



Final Report

Independent Final Evaluation for the Project
“Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace
in Sri Lanka”

Submitted by –



Executive Summary

This project sets out to revolutionize conflict mitigation through a comprehensive and innovative approach. It focuses on enhancing civil society's capabilities, performance, and adherence to norms, serving as a catalyst for their lasting resilience and autonomy. This, in turn, safeguards their viability and enduring strength during turbulent periods. Unlike the conventional model where civil society executes UN-driven initiatives, this initiative introduces a novel paradigm. Spearheaded by the UN through UNOPS and UNODC, it establishes a support platform directly providing specialized services for civil society entities. This groundbreaking approach marks uncharted territory in Sri Lanka, particularly in collaborations with women-led groups, networks, and human rights advocates.

At its core, this initiative encompasses an integrated support program that holistically addresses concerns surrounding protection, finances, legality, skills, and creativity. By bolstering coping mechanisms and resilience, this program amplifies the capacity of these groups to continue their vital work. To fulfill its objectives, UNOPS collaborates with UNODC and a select group of proficient partners boasting expertise and experience in relevant domains. This collective effort aims to empower civil society units, including women's groups and those that support women, through five pivotal pillars as follows:

- (1) Financial assistance,
- (2) Skills development in project and financial management,
- (3) Access to Justice and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace.
- (4) IT Communication and Services, and equipment, and
- (5) Support to Artistic Creation / Artistic Space

The central aim of this assignment is to conduct an external and impartial evaluation, meticulously examining the project's outputs, outcomes, and broader impacts. This evaluation employs a methodologically rigorous approach to ascertain the tangible value contributed by the project to peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. The assessment involves real-time data collection on project activities, outputs, outcomes, impact, and sustainability. This encompasses a comprehensive blend of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis techniques, encompassing partner organization surveys (mainly Civil Society Organizations - CSOs), focused group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs), and an extensive desk review.

The key findings of the project are as follows:

- The project has adeptly pinpointed critical areas at the community level, identifying root causes of peacebuilding and human rights and implementing timely interventions. This demonstrates its **relevance** and appropriateness, as it effectively addresses pivotal conflict drivers and pertinent peacebuilding concerns within the community. Partner organizations and CSOs, such as KAVIYA, have highly competent members who are well-educated to participate in training programs and deliver results with efficiency and effectiveness. The majority of CSOs that collaborated as project partners recognized the significance of joint efforts and their pivotal role in driving positive change in these critical areas, affirming that the project has chosen the right intervention partners.
- Employing a participatory approach during the project's design phase, the project has accurately gauged the needs of beneficiaries, and subsequently, these identified needs have been effectively met. The alignment between **community needs and project interventions** is vividly evident, as underscored in the sample survey.

- Both desk reviews and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) underscore the **congruence between the project's objectives and the National Peacebuilding Policy**, as well as the overarching national priorities of the country.
- Through collaboration with various agencies, project partners **efficiently** and **effectively** managed resources and funds, acquiring the practical knowledge and expertise essential for the project's success.
- The project also addressed the following **cross-cutting issues**: human rights, food security, livelihood, and gender, and extended a multitude of services and resources to partner organizations/CSOs.
- Some of the key **outcomes** of the project are as follows:
 - Increased community participation in decision-making.
 - Improved access to information.
 - Enhanced access to available services.
 - Empowerment of women.
 - Strengthened women's leadership and participation in governance structures.
 - Establishment of community networks.
 - Enhanced women's participation in political structures.
 - Improved social cohesion.
 - Enhanced weight gain among malnourished children under 5 years of age.
 - Increased attendance in preschools and schools.
 - Ensured food security, at least for a short period, for elderly and disabled individuals who lack the financial means to purchase food.
 - An increase in women entrepreneurs with improved business management skills.
 - Improved access to justice and the legal system.
 - Enhanced well-being among survivors of women's health and gender-based violence (WHH and GBV victims).
- This comprehensive progress underscores the project's multifaceted contributions to **women's empowerment**, extending beyond economic dimensions and encompassing critical areas such as decision-making influence, knowledge enhancement, and the overall perception of the project's effectiveness.
- The project's tangible **contributions** encompass various realms: a) robustly preventing **conflicts and fostering peacebuilding** across the nation, b) nurturing **protection and resilience** within civil society activists, c) propelling **gender empowerment and equality** through women's groups and women peacebuilders, and d) actively advancing **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equity) and 16 (Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions).
- The CSOs/partners have displayed a moderate level of **sustainability** in their efforts concerning peacebuilding and human rights activities. However, it is also apparent that these CSOs would greatly benefit from continued external support interventions, akin to the current project, to achieve full self-sustainability. Furthermore, it has become evident that the long-term sustainability of the benefits provided to these organizations hinges on their willingness to leverage their inherent strengths and move away from a dependency mindset, necessitating a shift towards reduced reliance on continuous external assistance.
- From a perspective of **coherence**, the project has showcased a noteworthy degree of logical consistency and alignment among its diverse elements, components, and activities. Nevertheless, there is an opportunity for enhancement in the conceptualization of the five pillars and their respective activities, with a potential for increased clarity.

- The project has adopted a clear and explicit approach to deliver services in a **conflict-sensitive manner**, leveraging the existing capacities of both implementing partners, UNOPS and UNODC. The support provided to individuals and groups, particularly to partnering CSO members, has effectively met their identified needs, particularly in project locations affected by conflict.

Key Recommendations

- Having a perspective plan of six years with intermittent three 2-year phases, the project should encompass scope for reaching a wider range of beneficiary groups, leaving space for the ‘learning by doing’ principle.
- The total package of the project (i.e., five-fold core pillars of assistance), should take-off simultaneously to accrue intended outputs and outcomes and to assure synergy.
- The project could consider organizing a **benchmarking visit** to a model country that exemplifies the successful implementation of peace and human rights principles; such a visit may serve as a practical illustration of effective strategies, potentially yielding more impactful outcomes.
- A project of this nature should entail an explicit and formalized **exit strategy**, as the services it has rendered to stakeholders are poised to endure over an extended period, in such a way as to ensure self-reliance and to **do away with the dependency attitude**.
- Having a notable impetus to transition into the project's second phase aiming at encompassing a broader beneficiary coverage and complementary actions, the project strategy should emphasize the imperatives found in the sample surveys, advocating a robust backup plan.
- Different capabilities and skills developed by partnering CBOs and other groups should be sustained in a sustainable manner making adequate provisions for their additional requirements leaving sufficient time together with the supervisory eye for maintaining overall results.
- The range of benefits provided to different organizations should be sustained, if they were ready to rely on their strengths and to do away with the dependency attitude, which calls for **continuous external assistance**.
- Continue and **expand training programs** specifically for women to increase their sense of empowerment in and knowledge of peacebuilding processes. Women-only training should lead to **mixed-gender gendered training** programs that weave together men and women working for peace.
- **Continue with the funding appropriated for projects** that further a gender analysis of conflict and violence, gender equality, and gender mainstreaming. Women’s groups often lack funding to engage in peacebuilding processes.
- Support intensive and **comprehensive research** on situations where women have used unique methodologies, approaches, and thinking to contribute to peacebuilding and develop and **publish case success stories**. Much of the current knowledge on women’s contributions is anecdotal and lacks the conceptual clarity to inform track-one negotiations and policy formulation.
- Build a strong partnership among women working in training, research, and peacebuilding practice in a diverse range of areas such as multi-track diplomacy, peace education, mediation, transformative development, coexistence, and peace advocacy.

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List of Abbreviations

CPA	Centre for Policy Alternatives
LLRC	Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission
LTTE	Liberation Tigers of Tamil
OMP	Office for Missing Persons
ONUR	Office for National Unity and Reconciliation
PPP	Peacebuilding Priority Plan
SCRM	Steering Committee for Reconciliation Mechanism

Chapter 1 : INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background to the study

Peace is one of the most important components of every state in the world. It helps to maintain a society with lesser conflict and works as a bridge to harmonize people who belong to different types of ethnicities. Sri Lanka has a very diverse society with people from different ethnicities, religions, and cultural backgrounds. Therefore, Sri Lanka needs positive peace more than other countries in the world. But when closely looking at Sri Lanka's history, it's obvious that Sri Lanka has failed to maintain a peaceful nature in its domestic space which resulted in numerous tragic events.

The 30 years of civil war is a major event that indicates Sri Lanka's failure to maintain peaceful coexistence in the country. Peace cannot be achieved as a single objective. It's a combination of a political will, the rule of law, a good economy, and the mindset of the people of that country, etc. After the end of the civil war, the international community has exerted much pressure on the Sri Lankan government to conduct investigations into missing persons during the war, human rights violations, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Investigations were conducted by two main presidential commissions, namely the Udalgama Commission and the Maxwell Paranagama Commission. Based on these reports, The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission made recommendations to the government to implement, but very little action has been taken by the government. However, due to the pressure of the international community, the Sri Lankan government has taken steps to promote reconciliation, such as establishing the Office for National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) and the Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TJRC). But these institutions are heavily criticized due to their slow and inadequate manner.

In 2020, many years after the end of the civil war, Sri Lanka started to face a set of events which made negative effects on the peaceful situation in the country. In 2020, a vital regime change took place on the island which brought about an immediate hold of actions taken by the previous government to ensure the peace in the society. Furthermore, COVID-19 had risen as a global pandemic, and Sri Lanka began to feel its negative consequences in both social and economic terms. Therefore, all these events gradually weakened all the efforts taken by various government and non-governmental organizations at the time to ensure the peaceful coexistence of the country.

In 2011, the UNOPS and UNODC with the support of the UN Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund started a project called "Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka" to strengthen civil society including journalists, NGOs, women grassroots organizations, artists, and other parties who were involved in conflict prevention and maintaining the overall peaceful situation in the country.

1.2. Purpose and Objectives of the Evaluation

The current study aims to conduct an external independent evaluation to assess and verify the outputs, outcomes, and impacts of the project, in an inclusive and methodically sound manner to determine the value added by the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. This evaluation expects to build up a strong evidence base for project interventions and results to enhance the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.

The evaluation provides key lessons about successful peacebuilding approaches and operational practices interrelated with other areas of work including human rights, justice, protection, livelihood, health, etc. At the same time, it highlights the areas where the project performed less efficiently and effectively than anticipated. In that sense, this project evaluation is equally about accountability as well as learning.

The recommendations based on the findings of the evaluation will contribute to better informed decision-making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through the Vriddhi platform, particularly related to protection and resilience building among the civil society in Sri Lanka.

The following objectives are set out in the final evaluation.

- Assess the **relevance and appropriateness** of the project in terms of
 - 1) Addressing key drivers of conflict and the **most relevant peacebuilding** issues;
 - 2) Addressing the **needs and aspirations** of the direct and indirect beneficiaries;
 - 3) Alignment with **National Peacebuilding Policy** and national **priorities** of the country;
 - 4) Alignment with **UN strategic objectives of peacebuilding**
 - 5) the degree to which the project **addressed cross-cutting** issues such as human rights, food security, livelihood, and gender-sensitivity in the country; and
 - 6) Gender equality and Women's empowerment
- Assess to what extent the project has made a concrete **contribution** in terms of
 - 1) Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country
 - 2) Protecting and resilience building among civil society actors
 - 3) Achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders
 - 4) Achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16
- Evaluate the project's efficiency, including its implementation strategy, institutional arrangements as well as its management and operational systems and value for money;
- Assess whether the support provided by this project has promoted the Women, Peace and Security agenda (WPS), allowed a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes, and whether it was accountable to gender equality;
- Assess whether the project has been implemented through a conflict-sensitive approach;
- Document the challenges, successes, good practices, innovations, and lessons emerging from the project including on GEWE.
- Provide actionable recommendations for future programming.

1.3. The Scope of the Study

Since the implementation of the "Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka" project, it has taken various actions to strengthen peacebuilding in the country by reaching different levels of society. By conducting this assignment, the client expects to evaluate the project to determine its outcomes towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. Evaluation questions are based on the OECD DAC evaluation criteria as well as PBF-specific evaluation criteria, which have been adapted to the context.

This project supported diverse peacebuilding approaches coupled with other thematic areas of work such as gender, human rights, health, food security, agriculture, livelihood, etc. An evaluation of peacebuilding projects, however, will include not only the reflection on progress within the thematic areas but also the degree to which such progress may or may not have contributed to addressing a relevant conflict factor.

Chapter 2 : APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

2.1. Study Approach

The study employed **participatory research methods** to collect and analyze information about project relevance, outputs, outcomes, and impact. This was linked with the project approach—its results, goal, purpose, outcomes, and outputs—with broader livelihood principles, which is well fixed with the Results Based Framework (RBF).

Therefore, by taking the views stated in the main objective of the assignment and the final evaluation study approach, the research team used the **Results Based Framework** (RBF) and the **Log Frame Approach** (LFA) guided by the **theory of change** in carrying out this final Survey. This combined methodology was used since the study required the final outcomes and impact analysis to inform about the project management and steering. The log frame provides a structured and logical approach to the determination of project priorities, design, and budget and the identification of related results and performance targets. By perusing the Project documents, the Consultants were able to gather the goals of the project and expected outputs/results. The secondary sources of information and results of the field survey were able to determine the performance indicators. The data was gathered through (1) secondary data collection, and (2) primary data collection.

2.2. Data

2.2.1. Secondary Data Collection

A **comprehensive Desk review** was conducted to explore the secondary data available at the National and Tank levels of the project locations. The team accessed all the relevant project documents, etc, and literature to conceptualize the study and determine international best practices. The desk review helped to design and formulate primary data collection instruments.

The information gathered throughout the desk survey will cover the following aspects:

Table 2.1 Secondary Data

Secondary Data	Coverage	Purpose
Desk Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Literature related to peacebuilding through CSOs.▪ Local literature▪ Project documents related to the five pillars.▪ Review reports available with the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To understand similar works locally and internationally▪ Understand the peacebuilding approaches and interventions.▪ Access to statistical data (peacebuilding)▪ To get an understanding of the project

2.2.2. Primary Data Collection

Most of the qualitative information for primary data collection was gathered through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) which were conducted considering all aspects of the project. In addition to qualitative data, the quantitative data was gathered from randomly selected beneficiaries (CSOs and selected individuals who received direct project support) through a sample survey, which represents 70% of the population (CSOs supported by the project). Therefore, this study used both **Informal or Less-Structured** data collection methods and **more-structured** data collection methods to collect data and information from the identified agents/units. The informal and less structured methods include conversations with concerned individuals (including Project Staff), official records, KIIs, and FGDs. The structured questionnaire was used in the CSO survey.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

To cater to the objectives of this assignment, the KIIs were conducted with the support of pre-prepared guidelines over 45 - 60 minutes targeting the specific discipline and the field-level role relevant to the project outcomes in the form of bilateral discussions with project members of UNOPS and UNODC, local government authorities, community leaders, representatives from civil societies, journalists, and artists. Considering the given time and objectives of the assignment, a total number of 25 KIIs were conducted to acquire the required qualitative data from key stakeholders and participants as mentioned below.

