems and Institute for the Advancement of Journalism on possible cooperation to undertake awareness campaigns on migrant and refugee matters generally, the South African government refugee policy, social cohesion endeavours between host and persons of concern, rights and responsibilities of individuals and strengthening capacity of community radio and television stations to work with hosts and persons of concern in developing and broadcasting stories about their communities.

Output 2.3 - Migrants and host community members are trained in confidence-building and the promotion of traditional conflict resolution methods

Through psychosocial support, cultural activities, livelihood projects, community dialogues, sports and other initiatives, government the UN agencies, its implementing partners, hosts, persons of concern and other stakeholders collectively cooperated, learnt from each other and supported female community leaders in developing and strengthening their resilience, leadership skills, team building, assertiveness, negotiation and non-litigious models of community development, peace and reconciliation efforts.

Dialogues between women in host communities and migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, utilising the Umoja project as a good practice example, showcasing to communities what Ubuntu and Unity can achieve.

The project leveraged on the Sixteen Days of Activism in December 2020 and carried out a series of initiatives such as talks including host community members and representatives from local NGOs community dialogues, cultural activities and sports. The UN agencies in collaboration with the Islamic Relief of South Africa (IRSA), with the Gauteng Department of Social Development Migration Unit hosted a dialogue on documentation issues and their resultant implications on 10 December 2020. The event was attended by representatives from UNHCR, IOM, Departments of Home Affairs (DHA), and Employment and Labour (DEL), National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and LWN. The Representatives from the different agencies highlighted their mandates, the efforts they have made to empower women and ensure access to required documentation. UNHCR reported its findings from the participatory assessments undertaken earlier in the year where persons with expired permits faced arrests and were not able to access social assistance. It also highlighted inquiries made for DHA to outline its contingency plans related to documentation renewal after opening of the Refugee Reception Offices (RROs), support for separated children without documentation accessing school and community dialogues on documentation issues. UNHCR also shared information on the Refugee Helpline and Information Booklets on services it offers in conjunction with partners.

Outcome 3 - Improved institutional systems for understanding the causes, and dynamics of crisis and violence, and for articulating responses

The Protection Working Group co-chaired by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and UNHCR which comprises state and non-state actors, seeks together with other stakeholders to implement the National Action Plan to tackle racism, xenophobia and related intolerance 2019 to 2024; and the MPTF project will support this endeavour in the 3 qualifying provinces over a two year period. https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201903/national-action-plan.pdf

Output 3.2 - Early warning and rapid response systems on xenophobia and hate speech is strengthened and support clarification of relevant definitions and standards

The Joint UN project is leveraging on existing partnerships to strengthen collaboration between stakeholders on early warning and rapid response. The Protection Working Group, co-chaired by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and UNHCR with IOM and OHCHR as alternate chairs serves as platform to track and raise warning of raising tensions that could turn violent is collaborating with the UN joint project with an aim to improve synergies and coherence. The National action Plan 2019-2024 is the reference document, and the MPTF is supporting three provinces to monitor,

track trends and provide early warning and rapid response in relation to hate speech, xenophobia and xenophobic incidents and flagging the police and other state departments.

Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Baseline	Results achieved for the reporting period (only provide data for the specified year)			Cumulative Results <i>Note: For Y1 report, this will be the same; For Y2 report, it will be Y1+Y2; and for Y3 report, it will be Y1+Y2+Y3</i>	Notes
		Y1	Y2	Y3		
OUTCOME 1: National and local systems and capacities improved to prevent and respond to violence and victims of violence						
Indicator 1a Number of peace dividends/community peace initiatives in targeted communities identified and implemented in a violence sensitive manner	2					
Indicator 1b Number of functioning conflict and crisis resolution mechanisms (Government and civil society at all levels)	1					
OUTPUT 1.1 Community members and civil society organizations are capacitated to better respond to the occurrence of xenophobic violence.						
Indicator 1.1a Provincial and community strategic engagement plan, based on mapping of national violence reduction social networks and capacities developed.	0					
Indicator 1.1b Number of government and community led peace building mechanisms established in each province.	2					
OUTPUT 1.2 A training package on the human rights of						