Table 2.2 List of Key Informant Interviews

No	Institution/Target Group	Key Informant/Source	No. of KIIs
1	CSOs	Members, Human Rights Activists, Women Activists	11
2	Artists	Artists/Artist Groups	2
3	UNOPS Project Team – Colombo	Project Coordinator/Manager	1
4	UNOPS Project Team	M&E officer	1
5	UNOPS Project Team	ICT Trainer	1
6	UNOPS Project Team	Financial Grants	1
7	UNOPS Project Team	Procurement	1
8	UNOPS Project Team	Art Pillar Coordinator	1
9	UNOPS Project Team	Protection Pillar Coordinator	1
10	UNOPS Project Team	Financial Statement Preparation/Audit Services	1

11	UNOPS Project Team	Project Management, ICT Training, IT Equipment, GIS Training	1
12	UNODC	National Programme Coordinator	1
13	Programme Stakeholders	Key officials from the Legal Aid Commission and BASL	2
Total			25

2.2.3. Focused Group Discussions

Six FGDs were conducted to assess the outcomes and effectiveness of the project toward the beneficiaries including grassroots organizations, community leaders, religious leaders, vulnerable groups, and artists. On average, each FGD consisted of 08-10 participants and ran over 45 - 60 minutes. The following Table 2.3 gives a breakdown of the FGDs conducted.

Table 2.3 FGD Plan

No	Focus Group Discussions	No. of FGDs
01	Members of CSOs	2
02	Ultimate Beneficiaries of The Grants from The Community (Financial and Others)	2
03	Artists	1
04	Women Organizations in VRIDDHI Platform	1
Total		6

2.3. Sample of the Study

This survey sample is solely extracted from the CSOs and Artists/Artist Groups registered on the Vriddhi platform. There is a total of 155 CSOs registered in the Vriddhi platform, representing women's organizations, human rights defenders, etc. Among these 155 CSOs, 95 CSOs received support from the project. Therefore, these 95 CSOs who benefitted were considered as the sample frame of the study.

The sample is determined by using the **Krejcie and Morgan formula** (given below) with a 7% degree of accuracy and 95 confidence intervals.

$$s = \chi^2 NP(1 - P) \div d^2 (N - 1) + \chi^2 P(1 - P)$$

where,

s : Required sample size

X² : The table value of chi-square for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (0.05 = 3.841)

N	: The population size
P	: The population proportion (assumed to be 0.50 since this would provide the maximum sample size)
d	: The degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (0.07)

According to the calculation, 66 CSOs were considered as the total sample size with an error margin of 7% and 95% confidence level. In addition to CSOs, one individual member representing women leaders, artists, and media was interviewed to get individual views on development and perceptions. Sub-samples were selected to capture all 5 pillars of the project. Detailed sample breakdown under the five pillars is shown in Appendix 07. Only 66 CSOs responded and provided information. Therefore, 66 CSOs are used for the analysis (Chapter 4).

The survey questionnaire, which is based on the OECD DAC evaluation criteria as well as PBF-specific evaluation criteria, was developed to collect information related to CSOs as well as at least one individual member of the CSOs. The finalized questionnaire was programmed into the KOBO Collet Data Collection Tool to facilitate electronic data collection using hand-held electronic devices (Tabs or Smart Phones). The survey will support smartphones equipped with the Android operating system and the data gathered using the form is automatically stored in a spreadsheet.

2.4. The Final Evaluation

The evaluation is the main component of this assignment. It was conducted by analyzing the collected data during the data collection stage. Her, the consultant team assessed the project implementation and its outputs, outcomes, and impacts on Sri Lanka's peacebuilding situation. Therefore, during the evaluation, the consultant team specifically focused on the following areas.

- **Evaluate the degree to which the project addresses the relevance and appropriateness of the peacebuilding situation**

Under this evaluation, the consultant team assessed how the project addresses the key drivers of the conflict, barriers, and issues for the Sri Lankan peacebuilding situation, alignment of the project with national peacebuilding policies, alignment of the project with UN policies including UN strategic objectives and SDG goals, addressing the cross-cutting issues such as human rights, food security, livelihood and gender-sensitivity issues, gender equality, and women empowerment.

- **Evaluate the contribution of the project towards the Sri Lankan peacebuilding situation**

This mainly assessed the contribution to conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country, and also, protection and resilience building among civil society actors, achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women in the relevant districts, and achievement of the SDGs, especially SDG 5 and 16.

This evaluation is primarily focusing on the project's impact on the peace situation in the country. Nevertheless, apart from these main criteria, the evaluation assessed the project's efficiency, including its implementation strategy, institutional arrangements as well as its management and operational systems and value for money. It also further assessed the document challenges, successes, good practices, innovations and lessons learnt, gender promotion, and recommendations for future programming in the peacebuilding area.

EVALUATION QUESTIONS

RELEVANCE:

- To what extent were the project goals and approach relevant in addressing conflict drivers and factors for peace identified in a conflict analysis? If there were significant contextual shifts, did the project goals and approach remain relevant throughout the implementation?
- Were the project goals and approach appropriate and strategic to the peacebuilding goals, priorities, and challenges in the country at the time of the project's design? Did relevance continue throughout implementation?
- Was the project relevant to the UN's peacebuilding strategic objectives, mandate, and the SDGs, in particular, SDG 5 and 16?
- To what extent is the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries? Were they consulted during the design and implementation of the project?

EFFICIENCY:

- How efficient was the overall staffing, planning, and coordination within the project (including between the two implementing agencies, relevant UN and local authorities, Civil Society, and other stakeholders)?
- To what extent have the financial resources been converted to outputs in a timely and cost-effective manner?
- How efficient and successful was the project's implementation approach, including activities under the 5 core pillars, procurement, and grant management?
- How well did the project collect and use data to monitor results? How effectively was the updated data used to manage the project?
- Were there delays in project implementation? Did these delays create missed opportunities to address time-sensitive peacebuilding opportunities?
- How well did the project team communicate with CSO partners, stakeholders, and project beneficiaries on its progress?
- To what extent did the PBF project ensure synergies within different programs of UN agencies and other implementing organizations?

EFFECTIVENESS:

- To what extent did the project achieve its intended objectives, outputs, and outcomes in line with the results framework?
- How did the project contribute to the project's strategic vision in protecting and resilience building of civil society and thereby contribute in conflict prevention and peacebuilding?
- What were the reasons for the achievement or non-achievement of the planned results?
- To what extent did the project substantively mainstream gender, and support gender-responsive peacebuilding with a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes?
- To what extent did the project contribute to addressing other crosscutting thematic areas interrelated with peacebuilding and conflict prevention?

- How appropriate and clear was the project's targeting strategy in terms of geographic and beneficiary targeting?

IMPACT

- To what extent has the project achieved the planned higher-level results of a transformative nature?
- To what extent has the project produced secondary or indirect positive results likely to impact peoples' well-being and realization of human rights?
- What factors facilitated or inhibited the achievement of a positive impact?

SUSTAINABILITY & OWNERSHIP

- Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, development of the capacity of civil society, government, and other stakeholders etc.) to support positive changes in peacebuilding after the end of the project?
- How strong is the commitment of the Government and Civil Society Organizations to sustaining the results of project support and continuing initiatives, especially women empowerment and women participation in decision-making through the Vriddhi platform?
- To what extent did the project enhance the capacity of government agencies, civil society organizations, and individuals to contribute towards sustaining the efforts and benefits?

COHERENCE:

- To what extent did the project complement work and create synergies with other projects implemented by different entities, especially with other UN actors, NGOs, and Civil Society Organizations?
- How were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?

CONFLICT-SENSITIVITY

- Did the project have an explicit approach to conflict-sensitivity?
- Were UNOPS and UNODC internal capacities adequate for ensuring an ongoing conflict-sensitive approach?
- To what extent was the ongoing process of context monitoring and a monitoring system that allows for monitoring of unintended impacts established?

2.5. Quality Assurance Procedures and Risk Mitigation Measures for The Services

Quality Assurance Procedures

For the purpose of Quality Control (QC) and Quality Assurance (QA), a specific filed procedure manual (including standard policies, procedures, the definition of roles and processes, communication rules, etc.) was used in the data collection stage

Chapter 3 : Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka: The Project

The purpose of this chapter is to get an understanding of the current peacebuilding project on “protecting the rights space to foster peace in Sri Lanka”. The project proposal, log-frame, project review reports, and literature related to peacebuilding were reviewed for this purpose. The chapter consists of seven sections: (i) peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, (ii) strengthening the communities, (iii) aim and the purpose of the current project, (iv) stakeholder identification, (v) theory of change, (vi) project activities, outputs, and outcomes, and (vii) target beneficiaries.

3.1 Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka: Macro-level Intervention

Peace is a state of harmony regarded as the lack of violence, conflict behaviors, and freedom from fear of violence. Much of the literature emphasizes that peace is the absence of hostility, peace also suggests the existence of a healthy relationship, prosperity in matters of social or economic welfare, the establishment of equality, and a working political order that serves the true interest of all.

Galtung (1967) states that first of all there is the old idea of peace as a synonym for stability or equilibrium. This conception of peace also refers to the internal states of a human being, the person who is at peace with himself. It also covers the "law and order" concept, in other words, the idea of a predictable social order even if this order is brought about by employing force and the threat of force. In general, this concept does not exclude violence, since the soldier can have peace with himself on the battlefield. Then there is the idea of peace as the absence of organized collective violence, in other words, violence between major human groups; particularly nations, but also between classes and between racial and ethnic groups because of the magnitude that internal wars can have. It refers to this kind of peace as negative peace. And then, there is another concept of peace which is less clearly defined. This is peace as a substitute for all other good things in the world community, particularly cooperation, and integration between human groups, with less emphasis on the absence of violence. This kind of peace is referred to as positive peace.

Peace however is an umbrella term that covers different meanings in different situations. Peace has been institutionalized by various theorists as well as covering various aspects.

Peacebuilding is also difficult to describe and even more challenging to achieve in practice. However, peacebuilding began to be studied in the 1960s and 1970s. Many organizations have presented their definition and concepts of peacebuilding, but these definitions have not yet been unified to make a universal definition in the international community.

As mentioned by Hopkins (2010), building peace in countries emerging from conflict is a huge, complex undertaking. It involves countless different societal layers. It further contains practical guidance on how to deal with the recurring challenges of planning, programming, prioritization, and resources.

As per the United Nations (2010), there are many possible definitions of peacebuilding. The term itself first developed over thirty years ago through the work of Johan Galtung, but peacebuilding became a familiar concept within the UN following Ghali (1992), *An Agenda for Peace*, which defined peacebuilding as an action to solidify peace and avoid a relapse into conflict.

As per the Brahimi Report (2000), peacebuilding is a collection of activities undertaken on the far side of the conflict to reassemble the foundations of peace and provide the tools for building something that is more than just the absence of war on those foundations. As Galtung (1976) stated, the progression of peacebuilding is based on country requirements and should be carefully prioritized.

Commonly, the initial post-conflict period in most countries is characterized by significant insecurity and political uncertainty. Hence, peace processes in such kind of a political context can advance, but they also often suffer periods of reversion. As such, the success of peacebuilding depends, in part, on the political decisions of those involved, and in part on effective leadership and resources like human capital or donor financing.

Considering the Sri Lankan context, the end of the war creates an opportunity to ensure a proper peacebuilding process but, the preliminary studies show that they are not yet utilized properly. Despite multiple peacebuilding efforts by the government, the move towards peacebuilding programs in Sri Lanka remained ineffective.

Table 3.1 Summary of The Peacebuilding Approaches in Sri Lanka

Time Period	Significant event/s	Peace Building Approaches (Government Centric)
2009 - 2015	19 th June 2009 ➤ End of the war	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Appointed Lesson Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC). ➤ Appointed Presidential Commission to Investigate Missing Persons (OMP).
2015- 2020	8 th January 2015 ➤ Establishment of New Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation- that includes in its structure an Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR), which is created to precisely focus on strengthening inter-ethnic and inter-religious relationships. ➤ Ministry of National Coexistence Dialogue and Official Languages. ➤ Ministry of Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs. ➤ Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM) within the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). ➤ Peacebuilding Fund Board co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs -to guide and steer the UN's support to Peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka.
2020- 2023	18 th November 2019 ➤ Establishment of New Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ONUR, OMP, and OR are mentioned as the functioning bodies in the gazette under the Ministry of Justice.

As per Mel & Venugopal (2016), the war ended in 2009 with an outright military victory for the government forces, and there has not been a resurgence or significant threat of resumption of violence since then. While there have since been significant improvements in many areas, the early post-war period from 2009 to 2014 was largely one of missed opportunities. The hostility of the government to many elements of the peacebuilding agenda and the negative relationship that it had with key domestic and international stakeholders became serious limiting factors. There remains, as a result, a large and multi-faceted task for peacebuilding, which requires transforming the 'negative peace' of the early post-war years, in the direction of a 'positive peace'.

Pannilage (2017, p.6) states that “The major challenge for post-war Sri Lanka is to build peace and harmony in the society. Both the Government of Sri Lanka as well as non-government organizations (NGOs) have implemented several strategies and programmes to build peace in post-conflict Sri Lanka. The immediate issues in the post-war situation in Sri Lanka were accommodating and ensuring the welfare of nearly 300,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), undertaking the demining and the reconstruction of infrastructure and facilities, resettling IDPs, and rehabilitating nearly 12,000 ex-LTTE cadres and their successful reintegrating into society. The long-term issues were building trust among and between the community and establishing sustainable peace and harmony in the society”.

Sri Lanka Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP) (2016) notes that from 2009 to 2014, certain measures were taken by the existing government to promote peace, for example, the appointment of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission and the Presidential Commission to Investigate Missing Persons.

The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) was authorized to examine the facts and circumstances that led to the failure of the ceasefire agreement of 27th February 2002, the lessons that should be learned from those events, and the institutional, administrative, and legislative measures which needed to be taken to prevent any recurrence of such events in the future and to promote further national unity and reconciliation. After an 18-month inquiry, the commission yielded its report to the President on 15 November 2011. The report was made public on 16th December 2011 after being tabled in the parliament.

As per the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) (2011), the LLRC Report is an analysis of the root causes of the conflict and cataloging of the atrocities of the LTTE as well as recommendations in respect of supremacy, such as the de-politicization of existing institutions and the introduction of the right to information, legislation on militarization and attacks on the freedom of expression, language rights, and reconciliation. The LLRC investigated the allegations contained in the Channel Four documentary as well as commented on the prosecution of those responsible for disappearances and civilian deaths. LLRC recommendations also named individuals and organizations associated with the government to be investigated concerning human rights violations and para-military activities and contained recommendations in respect of the Northern Muslims who were evicted by the LTTE and the up-country Tamil population. The attention accorded by the LLRC to the situation of these two communities strengthens the coherence of this report on the pivotal issue of reconciliation for the people of Sri Lanka.

Though the LLRC and the Presidential Commission to Investigate Missing Persons (OMP) did considerable work, there are various critics, especially regarding the implications. One is that implications are more infrastructure or physical development-oriented and implementing spiritual development is very slow. "Before 2015, peacebuilding support had been mostly focused on humanitarian and early recovery involvements, such as those aimed at revitalizing the economy through livelihood and local economic development assistance, generating immediate peace dividends through support for resettlement, and re-establishing essential administrative services in the North and the East", Sri Lanka Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP). (2016, p.12)

Mohomed (2017) states that President Mahinda Rajapakse's government of Sri Lanka made a substantive investment to improve infrastructure development. All major highways are being rehabilitated. Those include major roads, provincial roads, and rural roads. Furthermore, he tried to develop the national economy with mega projects such as Mahinda Rajapaksha International Airport, the Expansion of Colombo Harbour, and Hambantota Harbour. Some places are identified as high economy zones as well.

In President Maithiripala Sirisena's regime, there were significant steps taken to cover considerable aspects. As per Mohamed (2017), President Maithiripala Sirisena has taken more action to implement reconciliation among communities in Sri Lanka. Comparing President Mahinda Rajapakse's reconciliation process to President

Maithiripala Sirisena's reconciliation process, to a certain extent, has its merits. Although he has to make more processes to implement in a constructive reconciliation in Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lanka Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP), (2016), has mentioned that the political transition in 2015 empowered moderates among both the Sinhala and Tamil communities with a popular mandate for peacebuilding and governance reform to advance peace and reconciliation in Sri Lanka.

Under President Maithiripala Sirisena's regime, there were four institutions to administer peacebuilding programs. They are; the Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation (within which the Office for National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) was established by extraordinary gazette notification dated 21-09-2015 for the promotion of national integration, reconciliation, and durable peace in the country; formulation of a National Policy for Reconciliation; and formulation of programs and projects for the promotion of reconciliation and national unity through actions that ensure a non-recurrence to conflict), Ministry of National Coexistence Dialogue and Official, Ministry of Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation, Resettlement, and Hindu Religious Affairs, Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms. All the institutions have been propelled by various programs to implement reconciliation in the country and the "National Reconciliation Policy" launched by the ONUR is significant.

Lots of evidence emphasizes that there were and there are a considerable number of steps covering different aspects that have been taken to implement peace within the country by the regimes. However, the efforts of implementing positive peace have not been successful yet and it is expected that more overall approaches are required to implement positive peace within the country. According to the Sri Lanka Peacebuilding Priority Plan (PPP) (2016), peacebuilding in Sri Lanka requires a complex and multi-level national political consensus to achieve sustainable peace. Both horizontal consensus and vertical consensus are necessary prerequisites for a robust peacebuilding agenda.

Nazmul Islam (2015) also mentions that to reach positive peace, post-conflict peacebuilding in Sri Lanka is exploring a new dimension of contemporary peacebuilding. The success is yet to be determined. Many post-conflict peacebuilding activities aim to address the existing problems. The government of Sri Lanka has to overcome multiple challenges, both internally and internationally. A solid foundation of peace and stability is vital to Sri Lanka's future. Until Sri Lanka solves structural factors of instability, which may have caused the war, the country may not establish a solid foundation for durable peace.

Sri Lanka Peace Building Priority Plan (PPP) (2016, p.7) states that "Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka requires a complex and multi-level national political consensus in order to achieve sustainable peace. Both horizontal (inter-elite) consensus and vertical (deeper social) consensus are necessary prerequisites for a robust peacebuilding agenda".

In this context, this initiative done by UNOPS is significant.

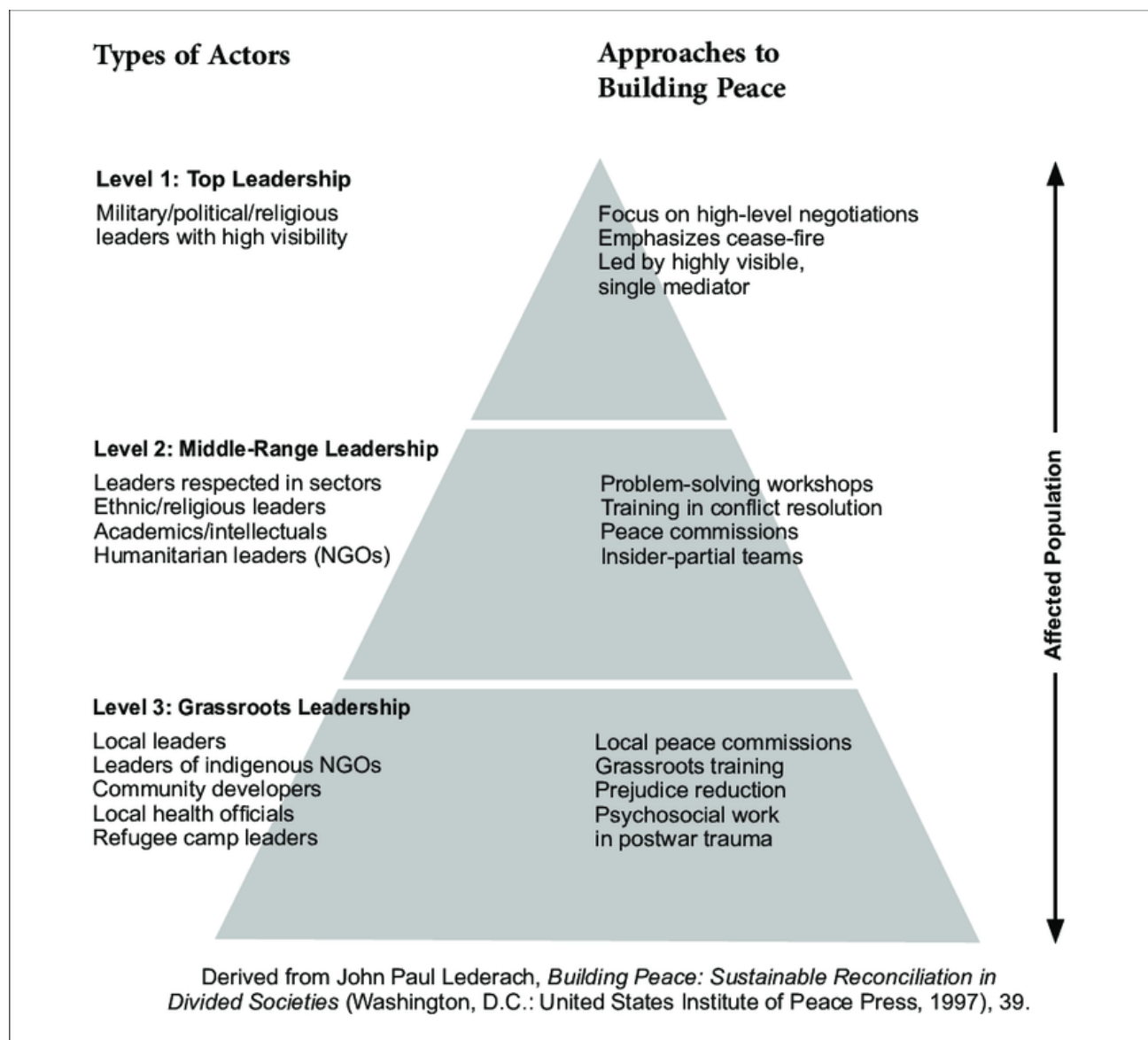
3.2 Strengthening Communities: Micro-level Intervention

Peacebuilding is the development of positive personal and group relationships across ethnic, religious, class, national, and racial boundaries. It aims to resolve inequality in non-violent conduct and to transform the structural environment that makes war. Peacebuilding generally involves humanitarian assistance, instead of that it is planned to provide the immediate means of survival for populations at risk, the main categories of intervention are peacemaking and peacekeeping. Peacebuilding aims to create an environment that contributes to long-lasting peace and preventing conflict from reemerging. Therefore, conflictive parties must restore the cycle of violence and devastation with a cycle of peace. The creation of such an environment has three essential dimensions; the structural dimension, the relational dimension, and the personal dimension.

A community-based approach can be implemented to address the above three dimensions as a constructive tool that complements the weakness of public institutions, strengthens local governance, and reconnects the state with its citizens. The community-based approach facilitates the accumulation of social capital in divided societies and fosters a safe space for interaction between different groups. It can be applied in various contexts and circumstances from conflict prevention to peacekeeping and reconciliation.

According to Lederach, 1997, there are various types of actors in a peace-building process as depicted in the below-mentioned figure, and strengthening local capacities/addressing the grassroots level for conflict resolution and reconciliation is an important step towards sustainable peace.

Figure 3.1 Types of Actors in a Peacebuilding Process



Source: (Lederach, 1997)

This project has approached peacebuilding at the grassroots level through Civil Society Organizations which is the most important approach in peacebuilding.

Civil Society Organizations are essential actors in peacebuilding and stabilization. They play a crucial role in bridging the gap between the state and the people by engaging community members, advocating for their rights, and representing their interests. They can directly engage in Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Advocacy and Awareness, Grassroots Mobilization, Conflict Prevention, Reconciliation and Healing, Capacity Building, Humanitarian Assistance, and Monitoring and Reporting. Therefore, by providing a platform for communities to voice their concerns and opinions, Civil Society Organizations can facilitate dialogue, trust, and collaboration among community members, government officials, and other stakeholders. These organizations play an essential role in engaging communities, fostering dialogue, resolving conflicts, and monitoring the implementation of policies and agreements.

However, in Sri Lanka there was a situation where civil society was considered its biggest challenge. The most affected sectors are those related to agency governance, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and post-war trauma counseling. In 2009, with the end of the 26-year ethnic crisis, although civil organizations started their work, whether they had the necessary environment and support to carry out their tasks was a key question. Governments have imposed many restrictions on the activities of civil society organizations which have greatly hampered their functioning. Nevertheless, the government empowered civil society organizations through the project, and in that, they received the necessary strength to work unambiguously at the grassroots level.

The Project has reached Ninety-five (95) CSOs islandwide, and the project has provided financial assistance, external audit, project management training, legal advisory services, IT knowledge support, information management systems, and advocacy.

Artists are also one of the group of samples of the project. They also have a vital role to play in peacebuilding by using their creative talents to promote understanding, healing, and social change. Their contributions are not only valuable in raising awareness but also in fostering a sense of unity, empathy, and resilience in societies affected by conflict. Art has the power to transcend boundaries and inspire individuals and communities to work together for a peaceful world. Twenty (20) artists touching different levels have been reached by this project.

Human rights defenders, who are essential actors in peacebuilding are also one of the groups of samples in this project. This is an important approach because they work to address the root causes of conflict, promote justice, protect the vulnerable, and advocate for human rights and accountability. They can create conditions that are conducive to lasting peace and reconciliation in societies affected by conflict. Human rights defenders and female activists are also one of the main targeted groups of the project.

It is clear from the above that this project has been carried out with reasonable coverage and has contributed to acquiring positive peace accordingly.

3.3. Aim and Purpose of the Project

This project aimed at protecting and building the resiliency of Civil Society including women, grassroots organizations, human rights defenders, artists, journalists, NGOs, and other activists who are at the forefront of conflict prevention, with the help of government allies. It has done so through an integrated online support program platform and physical counters across the country, providing five (5) core pillars of assistance including,

- (1) Financial assistance,
- (2) Skills development in project and financial management,
- (3) Access to Justice and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace.
- (4) IT Communication and Services, and equipment, and
- (5) Support to Artistic Creation/Artistic Space

1. Financial Grants

Providing financial grants to civil society organizations (CSOs) was one of the attractive objectives behind the project. Generally, the provision of financial assistance is a crucial aspect of peacebuilding efforts. It enables organizations, governments, and communities to implement projects and initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of conflict, promoting reconciliation, and building a foundation for sustainable peace. Therefore, it can be guaranteed that the CSOs who received financial support through the project are direct contributors to peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the country.

2. Skills Development Support Services

Skills Development Support Services are also essential for the effective implementation of peacebuilding initiatives. Skills ensure that resources are managed efficiently and that projects are well-executed, contributing to the overall success and sustainability of peace efforts. Through this project, the target group has been given various skills such as financial statement preparation services, external audit services, project management training, and Project Management Professional (PMP) certification courses. Therefore, having an updated community with evolving practices and maintaining a commitment to learning and improvement will successfully face peacebuilding challenges.

3. Access to Justice and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace

Protection is a fundamental component of human rights and an essential element in promoting peace, security, and social justice. This element plays an important role in ensuring individuals and communities can exercise their rights and seek redress when those rights are violated. Protection covers provide individuals and communities with the means to seek redress for grievances, hold perpetrators accountable, and ultimately contribute to building societies that are based on the principles of fairness, justice, and respect for human rights. These elements are particularly important in conflict and post-conflict contexts, where addressing past abuses and ensuring the rule of law is essential for sustainable peacebuilding.

4. IT Communication and Services

Providing IT communication and services in peacebuilding can significantly enhance the effectiveness of peace efforts by facilitating communication, information sharing, and coordination among various stakeholders. The project has been supplied ICT equipments, ICT trainings; and communication services which will bridge gaps in information sharing, enhance coordination, and empower local communities to participate actively in peace processes.

5. Support to Artistic Creation/Artistic Space

Supporting artists in peacebuilding is a powerful and creative way to promote reconciliation, healing, and social cohesion in communities affected by conflict. Artists have the ability to engage people emotionally and foster dialogue across divides. They can directly reach all three layers of society and art and culture can transcend language and cultural barriers, making them powerful tools for fostering understanding and empathy. Therefore, supporting artists through the project will contribute to acquiring reconciliation and positive peace in Sri Lanka.