migrants, non-discrimination and xenophobia for state and non-state actors is developed and delivered.						
Indicator 1.2a Number of training modules on human rights, rights and responsibilities of migrants, non-discrimination and xenophobia tailored to South African context that are available.	0					
Indicator 1.2b % officials, local communities, and migrants who reported increased knowledge on human rights, migration and xenophobia issues (disaggregated by gender and age)	Based on Initial needs assessment.					
OUTCOME 2 Social inclusion and peaceful coexistence reinforced between migrants, other groups and host communities.						
Indicator 2a % of host community members who reported decrease in perceptions of violence and xenophobia by the population in two years	0					
Indicator 2b % of migrants and host community members surveyed who reported increased social inclusion disaggregated by gender and age)	0					
OUTPUT 2.1 The knowledge of the host communities and migrants on social cohesion and peacebuilding is increased through awareness raising.						
Indicator 2.1a # of community members reached through awareness- raising campaigns and sociocultural activities implemented (disaggregated sex and age)	450					
Indicator 2.1b	0					

% of host community members and migrants who reported that the awareness raising activities and dialogues are relevant in their context (disaggregated by sex)						
OUTPUT 2.2 Outreach and social media strategies on migration narratives developed and implemented						
Indicator 2.2a # of participatory, localized, and targeted media campaign strategies on migration and human rights of migrants implemented.	1					
Indicator 2.2b % of media and communication professionals who report increased knowledge on human rights, migration and xenophobia issues (disaggregated by gender and age)	0					

2. Partnerships

During this inception months of the project, the focus has been to leverage on existing relationships that the various UN agencies have with their counterpart government partners as well as civil society organizations. Key partnerships have been established with the Departments of Social Development and Justice which have a key role in the implementation of the project. Other key departments are Home Affairs, department of International Relationship, Arts sports and Culture who belong to the protection Working Group and are closely working the PUNOs.

3. Cross-Cutting Issues

The cross-cutting principles of human rights, gender responsive and child centred approaches were carefully considered during the project design and were mainstreamed. They will be closely adhered to throughout the implementation of the project. Principles of equality, inclusion, participation, accountability and non-discrimination will be maintained. All activities aimed at promoting social cohesion are designed to address issues of relevance to men, women, girls and boys. However, it is now too early to underscore their impact on the overall results of the project.

Marker Questions ¹	
<p>Human Rights Marker Score (A, B, C or N/A if none applies)</p> <p>Which of the following human rights marker applies to your proposal?</p> <p>A: The Human Rights Marker has largely been achieved</p> <p><u>B: The Human Rights Marker shows significant integration of human rights in the joint programme but some challenges remain.</u></p> <p>C: The Human Rights Marker shows a very partial integration of human rights in the joint programme</p> <p><i>Please refer to the Migration MPTF Human Rights Marker Guidance Note, Annex: Self-Assessment Matrix</i></p>	B

4. Innovation, Good Practices and Lessons Learned

The project leveraged on existing partnerships to deliver some of the activities such as the protection working group, existing relationships with government departments and lawyers for human rights. Also, the project build on and complimented existing programmes being implemented by UN agencies. This has the potential for scaling and multiplier effect as well as leveraging additional finances.

¹ Please refer to the Migration MPTF Guidance Notes on the Human Rights Marker and Gender Marker, available in Annexes H and I, Migration MPTF Operations Manual.

With only three months of implementation of the project, we have not conducted any monitoring missions, assessments, or evaluations. This will be better articulated in future reports

5. Challenges Encountered and Measures Taken

- Departure of key technical staff from IOM, OHCHR and UNWOMEN severely impacted the pace of implantation of the project as the PMT was not constituted in time to ensure a coordinated approach in the management of the project activities. This has been addressed and the three agencies have now recruited dedicated staff to work on the project. This will enable the implementation of the project activities to be fast tracked. The risk of COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainty delay implementation held true and impacted the implementation of activities in the first quarter where face to face gathering were either completely prohibited or a certain number of persons allowed to gather. Now that COVID-19 restrictions are being lifted gradually, some of the planned activities will be able to take place. All the assumptions and risks indicated still hold true and need to be monitored carefully going forward.
- Due to the delays that have been faced during the first quarter, the PUNO's have noted a need to review the workplan going forward to align it with the current realities.

Conclusion and Next Steps

Despite the implementation challenges and delays that were experienced during the reporting period, efforts were made to ensure significant efforts were made to introduce the project to the relevant government counterparts, civil society, and host communities, conduct preparatory coordination meetings through the platform of the Protection Working Group with the government and non-government partners, launch a social media campaign raising awareness on the training tool kit aimed at changing migration narratives, as well as carry out activities during International Migrants Day and the sixteen Days of Activism as community dialogues, cultural and sports activities and sports to strengthen social cohesion and integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

The next steps will be for the project management team to establish the project management structures to strengthen coordination as well as to support the fast tracking of the implementation of the project. Additionally, the project workplan will be revised in coordination amongst the PUNO's to ensure it considers the contextual realities.