These dedicated sets of tools, skills, and equipment in line with the said five (5) core pillars of assistance, were planned to be provided through the dedicated platform not only to pursue their work in assisting communities including women but also to contribute to the viability of these women groups in the long run to achieve gender empowerment and equality. In addition, issues related to access to justice by grassroots level organizations, especially women-led organizations, and various protection aspects of victims and witnesses of crime, and how they should be provided with a rights-based approach to voice their status, in addition to providing them necessary protection space were addressed with young female lawyers and state officials.

3.4. Stakeholder Identification

The following primary and secondary stakeholders are involved in the project at different levels.

➤ **Women Groups and Women-led Community Based Organisations**

They play a significant role in supporting and assisting some of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups, influencing local authorities, community leaders, and political representatives, and play a key role in mitigating violence and are essential peace engineers running supportive networks and ensuring protection and self-care.

➤ **Local Government Authorities**

As the lowest elected public body, Local authorities have to ensure access to basic services and constitute a key entry point for women's access to these services - Recent female representation quotas have led to an increasing number of women represented in local authorities (25%) and should be used as potential supportive entry points to endorse women empowerment activities and gender equality.

➤ **Public Institutions**

These are the entry points for service and assistance to access basic services including safety, security, seeking a missing person, requesting legal assistance, or submitting official information requested by them. In this case, civil society organizations not only have to work closely with local authorities but also with public institutions at times to support victims and vulnerable communities. These public institutions also expect civil societies to adhere to an increasing number of regulations and regulatory frameworks ruling the conduct of their activities and reporting.

➤ **Human Rights Defenders**

Human rights defenders are making society a better and fairer place by promoting and protecting human rights. They seek to ensure the shared commitment to freedom, respect, equality, and dignity is reflected in given laws, policies, and practices.

➤ **Artists**

Artists can contribute to conflict resolution in all stages of the conflict cycle, through creative expression that bridges divides. Works of art that are inclusive and focus on the transformation of conflictive contexts are often more engaging.

➤ **Other Supporting Stakeholders (Individuals and Organizations).**

The project has identified all the other supporting institutions including NGOs, and individuals such as researchers, and journalists.

3.5. Theory of Change

IF women's groups, organizations, and human rights defenders across ethnic and religious lines have greater skills, knowledge, and tools to navigate a fast-changing political, security, and global health context through a supportive platform providing them the much-needed support to increase their compliance and protection mechanisms,

AND IF regional solidarity and support networks inclusive of civil society peers, government allies, and legal aid and justice service providers are actively strengthened and mobilized in key locations,

THEN they will be empowered to pursue their critical work, and will contribute to diffusing emerging and localized new tensions and conflicts by building resilience and tolerance, thereby achieving meaningful participation as members of a dynamic and active civil society community.

BECAUSE supporting civil society engagement through women's empowerment and contribution to peacebuilding and human rights is a fundamental foundation to prevent conflict, protect and assist vulnerable individuals and communities, and achieve sustainable peace dividends.

3.6. Project Activities, Output and Outcomes

This project planned to perform the following activities to achieve the following outputs and outcomes.

Outcome 1: Women peacebuilders have greater means to operate safely.

➤ **Output 1.1.** Sri Lankan women-led and women-supportive networks and organizations have increased knowledge and practices of essential management tools and processes (UNOPS)

- **Activities: 1.1.1.** Individuals from the targeted women's groups, networks, human rights defenders, journalists, and artists build their project management, financial management and audit, communications, grants management, and reporting skills, and receive continued guidance and coaching to practice and implement those during the project duration to achieve compliance with the requirements from public authorities and international donors

Output 1.2: Women's groups, community-based organizations, human rights defenders, journalists, and artists have increased financial means to pursue their critical work (UNOPS)

- **Activities 1.2.1:** A predetermined number of women's organizations, networks, human rights defenders, journalists, and artists were selected through competitive processes and direct grants to support small grant facilities to financially support their critical work.

➤ **Output 1.3:** Targeted women's organizations are supported with the provision of technical services and equipment (UNOPS)

- **Activities 1.3.1:** Targeted partner organizations have the opportunity to access equipment, machinery, and services related to IT, communications, and technical services such as translations, archiving, graphic design, online support services, etc...
- **Output 1.4:** Access to protection mechanisms (UNOPS/UNODC in consultation with OHCHR and with partners)
 - **Activities 1.4.1:** This project also facilitates the organization of training in protection, safety and security, safer working modalities and practices including stress management, referrals to existing psychosocial services, and self-care adapted and tailored to women and women human rights defenders
 - **Activities 1.4.2:** Women-led organizations, groups, networks, human rights defenders, journalists, and artists were trained in access to justice mechanisms including formal and informal justice, legal aid, petition rights, denial of justice, and witness protection services.
- **Output 1.5:** Preservation of creative and artistic expressions (UNOPS with partners)
 - **Activities 1.5.1:** Artists and creatives including young women will be supported to pursue their art, receive guidance and mentorship, and build wider regional support networks in preserving the process and role of creation.

Outcome 2: State authorities have greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims.

- **Output 2.1:** Support to judicial systems practitioners and authorities (UNODC)
 - **Activities 2.1.1:** Strengthening of legal aid provision, awareness program on digital violence to judicial officers and lawyers, the establishment of victim protection agencies, and training of state authorities.

3.7. Target Beneficiaries

The targeted beneficiaries of the project are as follows:

- 155 **civil society organizations**, groups, and members of networks across 13 districts (services provided to 95)
- 3,000 **individual female activists, human rights defenders and journalists**
- 50 **individuals** from the local and state **legal and judicial authorities**
- 20 **artists**

Chapter 4 : Evaluation Based on The Analysis of Survey Data

This chapter serves the objective of showcasing the outcomes derived from the survey data, FGDs, and KIIs. It commences by providing concise and descriptive statistics pertaining to the sampled survey, thereby offering insight into the composition of the sample. This data analysis (qualitative and quantitative) not only fulfills the goal of data triangulation, where multiple sources of information are merged to enhance the overall robustness of the findings but also aligns with the broader objective of delving into the qualitative dimensions of the research objectives. Following this introduction, the chapter undertakes a comprehensive analysis that encompasses several dimensions given in the OECD DAC evaluation criteria as well as PBF-specific evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, output, outcomes, impact, and sustainability levels of the project.

4.1. Relevance

Appropriateness and clarity of the project's targeting strategy: The project has aimed at protecting and building the resilience of Civil Society including women's grassroots organizations, human rights defenders, artists, journalists, NGOs, and other activists who are at the forefront of conflict prevention, with the help of government allies. It has done so through an integrated online support program platform and physical counters across the country, providing five core pillars of assistance.

The dedicated sets of tools, skills, and equipment in line with the core pillars of assistance, were planned to be provided through the dedicated platform not only to pursue their work in assisting communities including women but also to contribute to the viability of these women's groups in the long run to achieve gender empowerment and equality.

The selection of **intervention partners and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)** has been a meticulous process, aligning closely with the project's core objectives. The project has demonstrated a keen ability to identify and collaborate with partners and CSOs that are directly relevant to its mission. For instance, recognizing the mission of NSDF, an organization dedicated to supporting farmers, the project has facilitated land rights advocacy programs in partnership with them. This strategic alignment has allowed the project to channel resources effectively toward the improvement of land rights for farmers. In another example, SAVE a Life, an organization lacking the necessary laptops and IT infrastructure received invaluable support from the project. The provision of laptops and IT training by the project not only addresses a critical need but also empowers SAVE a Life to operate more efficiently and achieve its goals effectively. This demonstrates the project's commitment to empowering its partners with the resources they require to make a significant impact. RDPO had a lack of IT knowledge before the project intervention which received IT training from the project. LIFT was an organization with limited capacity in financial management. The project provided necessary financial management training to LIFT.

"In fact, bringing together civil societies is an important task for Sri Lanka. Because in the case of Sri Lanka, the effect of political interventions by the government is to disrupt civil society. In that way, it is important to bring together the civil society organizations working for the people and give them the right guidelines and recognition at the community level. Such policies require the recognition of civil society to create laws that do not affect civil society. It is my view that this network if developed with long-term sustainable strategies, will certainly contribute to peacebuilding. In this way this project is relevant." (KII S)

Table 4.1 provides a visual representation of the specific domains in which these partners operate. Notably, these organizations are already actively engaged in grassroots-level initiatives related to peacebuilding and human rights advocacy.

Table 4.1 CSO Partners' Areas of Work

	Pillar 1 – Financial		Pillar 2 – Skills Development Support		Pillar 3 – Protection		Pillar 4 – ICT		Pillar 5 – Artistic Support	
Areas	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Agriculture-food security	6	50.0	16	47.1	21	47.7	22	45.8	-	-
Livelihood (income)	10	83.3	24	70.6	33	75.0	36	75	-	-
WASH	9	75.0	19	55.9	21	47.7	25	52.1	-	-
Housing	1	8.3	3	8.8	8	18.2	11	22.9	-	-
Protecting the rights to foster peace	8	66.7	21	61.8	27	61.4	27	56.3	2	66.7
Health	7	58.3	15	44.1	16	36.4	22	45.8	-	-
Education	9	75.0	25	73.5	32	72.7	33	68.8	2	66.7
Legal assistance	5	41.7	9	26.5	13	29.5	16	33.3	2	66.7
Human rights	8	66.7	23	67.6	31	70.5	31	64.6	-	-
Social Cohesion	10	83.3	21	61.8	26	59.1	29	60.4	-	-
Nutrition	7	58.3	17	50.0	18	40.9	19	39.6	2	66.7
Children	7	58.3	18	52.9	21	47.7	21	43.8	2	66.7
Psychosocial support	4	33.3	11	32.4	18	40.9	17	35.4	2	66.7

Source: Sample survey 2023

The key subject areas are diversified into a wide range. The sample survey found 13 areas relevant to the CSOs according to their objectives; (1) Agriculture-food security, (2) Livelihood (income), (3) WASH, (4) Housing, (5) Social protection, (6) Health, (7) Education, (8) Legal Assistance, (9) Human Rights, (10) Social Cohesion, (11) Nutrition, (12) Children, and (13) Psychosocial support.

It is strikingly evident that a predominant majority of CSOs in Pillar 1 mainly support livelihood development, food security, WASH, and education, reflecting that the project correctly targets project partners and CSOs.

The project partners in each Pillar identified the following drivers of conflict and the most relevant peacebuilding issues: (i) resource competition, (ii) ethnic, religious, and cultural differences, (iii) economic inequality, (iv) political grievances, (v) human right violations, (vi) good governance, (vii) community non-engagement and participation, (viii) gender inequity and lack of women empowerment, (ix) education and media for peace, (x) health, and (xi) technology.

Tables A1 to A11 in **Appendix A** illuminate how beneficiaries within **each pillar** astutely identified the key drivers of conflict and peacebuilding issues, while also highlighting the project's proactive interventions to tackle these issues head-on. The results unequivocally underscore the project's ability to pinpoint pertinent concerns and effectively implement strategies and activities geared towards addressing the underlying root

causes of peacebuilding challenges at the grassroots level. These findings are strongly reinforced by the qualitative data gathered.

As further highlighted in the qualitative inquiries, there are many agencies and people who have actively engaged in peacebuilding work in Sri Lanka. However, owing to the pandemic and the economic crisis, activists were not able to continue their work, resulting from the difficulties they faced and donors who stopped supporting peacebuilding due to the economic crisis and pandemic. For example, human rights defenders who work with relevant organizations faced security issues from defense authorities; however, they have not published their work for fear of being stigmatized. They have also faced the problem of securing funding, safe locations for discussions, and lack of equipment, and hence, the five pillars of the project are designed to support them.

“While some officers show partiality and treat us badly, higher officers help us and approve our requests. Through the grants, training, and the links that we have built through our network help us to influence in making changes” - (FGD 2).

Many marginalized groups are supported through the project. CSOs, their beneficiaries, and many individuals were in need of legal assistance, land rights, education, and psycho-social assistance which is not provided by the public services.

“They (marginalized groups) were definitely taken into consideration when we were targeting how to further knowledge on victimization to marginalized groups in society..... We took a psychosocial approach to train the officials on how to provide support to marginalized groups in relation to victimization, by inculcating the thought that their actions have repercussions and reminding them to step into the shoes of the victims,....” (KII J)

According to project personnel, this project was conceived in the early stage when it observed a change in the political regime in Sri Lanka which was followed by the presidential election in October 2019. Concerns for the safety and well-being of civil society organizations and activists who operated in a risky and unsafe environment during the conflict finding themselves in a risky and unsafe environment, the political regime targeting civil society organizations during the election period to get into power, incidences of influences by the political regime during this period, the legal framework relating to PTA enforcement, arbitrary arrest, and various other infringements targeting minorities were observed in Sri Lanka. As such, protecting the space for civil organizations to operate was a dire need. The **degree of relevance** of this project to CSOs/partners is high because of the current socioeconomic and political context in Sri Lanka.

“Concern that the civil society organizations and the activists may find themselves in a risky and unsafe environment as they used to operate under the conflict.The political regime, the legal framework with regard to PTA enforcement, arbitrary arrest, and various other targeting of minorities in Sri Lanka were observed. Therefore, something needs to be done to protect the space in which (civil) society organizations are operating. The degree of relevance of this project to CSOs is 100% because of the current socioeconomic and political context in Sri Lanka” (KII B)

In addressing **key drivers of conflict** and the most relevant peacebuilding issues, the majority of CSO activists are of the opinion that they were able to work on creating a bridge between the project and their organizations.

Engagement with target groups and beneficiaries: In addressing the needs and aspirations of the **direct and indirect beneficiaries**, it was found that the project has reached its main beneficiaries of this project, who are CSO activists as well as members of the CSOs, in delivering the intended assistance. Wherever the partners/CSOs cannot connect very important professionals such as artists and lawyers, the project has

independently supported them. Therefore, the project was designed to have a meaningful and significant impact on these targeted communities.

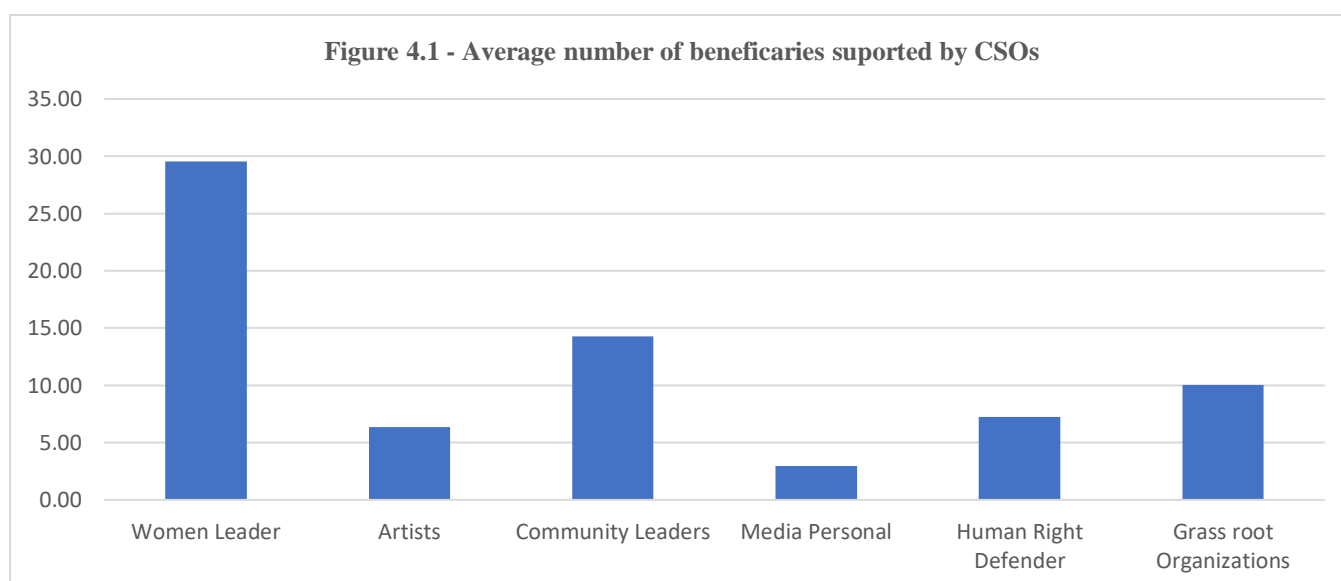
“... project has provided us support through the grant for women householders to achieve financial stability; and also, the training given to beneficiaries helped the family members and people in the community to lead a life following a peaceful path” (FGD 1).

Table 4.2 displays the number of persons in each category supported by the project partners under each pillar.

Table 4.2 Number of Persons in Each Category Supported by the Project Partners (CSOs)

	Pillar 1		Pillar 2		Pillar 3		Pillar 4		Pillar 5	
	Sum	Mean	Sum	Mean	Sum	Mean	Sum	Mean	Sum	Mean
Women Leaders	157	13	1039	31	1171	27	1755	37	8	3
Artists	40	3	166	5	184	4	299	6	53	18
Community Leaders	65	5	402	12	646	15	626	13	17	6
Media Personnel	27	2	95	3	112	3	127	3	28	9
Human Rights Defenders	56	5	193	6	322	7	298	6	16	5
Grassroot Organizations	128	11	390	12	423	10	465	10	7	2
Total	473	40	2285	67	2858	65	3570	74	129	43

Figure 4.1 Average Number of Beneficiaries Supported by the CSOs



According to figure 4.1, the average number of beneficiaries supported by CSOs in women's leadership is 30 which is the most supported area. It is revealed that 6.38% of the beneficiaries are artists while 14.27% of the beneficiaries are community leaders. 2.97% of the beneficiaries are media personnel which is the lowest. 7.23% are human rights defenders. 10.5% of them are grassroots organizers. In addition, the project has directly supported artists. Vridhhi supports them independently.

The strengthening of CSOs has led to providing protection to **marginalized and vulnerable** communities. UNOPS didn't interact directly with the communities since they have a very strong fabric of civil societies who deal with the community on a daily basis. If it can strengthen, provide protection, restore trust, and provide training to CSOs, they can continue the meaningful work relating to peace-building, social cohesion, and other work that they are performing with the communities. This project was initiated at a time when civil society operations were at risk. The timing of this project has been perfect and appropriate.

A critical factor that contributes to achieving peace and social cohesion in Sri Lanka is strengthening civil societies, which are able to protect the vulnerable and raise their concerns. By protecting the civil society, they will be able to protect and assist the vulnerable people and the groups in the society in order to continue their day today tasks. This addresses major need of the country.

Alignment with Peacebuilding Goals and National Priorities: In alignment with the National Peacebuilding Policy and national priorities, the UN has its own peacebuilding policy and the project is in **line with that policy**. Nevertheless, this project is not directly targeting peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. However, the project has provided legal assistance to the partners, and they do not directly support policymaking, which is in alignment with UN strategic objectives of peacebuilding.

“UN has a peacebuilding policy and our project is in line with that policy. Anyhow, this project is not directly targeting peacebuilding in Sri Lanka.” (KII B).

“Yeah, the project activities are compiled with ongoing and proposed national peacebuilding policies” (KII J).

“The programs were conducted in line with the justice ministry (guidelines).” (KII K)

Contribution to cross-cutting thematic areas: According to CSO representatives, the project has addressed cross-cutting issues in the country: (1) Human Rights, (2) Food security, (3) Livelihood, and (4) gender equality and women empowerment. In strengthening partner CSOs and other activists, it was found that the project has made a concrete contribution in terms of: a) conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country, b) protecting and resilience building among civil society activists, c) achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders, and d) achieving the SDGs, particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equity) and 16 (Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions). Figure 4.2 developed based on the survey data further confirms the findings of the qualitative study.

Figure 4.2 Project Intervention in Cross-cutting Areas

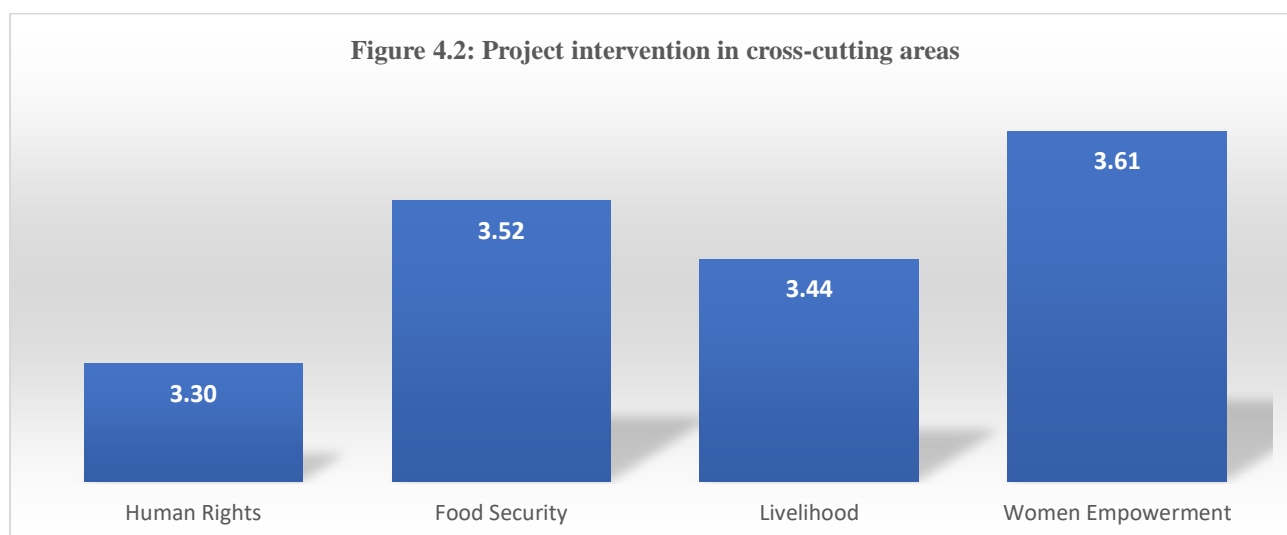


Figure 4.2 demonstrates the Project Intervention for Cross-cutting Areas in the field study which consists of four main areas. The areas of Human Rights and Livelihood show a slight intervention level of 3.30 and 3.44 over the value range of 1 to 5. Food security is considered significantly intervened by the project with a value of 3.52. Women's Empowerment emerges as the area where the project intervention has been the most pronounced as indicated by an average score of 3.61. This highlights women's empowerment as the dimension that has received the highest degree of project attention and focus among the four.

This visualization effectively captures the extent to which the project has engaged with and impacted these cross-cutting areas, allowing for a clear understanding of their relative emphasis within the context of the field study.

Interviewed CSOs are of the opinion that the project is relevant, timely, and critically important to them in the current situation in Sri Lanka. For example, the selected districts in the North (Jaffna, Kilinochchi) and DSD areas (Kandawalai DSD) being resettled areas and direct war-affected places have received a package of assistance for empowering the affected groups. There is a similarity among people as everyone is recovering from war-induced trauma. They are also vulnerable groups. Most of the people in the Tellipallai division are practicing unhealthy social practices such as engaging in teenage marriages, drug trafficking, illegal activities, extra-marital relationships, family relationship issues, and school dropouts which are occurring at a high rate. Therefore, peace and reconciliation and talking about human rights have been quite difficult aspects to deal with. As such, UNOPS project initiatives are very relevant and appropriate. By empowering this down-trodden segment of communities would lead to maintaining peace and harmony at large, contributing to enhancing peacebuilding at the local and country levels.

Table 4.3 Outside Assistance Required for CSOs for Peacebuilding (% out of Total Sample)

Areas		Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4	Pillar 5	Total	Individual Artists
Financial assistance	Required	100	100	100	97.9	100	98.5	100
	Not required	-	-		2.1	-	1.5	-

External audit	Required	100	88.2	97.7	93.7	100	84.8	22.2
	Not required	-	11.8	2.3	6.3	-	15.2	87.8
Project management training	Required	100	97.1	97.7	93.7	100	95.5	87.8
	Not required	-	2.9	2.3	6.3	-	4.5	22.2
Legal advisory service	Required	91.7	97.1	97.7	93.7	100	78.8	87.2
	Not required	8.3	2.9	2.3	6.3	-	21.2	22.2
IT knowledge support	Required	83.3	88.2	88.6	89.6	100	88.9	88.9
	Not required	16.7	11.8	11.4	10.4	-	12.1	11.1
Information management system	Required	83.3	85.3	86.3	83.4	100	81.8	33.3
	Not required	16.7	14.7	13.7	16.6	-	18.2	66.7
Advocacy	Required	83.3	85.3	86.4	81.2	100	83.3	0
	Not required	16.7	14.7	13.6	18.8	-	16.7	100
Source: Sample survey 2023								

Approximately 98.5% of respondents expressed a need for additional financial assistance, yet an intriguing 72.8% refrained from specifying their requirements. Some of the purposes cited for financial support encompass sustaining ongoing projects (10.5%), facilitating diverse training programs (4.5%), and refining action plans (1.5%).

Concerning external audit assistance, a notable 84.8% of the interviewed Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) indicated a requirement for such support. Curiously, only a small fraction (3%) provided explicit rationales. Additionally, a call was made to extend this audit support to their respective members. Simultaneously, an overwhelming 95.5% of CSOs conveyed a necessity for project management training. However, only one CSO provided a specific explanation who says, “although project management training is already available, it would be helpful for the organization to have more specific training related to project management”.

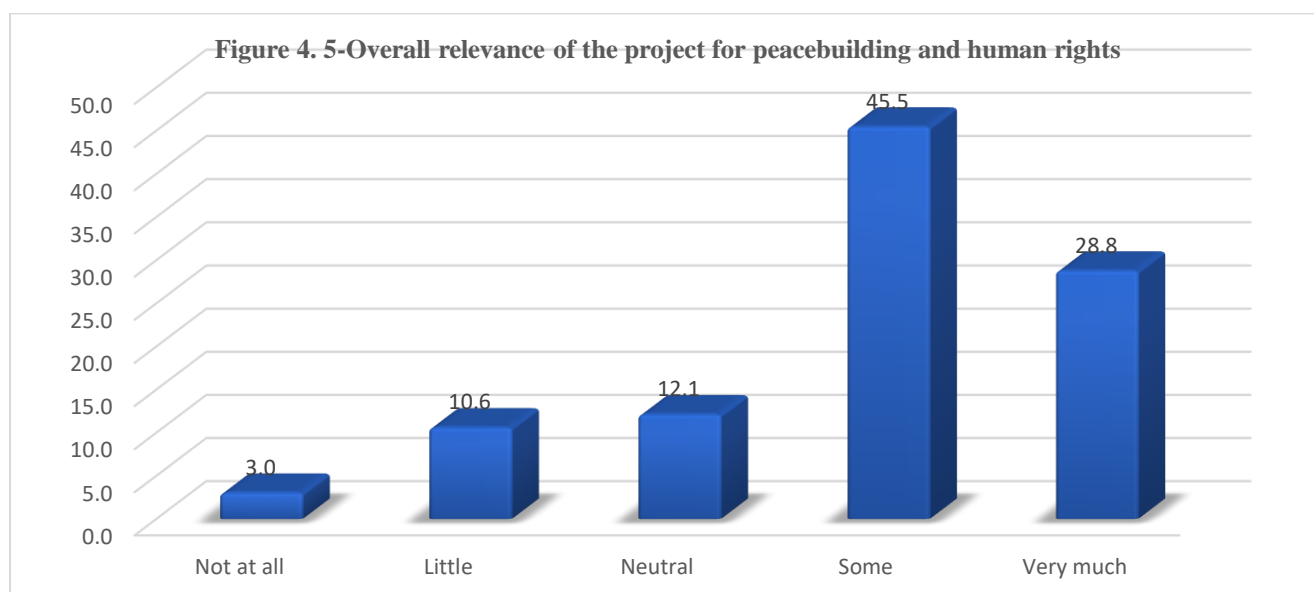
Legal advisory services were also sought by 95.5% of CSOs, though the predominant majority abstained from furnishing any explanation. Some requested mobile services due to the absence of any facilities for legal advice as the people need to clear issues to easily apply and obtain their national identity cards and birth certificates.

Likewise, 87.9% voiced a demand for IT knowledge support, while 81.8% signalled their need for an Information Management System (IMS). SWEAT in Hatton has stopped operations due to the lack of funding when the project started to support them. For example, SWEAT has worked with one laptop. UNOPS has provided necessary IT facilities and soft-skill development training.

In the context of advocacy, a substantial 83.3% declared their requirement for support. Among them, 77.3% omitted specific domains or rationales for advocacy assistance. Conversely, the rest articulated distinct needs, encompassing legal representation (1.5%), resolution of legal matters (1.5%), addressing current unavailability (1.5%), and absence of professional advocacy services (1.5%).

Meanwhile individual artists mainly asked for financial grants (100%), IT support (87.2%), legal advisory services (88.9%), and project management services (87.8%)

Figure 4.3 Overall Relevance of the Project for Peacebuilding and Human Rights



According to Figure 4.5, the assessment of the project's overall relevance for peacebuilding and human rights unfolds as follows:

According to Figure 4.5, the overall project is somewhat (45.5%) or very much (28.8%) relevant for peacebuilding and human rights. Table 4.4 illustrates how each pillar and individual artists rated the relevance of the project.