ANNEX

Alidi Hicuburundi is a Burundian leader who contributes immensely to promoting social cohesion in various communities where migrants live. He also runs soccer clubs, distributes food parcels and takes part in the community policing forum. See below link for more details on the activities undertaken by this Burundian leader. <https://www.groundup.org.za/article/philippis-immigrant-hero/>

Annex: Human Rights Marker Self-Assessment Matrix

To support participating UN organizations (PUNOs) in assessing their compliance with the Human Rights marker, the following Self-Assessment Matrix has been designed to be completed **at the joint programme submission phase**. This self-assessment should be completed by PUNOs together with implementing partners. The reason for the choice of yes, no, or not applicable should be briefly explained in the final column of the matrix.

Element of an HRBA	Yes/No/Not Applicable	Justification
1. A human rights-based situational analysis has been conducted to identify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the key human rights obligations of the State(s) in which you work/whose government's) you are supporting; and the key human rights issues of relevance to your intended target group, including a particular attention to migrants most vulnerable to human rights violations and abuses and/or most at risk of being left behind. 	Yes	The cross-cutting human principles of equality, non-discrimination, inclusion, participation, and accountability underpin the formulation and strategies of actions of this programme.
2. Staff are aware of the human rights obligations of the government they are supporting.	Yes	The country has ratified seven out of the nine core international human rights treaties and optional protocols and project staff are conversant with them.
3. Measures have been identified to mitigate any unintended negative human rights impacts identified in the situational analysis and their monitoring has been integrated in the project's Monitoring and Evaluation processes.	No	Measures to identify the unintended negative human rights impacts identified in the situational analysis, however, they have not been integrated in the programme monitoring and evaluation framework.

<p>4. Monitoring processes are in place and evaluation processes are contemplated that make specific reference to relevant human rights and other relevant standards.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The National action plan which informs this project has established processes and Department of Justice, Civil Society organizations, Lawyers for human rights, centre for child law, media monitoring and others are partners in the project and are expected to play a key role in the monitoring and evaluation processes</p>
<p>5. Migrants, civil society, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders have been meaningfully engaged in the design and development of the Joint Programme.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The right bearers and the duty holders were consulted and engaged during the programme formulation period.</p>
<p>6. A plan to ensure a meaningful consultation processes with all relevant stakeholders is in place and will be maintained throughout the duration of the Joint Programme and in the evaluation phase.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The process has kick started, however the formal platform as envisaged has not been established.</p>
<p>7. Appropriate due diligence will be exercised throughout the duration of the joint programme, regarding partnerships with or support to State, non-State, civil society, employers' and workers' organizations and corporate actors.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Programme steering committee is inclusive and has a broad range of partners including State, non-State, civil society, academia and private sector.</p>
<p>8. A plan is in place to ensure that Joint Programme staffing is gender-balanced and staff are equipped to respond effectively to stakeholder and target group needs.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>We have stated no because the programme staff are currently not gender balanced, however, the current composition of staff is able to respond effectively to stakeholder and target group needs.</p>
<p>9. Transparency and access to information by the intended target group and relevant stakeholders, including cultural, linguistic, and age-appropriate access, will be maintained throughout the duration of the joint programme.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This has been provided for in the design of the project and is part of the cross-cutting principles that provide for an inclusive</p>

		participation in community engagement and consultation as well as cultural, arts and sport.
10. Measures, including an effective complaint and remedy mechanism, will be put in place in order to provide redress for negative human rights impacts.	No	Complaint and remedy mechanism is considered in the design and we have partners with the requisite capacity such as Lawyers for human rights and the consortium for migration and refugees as key partners to play this role of providing redress for negative human rights impacts. Appropriate measures will be established during the implementation of the programme.

Note: Migration MPTF Scoring: A “yes” response should be given a score of 1. A “no” response or a “not applicable” responses should be given a score of 0.

A	8-10	The Human Rights Marker has largely been achieved.
B	4-7	<u>The Human Rights Marker shows significant integration of human rights in the joint programme, but some challenges remain. (B)</u>
C	1-3	The Human Rights Marker shows a very partial integration of human rights in the joint programme.