Table 4.4 Relevance of the Project for Peacebuilding and Human Rights

Pillar	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Somewhat	Very much
Pillar 1	-	8.3	33.3	41.7	16.7
Pillar 2	2.9	11.8	17.6	35.3	32.4
Pillar 3	2.3	9.1	11.4	47.7	29.5
Pillar 4	4.2	10.4	14.6	43.8	27.1
Pillar 5	-	33.3	-	33.3	33.3
Total	3.0	10.6	12.1	45.5	28.8
Individual artists	-	44.4	33.3	22.2	-

A significant proportion, 28.8% of CSOs, attested that the projects have remarkably and very effectively been relevant for peacebuilding and human rights. The majority, 45.5% of the CSOs, indicated that the overall relevance of the projects to peacebuilding and human rights is of a considerable extent. A smaller fraction, 10.6%, expressed that the relevance holds a lesser degree, described as "a little relevance." A further 12.1% of CSOs adopted a neutral standpoint, neither entirely endorsing nor dismissing the relevance of the projects for peacebuilding and human rights. Notably, a distinct 3% of CSOs firmly asserted that the projects hold no relevance whatsoever to peacebuilding and human rights within the given context. These findings offer a comprehensive picture of the diverse perspectives held by CSOs regarding the degree of relevance that the projects have exhibited concerning peacebuilding and human rights objectives.

Table 4.5 Role of CSOs/Partners in Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution

	Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4	Pillar 5	Total
Do not know/cannot think of role	-	5.9	4.5	10.4		9.0
It is about just to know the subject	8.3	2.9	4.5	4.2		5.0
Others' role is important, but we should also participate	33.3	26.5	27.3	29.2		29.1
Our active participation should be there	58.3	50.0	47.7	47.9	66.7	46.1
We think, it's not possible without our participation	-	14.7	15.9	8.3	33.3	13.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Approximately 46% of them strongly believe that CSOs participation in peacebuilding and conflict resolution is momentous while 13.6% of them consider that peacebuilding and conflict resolution will not take place without their participation. Only 9 out of 66 CSOs have taken this softly, while all others consider their role as essential.

Overall, the findings from the survey underscore the diverse perspectives within CSOs regarding their role in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. While a small percentage displayed limited understanding or a narrower perspective, the majority recognized the importance of collaborative efforts and their essential role in driving positive change in these critical areas.

4.3. UN's peacebuilding strategic objectives, and the SDGs, in particular SDG 5 and 16

The UN occupies a pivotal position in the global landscape, actively driving and facilitating peacebuilding initiatives across the world. Its actions are intricately woven into the fabric of its strategic objectives, mandates, and the SDGs, with a particular focus on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

In the context of a project proposal, it is essential to ensure that the project's objectives harmonize with the SDGs. The project proposal initially lacks alignment with the SDGs, although the project planners have targeted to achieve SDGs, especially SDG 5 and SDG 16 (see log frame). These two specific SDGs underscore the paramount importance of fostering gender equality, peace, justice, and robust institutional frameworks to underpin sustainable peace and development on a global scale.

In essence, the UN's profound commitment to peacebuilding serves as a guiding light, emphasizing the interconnectedness of its objectives and the SDGs, particularly SDG 5 and SDG 16, in creating a more peaceful, just, and equitable world for all. Consequently, projects should be molded and fine-tuned to embrace these pivotal goals, recognizing their pivotal role in advancing both short-term and long-term global prosperity and stability.

4.2. Efficiency (Output)

Efficiency in Staffing, Planning, and Coordination: Project efficiency has been evident by employing a Program Associate to head the pillar and introducing legal services/protection by the BASL officer/stakeholder. Overall staffing has been planned and coordinated to facilitate the project area together with relevant UN agencies, local authorities, and other stakeholders.

Resource Utilization, Timeliness, and Cost Effectiveness: The project has faced a major challenge during the COVID period with the inability to work in any visible manner. At the early stage, the project team comprised the Project Manager and the driver only as it was unable to open offices and recruit the cadre. Although a project office was opened in Mullaitivu, most of the activities were done online during the 1st phase of the project. In terms of human resources, the project was able to kick off only in the year 2021.

UNOPS's role always comes from a structural perspective, and it always supported in terms of improving CSOs performance. They are very sure that the partners whom they have supported and the partners who have joined support the CSOs that represent most vulnerable and the most marginalized groups.

“Through the project, many marginalized groups are supported. Beneficiaries, CSOs, and many individuals require legal, land rights, education, psychosocial assistance which is not provided by the public services” – (KII A)

As there was very limited funding for this project, the project has covered only the most important areas, and it was identified that there are other areas that call for support. For example: CSOs require further training on ethical aspects as they are required to adopt ethical principles when dealing with individuals. They also require training on technology and mass media usage. This absence causes them to devote higher amounts of resources to reach the people.

Efficiency of Implementation Approach and Pillar Activities: Despite all these challenges, the project has performed its activities efficiently. CSOs admit that it is their responsibility to distribute the fund granted to them within the allocated period and make a positive impact on the beneficiaries during the first six months. They work actively manage the finances properly, and also build a healthy bridge between stakeholders and beneficiaries. A good example is that the ‘CIRCLE’, being a wing of a young feminist team, has built a sustainable and healthy relationship and communicates with external stakeholders and government sectors in a rational manner using the project grant.

“We received relevant training and advice to engage in self-employment. CSOs visit our place weekly and check how we work, help us to do their work without any delay, and provide help and guidance that we need.... The CSO guides us to do the banking activities too and provides an opportunity to work as a volunteer in programs to motivate others.” (FGD F)

Based on the results of the sample survey conducted with the project partners and CSOs, it is evident that the project team has demonstrated commendable efficiency in executing project activities. The feedback from these stakeholders indicates that project implementation delays are not a significant concern. The survey results also highlight the project staff's overall effectiveness, as they have consistently motivated and supported CSOs and other partners in successfully achieving the project's objectives. Tables B1 to B5 in Appendix A present the results of the survey.

According to CSO Key Informants, the support provided by the project has enabled them to promote women's empowerment, prioritize the Peace and Security agenda (WPS), allow specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes, and create accountability for gender equality. It was also the view of empowered

CSOs that the project has been implemented through a conflict-sensitive approach, particularly in the North and East of the country amidst initial hiccups and challenges that were described in the above section.

However, the project has been completed successfully within a reasonable period of time as highlighted by many Key Informants (KIIs B, C, D, E).

“This project was initiated at a time when civil society was at risk, and the timing of this project is perfect (KII A).

“We consider this project to be a complete success in that it has created a natural level for the beneficiaries to be able to meet their food needs on their own, even if the issue of peaceful coexistence has not been fully achieved. (KII K).

CSOs in FGDs are of the opinion that funds and other project assistance have been allocated timely to meet their needs. However, their main concern is the limited funding of this project and the need to go to other similar areas where there is great demand for such assistance. The project has covered only the most important areas, and it was identified that there are further areas that call for support.

However, the project has managed to use the limited funding to support its implementation strategies and institutional arrangements as well as its management and operational systems to achieve value for money. By utilizing the assistance of various agencies, project partners were able to manage the resources and funds efficiently and effectively when it came to obtaining the practical knowledge and specialties required for this project.

Data Collection and Utilization for Monitoring and Management: The project team from UNOPS and UNODC has devised a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan, complemented by semi-annual mid-term reviews, to continually assess the project's status and viability, enabling timely operational adjustments as needed. The M&E Timeline encompasses a series of critical activities undertaken during the initial stages, including baseline surveys and capacity, and Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) assessments. These assessments lay the groundwork for informed discussions between UNOPS, UNODC, and the respective implementing partners and facilitating adjustments to quarterly targets. Subsequently, progress reports and meetings serve as channels for sharing insights and updates.

The project management has demonstrated its commitment to robust M&E practices by consistently providing progress reports at various intervals, including bi-annual project progress reports, annual project progress reports, annual strategic peacebuilding and Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) progress reports, internal evaluations, and the final project evaluation. This commitment to transparency and accountability enhances the project's overall effectiveness and contributes to its success.

The Senior M&E Officer of UNOPS, being the focal point in charge of overall monitoring of results, has used their field staff to effectively collect and update data in managing the project outputs.

Project Delays and Missed Opportunities to Address Sensitive Peacebuilding Issues: The hiccups and delays in project implementation have been compensated to minimize missed targets and milestones. COVID-19 and the economic crisis were the known factors for delaying the implementation of some project activities. However, beneficiaries are not worried about the delay in some project activities (See Tables B1 to B5).

“So far, we haven’t faced such problems during the service. However, the project got delayed to implement, and we were unable to start our process as we planned. Also, we have faced language issues while providing training to the CSOs. We had to go to the UNODC for the functions and it has supported us. Therefore, we have hired translators and interpreters to mitigate this issue.” (KII H).

4.3. Effectiveness (Outcome)

Achievement of Objectives, Outputs, and Outcomes: All Key Informants have positively admitted the fact that the project has achieved its intended objectives, outputs, and outcomes keeping in line with its results framework. The beneficiary groups, in particular, are of the view that the contribution made to the project's strategy in protecting civil society and building resilience and thereby actions leading to conflict prevention and peacebuilding are highly commendable.

“The project addressed our needs and requirements that were failed to be addressed by other parties for a long time” – FGD – F).

By assisting women groups in the conflict-affected northern province, the project has attempted to mainstream gender and support gender-responsive peacebuilding with a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes. The support by Pillar No. 1 - *Provision of financial assistance*, and Pillar No. 2 - *Skills development & continued learning in project & financial management*, has immensely contributed to addressing cross-cutting thematic areas that are interrelated with peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

Gender Mainstreaming and Women's Participation: One of the outcome indicators of the project is women's empowerment as players of peacebuilding (Outcome Indicator 1.1: % increase of empowered women peacebuilders in the targeted locations civil society representation).

Table 4.6 Empowered Women Peacebuilders: Female Members' Knowledge of Peacebuilding and Human Rights Improved During the Project Period

Pillars	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1		16.7	16.7	50.0	16.7
Pillar 2	2.9	11.8	20.6	38.2	26.5
Pillar 3	4.5	15.9	25.0	34.1	20.5
Pillar 4	4.2	12.5	20.8	39.6	22.9
Pillar 5			33.3	33.3	33.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

In each pillar, survey respondents concurred, as indicated in Table 4.6, that female members' understanding of peacebuilding and human rights has significantly advanced throughout the project duration. To illustrate, a noteworthy 66.7% (50% + 16.7%) of respondents within Pillar 1 reported that their grasp of peacebuilding had notably improved upon their participation in the project. This trend of positive change is similarly reflected across the other pillars.

Table 4.7 Empowered Women Peacebuilders: Project-Supported Female Members' Economic Empowerment

Pillars	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Somewhat	Very much
Pillar 1	16.7	16.7	16.7	33.3	16.7
Pillar 2	8.8	14.7	11.8	41.2	23.5
Pillar 3	9.1	18.2	13.6	36.4	22.7

Pillar 4	8.3	14.6	16.7	37.5	22.9
Pillar 5			66.7	33.3	

Source: Sample survey 2023

Except in Pillar 5, a similar positive pattern can be observed in women's economic empowerment as shown Table 4.7.

Table 4.8 Empowered Women Peacebuilders: Female Decision-Making Power Improved Due to the Project

Pillars	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Somewhat	Very much
Pillar 1		8.3	33.3	33.3	25.0
Pillar 2	2.9	5.9	35.3	29.4	26.5
Pillar 3	2.3	13.6	34.1	31.8	18.2
Pillar 4	4.2	12.5	31.3	29.2	22.9
Pillar 5			66.7		33.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

In relation to Women Empowerment, it is evident that aside from the economic empowerment of women through the projects, notable outcomes have been observed in the following areas: knowledge of peacebuilding and human rights, economic empowerment, and decision-making power (Tables 4.6, 4.7, and 4.8). Several KIIs also highlight the project outcomes of women's empowerment.

“In fact, women are empowered to voice their role in it. The women in Mather Village Development Association are very active. We selected two districts for this program which was seen in UNOPS as a way of fulfilling the psychological needs of the concerned people on the basis of identifying and voicing the problems at the village level. This can be considered a great thing.” (KII T).

As indicated above, the project has had a substantial impact on empowering women and their activities. KIIs conducted with women leaders who received support from the project clearly demonstrate that the project has been a catalyst for enhancing their work. The following case provides a compelling illustration of this positive influence.

“I was just an ordinary person in the midst of the war. I feel that war is the worst thing after school is over. I felt the need for the ethnic groups in the country to live in peace. And being interested in the field of art, this was my talking point. I started acting in 2004. After that, there was contact with other community-level organizations such as Peace, Coexistence, Human Rights, and Violence Against Women. Since then, my interest in building peace and harmony in Sri Lanka intensified. Also, promoting a non-violent struggle against



oppression and a peaceful co-existence of all races has been the theme of all our work.” (KII, W, conducted with a women activist)

“As a woman and head of the household, I suffered a lot without sufficient income to fulfill my family’s basic requirements before joining the CSOs in this program. But now with the funds I received as capital for my employment, I am able to receive sufficient income monthly to fulfill the needs of my family. I also receive profit now.” (Participant 3: FGD F).

This holistic progress underscores the project’s multifaceted contributions to women's empowerment, extending beyond economic aspects and encompassing vital domains such as decision-making power, knowledge enhancement, and the overall perception of project effectiveness.

As the CSO groups in Northern area informed, of the view that the support provided by the project has enabled them to promote **women's empowerment**, prioritize peace and well-being, allow specific focus on women’s participation in peacebuilding processes, and create accountability for gender equality. It was also the view of empowered CSOs that the project has been implemented through a conflict-sensitive approach, particularly in the North and East amidst initial hiccups and challenges that were described in the previous section as well.

Table 4.9 shows members and non-members of CSOs trained and individually facilitated by the project.

Table 4.9 Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries of the Project

Support/Services	Members		Non-members	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Financial grants	1339	1001	250	223
Preparation of financial statements	1007	691	208	176
External audit services	171	155	164	143
Project management training	1151	755	167	154
Project management certification	252	176	169	158
Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace.	293	202	173	153
ICT equipment	116	99	96	117
ICT help desk	436	209	157	138
Meeting space for artists	912	606	132	106
Access to basic services	6693	1796	1202	1887
Note: Pillar-wise calculation may not be possible since in many cases, each partner organization/CSO has received multiple services.				
Source: Sample survey 2023				

The project has extended its benefits to both members and non-members of CSOs, encompassing training and access to facilities. Within both these categories, a substantial number of both females and males have

undergone training and received individual support through the projects, enabling them to access fundamental services. Notably, women constitute a significant portion of these beneficiaries across various aspects, except for a singular case.

It is worth highlighting that across all scenarios, members who have received training and individual support outnumber non-members, emphasizing the organization's focus on its core constituency.

Regarding the distribution of financial grants, females exhibit higher representation than males within both the member and non-member groups (1339 females > 1001 males, and 250 females > 223 males, respectively). Among female members, a substantial 1007 have been trained and individually supported in preparing financial statements, and a notable 691 males have undergone similar training. This trend is mirrored among non-members, where the involvement of females in training and receiving individual facilities remains considerable.

When considering external audit services, there is a distinct gender distribution. Among members, 171 females and 115 males are part of the audit process, while among non-members, 161 females and 143 males participate in this aspect.

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country: It is important that the project aims to increase women's role in peacebuilding by designing empowerment programs that build self-confidence in women, enable them to be part of the peacebuilding process, and assume leadership roles in collaborative efforts. (Outcome Indicator 1.2: % increase in the perception of confidence and improved protection among targeted women's groups and women peacebuilders). Table 4.10 shows the results of the survey conducted among individual beneficiaries.

Table 4.10- Perception of Confidence and Improved Protection among Targeted Women's Groups and Women Peacebuilders (%)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Perception of confidence has improved toward peacebuilding	0.0	18.5	3.7	29.6	48.1
High hope for building of peaceful community	0.0	7.4	18.5	14.8	59.3
Women can play a significant role in peacebuilding	0.0	7.4	14.8	44.4	33.3
Confidence and improvement toward community peacebuilding	0.0	11.1	25.9	37.0	25.9
Women's role in peacebuilding and conflict resolution have improved recently	0.0	3.7	40.7	25.9	29.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

As demonstrated in the data presented in Table 4.10, it is evident that the project interventions, which include assistance, support, and training, have had a substantial positive impact on the confidence levels of women. A noteworthy 77.7% of individual women beneficiaries who were interviewed expressed an improved perception of confidence in their ability to contribute to peacebuilding. An impressive 74.1% of women reported having

high hopes for the creation of a more peaceful community as a result of their engagement with the project. An overwhelming 77.7% of respondents affirmed that women can play a significant and constructive role in the peacebuilding process. Additionally, 55.5% of the women who participated in the survey attested to a noticeable enhancement in their roles in peacebuilding and conflict resolution since joining the project. These statistics underscore the project's effectiveness in bolstering the confidence and active involvement of women in peacebuilding efforts.

Overall, these statistics highlight the project's commitment to inclusivity, gender balance, and effective engagement, both among members and non-members, across various facets of training, financial support, audit services, project management training, protection services, ICT equipment and help desk, meeting space, and most significantly, access to basic services.

4.4. Project Impact (*The Difference Made by the Project*)

As the project has completed its first 2-year Phase on 5th June 2023 and planned a second 2-year phase, it is premature to measure the actual impact of the project. However, the responses given to questions asked from Key Informants on the '*difference made by the project provide*' provides an insight into the project's impact.

Table 4.11 Impact of the Project - Pillar 01 (Financial Grants)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Have the CSOs done substantial work in peacebuilding during the last 2 years than before?	8.3	16.7	25.0	50.	
Have the CSOs been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities during the last 2 years?	8.3	16.7	33.3	33.3	8.3
Have the CSOs supported strengthening (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights in the last 2 years?	8.3	16.7	41.7	25.0	8.3
Did any female members get a chance to participate in a regional or national-level decision-making body in the last 2 years?	8.3	16.7	33.3	25.0	16.7
In the last 2 years, the state authorities have had greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims	25.0	25.0	33.3	16.7	-

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.12 Impact of the Project – Pillar 02 (Skills Development Support)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Have the CSOs done substantial work in peacebuilding during the last 2 years than before?	2.9	11.8	14.7	52.9	17.6
Have the CSOs been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities during the last 2 years?	2.9	11.8	32.4	41.2	11.8
Have the CSOs supported strengthening (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights in the last 2 years?	2.9	11.8	35.3	26.5	23.5
Did any female members get a chance to participate in a regional or national-level decision-making body in the last 2 years?	5.9	8.8	38.2	35.3	11.8
In the last 2 years, the state authorities have had greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims	11.8	17.6	38.2	29.4	2.9

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.13 Impact of The Project - Pillar 03 (Protection)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Have the CSOs done substantial work in peacebuilding during the last 2 years than before?	2.3	11.4	13.6	52.3	20.5
Have the CSOs been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities during the last 2 years?	2.3	15.9	36.4	29.5	15.9
Have the CSOs supported strengthening (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights in the last 2 years?	2.3	13.6	40.9	25.0	18.2
Did any female members get a chance to participate in a regional or national-level decision-making body in the last 2 years?	4.5	11.4	38.6	31.8	13.6
In the last 2 years, the state authorities have had greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims	6.8	22.7	38.6	27.3	4.5

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.14 Impact of The Project - Pillar 04 (ICT Support)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Have the CSOs done substantial work in peacebuilding during the last 2 years than before?	2.1	18.8	16.7	43.8	18.8
Have the CSOs been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities during the last 2 years?	2.1	16.7	33.3	35.4	12.5
Have the CSOs supported strengthening (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights in the last 2 years?	6.3	14.6	31.3	29.2	18.8
Did any female members get a chance to participate in a regional or national-level decision-making body in the last 2 years?	4.2	18.8	31.3	31.3	14.6
In the last 2 years, the state authorities have had greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims	10.4	20.8	29.2	33.3	6.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.15 Impact of the Project - Pillar 05 (Artistic Support)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Have the CSOs done substantial work in peacebuilding during the last 2 years than before?			33.3	66.7	
Have the CSOs been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities during the last 2 years?			66.7		33.3
Have the CSOs supported strengthening (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights in the last 2 years?			100		
Did any female members get a chance to participate in a regional or national-level decision-making body in the last 2 years?			66.7	33.3	
In the last 2 years, the state authorities have had greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalized victims			66.7	33.3	

Source: Sample survey 2023

Achievement of Transformative Results: Specifically, the survey outcomes in Tables 4.11 to 4.15 highlight several significant areas of progress:

Enhanced Peacebuilding Efforts: Over the past two years, the project has shown substantial improvement in its peacebuilding endeavors.

Influence on Human Rights and Peacebuilding via Regional Authorities: The project's influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional-level authorities is another standout achievement. The project has provided capacity-building support to CSOs. As a result, empowered CSOs initiated collaborative efforts with regional authorities. This signifies the project's successful collaboration with regional authorities to bring about positive changes in these crucial areas.

“We cannot specify in groups, in the beginning of this project we end to choose the CSOs who speak up the human rights violation’s issues to the authorities, and the CSOs who are facing issues publicly, later on we identified there are some other CSOs facing protection issues, we had to concern their needs on protection.” (KII H, with a project officer)

Strengthening of Relevant Institutions: The project's efforts to enhance the capacity of regional or national institutions related to peacebuilding and human rights are noteworthy. This demonstrates the successful capacity-building initiatives undertaken by the CSOs. The project has significantly enhanced the proposal-writing skills of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). For instance, prior to the project's intervention, BAY.Org faced challenges in crafting successful proposals. However, through the project's training, they acquired proficiency in proposal writing, budget preparation, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes. Another noteworthy example is ASWA, which derived numerous benefits from the project across various domains. Furthermore, the project made a substantial impact on WADTCO in Trincomalee. After receiving the necessary equipment, WADTCO initiated the computerization of all their documentation and financial statements. This transformation underscores the project's role in bolstering sustainability efforts within the organization.

The survey data underscores the efficacy of the project in making targeted impacts in areas such as peacebuilding, human rights, and institutional strengthening. The high PII scores across these domains reflect the tangible and significant progress achieved through the CSOs' interventions over the stated time frame.

Secondary or Indirect Positive Results: The sample survey further attempts to find out to what extent the project has made a concrete **contribution** in terms of the following domains: (i) Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country, (ii) Protecting and resilience building among civil society actors; (iii) Achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders, and (iv) Achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16. Table 4.16 depicts the project's contributions in each of these areas, as observed from the data presented in the sample survey.

Table 4.16 Areas of the Project Contribution Under Each Pillar

Areas		Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4	Pillar 5	Total
Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country	Not at all	8.3	5.9	6.8	8.3	-	6.1
	Little	-	2.9	2.3	12.5	-	6.1
	Neutral	33.3	23.5	20.5	35.4	66.7	22.7
	Some	50.0	35.3	50.0	16.7	33.3	43.9

	Very much	8.3	32.4	20.5	27.1	-	21.2
Protecting and resilience building among civil society actors	Not at all	8.3	5.9	4.5	6.3	-	6.1
	Little	25.0	11.8	6.8	12.5	-	9.1
	Neutral	33.3	26.5	34.1	20.8	66.7	36.4
	Some	16.7	26.5	31.8	29.2	-	24.2
	Very much	16.7	29.4	22.7	31.3	33.3	24.2
Achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders	Not at all		5.9	4.5	6.3	-	6.1
	Little	16.7	8.8	11.4	12.5	-	12.1
	Neutral	16.7	23.5	25.0	20.8	66.7	22.7
	Some	33.3	26.5	29.5	29.2	-	27.3
	Very much	33.3	35.3	29.5	31.3	33.3	31.8
Achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16	Not at all	8.3	8.8	9.1	12.5	-	12.1
	Little	25.0	8.8	20.5	20.8	-	22.7
	Neutral	50.0	44.1	34.1	29.2	66.7	30.3
	Some	16.7	29.4	29.5	29.2	33.3	25.8
	Very much	-	8.8	6.8	8.3	-	9.1

Source: Sample survey 2023

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country: The project's contribution in this realm has been particularly significant, denoting a notable impact on this aspect. The sample survey results indicate that respondents from all pillars, except pillar 5, concur that the project has made a positive contribution to enhancing conflict prevention and fostering peace within the country.

Protecting and resilience building among civil society actors: The project has made a notable and significant contribution to protecting and building resilience among civil society actors. It is worth noting that respondents from all pillars, except pillars 1 and 5, unanimously agreed that the project has had a positive impact in this regard.

Achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders: Similar to the previous two points, this domain has experienced a significant contribution from the project.

Achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16: The project has made varying degrees of impact in the pursuit of certain Sustainable Development Goals. Here's a breakdown of the findings: In terms of Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women, the project has made a moderate contribution at a somewhat level.

In summary, the study underscores that the project's contributions have varied across these specific areas, with the most noteworthy impact observed in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding within the country. These findings provide valuable insights into the project's effectiveness in advancing these critical goals and objectives.

Certain areas of Sri Lanka have active, dynamic, and involved **civil society networks**. It's not the same all across the country. The CSOs in Badulla, Hatton, Batticaloa, Trinco, and Vavuniya are collaborating. It strengthens the citizen representation, monitoring, protection, and assistance to Sri Lanka. The strengthening of existing networks has been the main added value to peacebuilding and social cohesion in many places. The next **value added** was the financial grants. These grants have been used to continue the care and treatment of the mental health of the victims of torture. To ensure that there is accountability for grant disbursements, all programmatic support was given by UNOPS (E.g.: when giving the crisis grant, the process on how to select the elderly who were isolated and how to use mobility analysis based on income and expenditures). Further, they have also worked closely with the government to ensure accountability.

*"Furthermore, the platform created is a safe space for the CSOs. Now we are going to transfer the platform for them to continue, which is a **value addition**. During the training, we are providing a value addition for their work. Young workers who work don't possess GIS and ICT skills, however from the training provided, they are able to obtain the relevant knowledge."* (KII A)

*"At the initial stage, we request them to submit a proposal. From their proposal, we identified whether they are within the most marginalized groups. We are communicating all the results with the stakeholders, and with CSOs. We are sharing data through the meetings. Data is shared through fact sheets, which creates **accountability**, as gaps can be identified. During activities, government officials and the requirements are updated."* (KII A)

Another view on the difference made includes a). Providing financial grants, artistic support, and project management training capacities are building up in the CSOs which will help to strengthen peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b). when CSOs receive the proper training, they provide effective and efficient services to their beneficiaries, and c). there are no negative impacts reported from the project stakeholders or partners.

According to CSO activists' opinion, the differences that the project made are; a) the **multi-racial community** that lived apart got an opportunity to unite, which helped support an initial phase of peacebuilding, and a certain degree of harmony between the two communities was made possible, b) their business acumen and economic system of earning income has increased, and their attitude has changed, and goodwill and friendship has been formed among races who saw one another as enemies before the project; and c) a positive mindset has been created.

"As I said earlier, the multi-racial community that lived apart got an opportunity to unite. This helped to support an initial phase of peace-building. I have already said that there was no connection between the two communities, and their economy and livelihood were separated. This project gave an opportunity to unite two or three communities." (KII K).

From FGDs, it is clearly attributed that the project has benefited the community in positive ways.

"...People in our community have more awareness, knowledge, and experience about how to face a challenge. Now they know about legal rights, laws, and activities. Also, they are able to contact relevant officers and know where we should approach in proper manner. They are also educating others through our network and guides others to move. This helps in peacebuilding." (FGD B)

The project has provided support through the grant to help women householders establish financial stability. The training programs which are imparted to beneficiaries, help the family members and people in their community to lead a life in a peaceful path. However, to be completely successful, it is necessary to overcome conflict-affected issues such as abuse, sexual harassment, and drug addiction which are significant threats that need further consideration in some areas.

“... As a final event of this project without any man support, all women conducted whole event by taking responsibilities. We also very happy about it; ... we were provided material and equipment support with a funding of UNOPS. and, these are the major successful outcomes.” (FGD A).

The project can make a difference by providing career guidance and organizing job fairs, which are in high demand, for the youth in these communities who are growing up in an environment that offers limited opportunities. This need has not been addressed in any operating location of the CSOs. If this aspect is not looked into and solutions provided, it will pose a significant threat to society in the future. It is suggested that capacity development programs need to be provided to competent authorities (e.g. JSAC staff) who can work with the relevant areas which will enable the CSO leadership to provide more efficient and effective support to society.

“There are no negative impacts from this project. We have many positive points in that we have started this business by a women’s group. We have good integration with each other, and we have got to know many stakeholders” (FGD – E)

To make a difference, it is suggested that the project initiates a model country exposure visit or organizes virtual training sessions to provide exposure to the principles of peace and human rights which will help in bringing more effective results.

Inhibiting factors: Several external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes. The government may have its objectives for a sensitive project of this nature.. However, the project was able to handle it strategically by taking a proactive approach to engage with government officials from the selected areas and securing their consent as a first step. This collaborative effort fostered stronger government support for project initiatives. Humanitarian assistance was provided by other UN Agencies such as FAO and World Vision as their ambassadors, ministers, etc. wanted to understand the current political and conflict analysis situation. Therefore, UNOPS has organized dialogues between these high-level diplomats and communities, and it has become an unexpected external factor that has been supportive of the project. In parallel to the peacebuilding interventions, humanitarian assistance was provided.

For example, the project received some support from the government, especially in North & East and Hill country. In addition, it has received favorable support from NGOs. Furthermore, a lot of food assistance to the communities came through the CSOs. In terms of mental health, a psychiatric follow-up in remote areas is currently being conducted on behalf of the MOH. There are many victims of the conflict and many patients requiring psychiatric assistance. However, the psychiatrists, and clinicians who provide support for these victims and patients are unable to cater to all of them due to the financial crisis. This situation brought about by the financial crisis applies to shelters as well. The deterioration of the social-political situation in Sri Lanka is bringing together the government and civil society to address the needs of the population and the needs of vulnerable communities, which is a positive development that can be witnessed.

However, from a negative perspective, the state intelligence has been a threat to the project, and some partners who have been engaged with the project had to temporarily pause their works while completing the project. (E.g.: UNOPS has provided financial grants to these partners who had to pause their work as they were too scared to continue following threats which became too dangerous for them to continue their operations).

In navigating these complex factors, the project demonstrates adaptability and resilience in addressing challenges while striving to meet its objectives.

4.5. Sustainability & Ownership

Sustainability and Exit Strategy: The project personnel are of the view that this project is a catalytic project. As such, in the design stage of the project, a test was conducted to ascertain its feasibility. In terms of the exit strategy, the project, which ended on the 5th of June 2023, has been developed based on a **six-year strategy**. The PBF project, which is the project currently being evaluated, is 2 years in duration which is followed by the next 2 years to establish the platform supporting civil society. The following final 2 years are for project extension.

Different CSOs have different capabilities, some require much more time than others while some can catch up quickly and continue the sustainability of the benefits provided.

As UNOPS is working primarily in the North and the East and the Hill Country under this project, there are many other civil society requests for support from other parts of the country. UNOPS is dedicated to fulfilling the requests from other areas and increasing their support to a higher number of members. The last two years of the project are allocated to building the platform to a **Civil Society Coalition**. When UNOPS decided to embark on this project, safety and risks were key concerns. Currently, UNOPS is setting up the platform and is in the process of building up a number of civil society organizations to take over from them and pursue the work.

By inculcating the thought that their actions have repercussions and reminding them to step into the shoes of the victims, they believe that the sustainability of the project will be maintained. Although the project does not follow a specific exit strategy, the services that the project has provided to the stakeholders will continue for a long time. Furthermore, as indicated by project personnel, the project is moving to its second phase covering a larger beneficiary group. The importance of such a backup plan was also highlighted in the sample survey.

Government and Civil Society Commitment: Project outcomes will be sustainable provided that the training of key government officials including officials at the lower levels continues as they can use those skills and knowledge in their day-to-day work and duties. The CSO took a psychosocial approach to train the officials on how to provide support to marginalized groups in working towards countering the victimization processes.

“Participants of those training programs obtain good knowledge and they are being role models for others. Now they are able to train others. For example, one of our beneficiaries who is an especially able person, received about 8 trainings and now she is conducting training programs for other”. (FGD B).

“I’m a divorced woman. I have a lack of knowledge about the judicial system. My ex-husband is cheating without paying the monthly settlement ordered by the court. CSOs and their lawyer supported and guided me for my case.” (Participant 5, FGD F)

Capacity Enhancement: Most of the CBOs that were interviewed (FGDs) are of the opinion that the project needs to provide a wider coverage with an extended time duration for it to be sustained. It was observed that different CSOs have their own strengths and weaknesses in dealing particularly with the project themes (peace-building, human rights, women empowerment, psychosocial assistance, social cohesion & livelihood support). However, partnering CBOs/women’s groups have shown different capabilities, where some require much more time while others can catch up quickly and sustainably continue the accrued benefits.

“We work actively and manage the finances properly and also build a bridge between stakeholders and beneficiaries. We use this grant to build a sustainable healthy relationship and to communicate with external stakeholders and government sectors.” (FGD – B).4.

The survey findings also underscore the enhanced capacity of CSOs/partner organizations to actively promote peacebuilding and human rights. Tables 4.17 to 4.21 in the report provide a visual representation illustrating the perspectives of CSOs and the other partner organizations regarding the sustainability of their institutions in carrying out peacebuilding and human rights activities.

Table 4.17 Sustainability and Ownership Ability: Pillar 01 (Financial Grants)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
CSOs are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work	8.3	8.3	8.3	50.0	25.0
CSOs are good enough now to carry out their work since being a part of the Vridhhi Network	8.3	16.7	33.3	33.3	8.3
CSOs have enough cultural awareness and competence now		16.7	50.0	33.3	
All members of CSOs are capable now	8.3	8.3	41.7	16.7	25.0
CSOs can get the necessary support from the relevant government institutions		41.7	41.7	8.3	8.3
The project has enhanced the capacity of government agencies and their officers		58.3	25.0	16.7	

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.18 Sustainability and Ownership Ability: Pillar 02 (Skills Development Support)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
CSOs are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work	2.9	5.9	14.7	41.2	35.3
CSOs are good enough now to carry out their work since being a part of the Vridhhi Network	2.9	5.9	32.4	41.2	17.6
CSOs have enough cultural awareness and competence now		14.7	50.0	32.4	2.9
All members of CSOs are capable now	5.9	5.9	52.9	20.6	14.7
CSOs can get the necessary support from the relevant government institutions		17.6	55.9	11.8	14.7
The project has enhanced the capacity of government agencies and their officers		23.5	44.1	23.5	8.8

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.19 Sustainability and Ownership Ability: Pillar 03 (Protection)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
CSOs are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work	4.5	6.8	20.5	36.4	31.8
CSOs are good enough now to carry out their work since being a part of the Vriddhi Network	2.3	6.8	27.3	45.5	18.2
CSOs have enough cultural awareness and competence now		15.9	40.9	36.4	6.8
All members of CSOs are capable now	4.5	11.4	43.2	27.3	13.6
CSOs can get the necessary support from the relevant government institutions		18.2	56.8	9.1	15.9
The project has enhanced the capacity of government agencies and their officers	2.3	20.5	43.2	22.7	11.4

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.20 Sustainability and Ownership Ability: Pillar 04 (ICT Services)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
CSOs are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work	2.1	4.2	27.1	37.5	29.2
CSOs are good enough now to carry out their work since being a part of the Vriddhi Network	4.2	8.3	31.3	37.5	18.8
CSOs have enough cultural awareness and competence now	2.1	10.4	41.7	33.3	12.5
All members of CSOs are capable now	4.2	14.6	43.8	27.1	10.4
CSOs can get the necessary support from the relevant government institutions	4.2	20.8	45.8	18.8	10.4
The project has enhanced the capacity of government agencies and their officers	4.2	29.2	33.3	27.1	6.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table 4.21 Sustainability and Ownership Ability: Pillar 05 (Artistic Support)

	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
CSOs are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work			33.30	33.3	33.3

CSOs are good enough now to carry out their work since being a part of the Vridhhi Network		33.3	33.3	33.3	
CSOs have enough cultural awareness and competence now				100	
All members of CSOs capable now				100	
CSOs can get the necessary support from the relevant government institutions			66.7	33.3	
The project has enhanced the capacity of government agencies and their officers		66.7	33.3	-	

Source: Sample survey 2023

Based on the findings presented in Tables 4.17 to 4.21, it can be observed that the CSOs/partners exhibit a moderate level of sustainability in their endeavors related to peacebuilding and human rights activities. To bolster the capacity of our partners, including women's organizations, the project extends support through the provision of various essential services and equipment. This encompasses IT equipment, IT services, communication services, translation services, mapping services, and research services, as illustrated in Table 4.9, which details the services received from the project.

It is evident that beneficiaries are actively leveraging the facilities, knowledge, and other services provided by the CSOs to advance their livelihoods, contribute to peacebuilding, promote human rights, and address various social concerns. This conclusion is substantiated by the findings from KIIs and FGDs.

“Through the business training, we are able to maintain cost, income and profit account, and sustain in our business.” (Participant 1, FGD F)..... “I’m an especially able person. So, I received many criticisms in society and lived with a lack of self-confidence. Through the CSO’s long-time support and training, now I feel like a self-worth person and I take pride in being an example that everyone can achieve what they set their mind to and succeed. Now I also take part in training programs and awareness programs with these CSOs as a resource person.” (Participant 2, FGD 2).

Nevertheless, it becomes apparent that these CSOs would benefit from ongoing external support interventions, similar to the existing project, to attain a state of complete and self-sustained viability. It was further observed that most of the benefits provided to these organizations would only be sustained if they were ready to rely on their strengths and do away with the dependency attitude, which calls for continuous external assistance.

4.6. Coherence

Synergy and Complementarity with Other Projects: According to project personnel and other stakeholders, Grant assistance has maintained consistency in providing support which matches the work of other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF, ILO etc. However, CSOs’ demand for further assistance shows the inadequacy of Grant assistance to match their needs.

The project’s skills development support services have contributed to meeting the high demand in this sector, creating synergy with other parallel programs of different UN agencies, INGOs, and CSOs themselves. The project’s support in relation to legal protection and realization of human rights is consistent with the globally

accepted UN charter, which sets out the aim of the world organizations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights.

Furthermore, ICT-related services of the project are on par with the element of coherence in relation to providing equal opportunities to men and women across the country and in keeping with accepted norms of other similar programs.

Similar to other pillars, under the Art pillar also, the project stakeholders have been involved in the identification of recipients' needs which are included at the implementation stage, and the project has catered to hitherto unserved marginalized individuals and groups, as revealed by KIIs with project personnel (Re. KIIs G, L & V).

Overall, the project has demonstrated a commendable level of logical consistency and alignment among its various elements, components, and activities. However, there is room for improvement in the conceptualization of the five pillars and their associated activities, which could benefit from further clarity.

4.7. Conflict-Sensitivity

Approach to Conflict Sensitivity: As presented by several key informants as well as some CSO groups, the assistance to partnering CSOs to fulfill their financial base and other services has worked as the project's approach to deal with conflict-sensitivity, keeping in line with the felt requirements of the marginalized groups.

Internal Capacities for Conflict-Sensitivity: Furthermore, the internal capacities of both UNOPS and UNODC have been adequately used to impart knowledge for skill development support, ensuring the ongoing conflict-sensitive approach in the relevant project locations. All 5 pillars, and in particular, providing access to the Justice and Legal Assistance Pillar, the project has followed an explicit approach to conflict-sensitivity, keeping a close connection between peace and human rights. It was observed that human beings can achieve full enjoyment of their rights only under conditions of peace (Re. KIIs L, V & Q).

It was also observed that the project has followed an **explicit approach** to impart services in a conflict-sensitive manner using the existing capacities of both implementing partners (UNOPS and UNODC). Support to individuals and groups as assistance to partnering CSO members have fulfilled their identified requirements mainly in conflict-affected project locations.

Context Monitoring and Impact Monitoring: The project team from UNOPS and UNDOC has developed a joint Monitoring & Evaluation plan along with a mid-term review every 6 months to reassess the situation and feasibility to make necessary operational adjustments. The M&E Timeline included initial baseline surveys, capacity and KAP assessments in the initial months to further adjust the quarterly targets in discussion between UNOPS, UNODC, and the respective implementing partners before being shared in progress reports and meetings. As planned, the final evaluation was conducted by an independent third party to measure the impact of the project and its overall performance. The final evaluation included quantitative and qualitative aspects, data collection, desk review, analysis, surveys, KIIs, and FGDs. Similarly, UNOPS has conducted internal reviews.

4.8. Inter-Agency and Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration

The project is a collaborative endeavor involving **multiple agencies and stakeholders**. In addition to the collaborative efforts of the project's recipient organizations, namely the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the project actively engages with a network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and partner organizations.

UNOPS activities include: Protection, provision of Financial Grants, Civil society capacity assessment, mapping and building, provision of digital and technical ICT support, and Research and Documentation. UNODC activities are: Stakeholder meetings with District and Divisional Secretariats to enhance the marginalized communities' capacity in access to services and redress, Provision on developing information material for guidance to access to services and redress; Provision of training sessions for female-led organizations, CBOs and CSOs on access to services and redress/conflict resolution/ reporting violence, and Provision of training for government officials on how to responsibly and effectively support communities for accessing services.

Many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been actively involved as beneficiaries, including prominent entities such as: The Women's Resource Centre, Rajarata Kendaraya, Social Action Centre, Centre for Women Development, Affected Women Forum, Muslim Women Forum Research and Action, Muslim Women Development Trust, Fokus Women, Janakaraliya Foundation, Ratnapura Art Collective, and The Bar Association of Sri Lanka and its regional branches.

Additionally, the project collaborates with several government agencies including the Legal Aid Commission, Sri Lanka (as an implementing partner), District and Divisional Secretariats within selected project areas, as well as universities such as Wajamba, Uva Wellassa, South-Eastern, Sabaragamuwa, Rajarata, Jaffna, and Eastern Universities. Furthermore, the Colombo Visual Art Faculty serves as a coordinating partner in this multi-stakeholder collaboration effort.

4.9. Mitigate Risks and Challenges

To effectively mitigate risks and challenges in a project, it is essential to have a structured plan and approach in place. The project planners have identified potential risks and challenges at the project design stage. During the project's design phase, the planners diligently identified potential risks and challenges, as outlined in the project proposal. These included: (i) increasing restrictions on civil society imposed by the GoSL, (ii) Government institutions and key public officials being made redundant/discontinued; (iii) fear of engaging with the proposed platform of support; and (iv) physical implementation of some of the activities due to COVID-19 restrictions. The economic crisis was not anticipated at the design stage. The project has included its mitigation strategies as well.

According to the project staff, there was a big pushback against the project even from inside the UN as to why the UN was going to undertake a risk to protect and support civil society. The second aspect was the reputational risk it could suffer if the government was going to question this work. The project designers have mitigated this risk by involving the government in this project, specifically through financial management.

The only aspect that specifically challenged the CSOs was the **duration of the grants awarded** considered too short to see an improvement/impact in 6 months. Despite the large number of people who had these needs, some activities were abandoned due to insufficient funds, and as such fair allocation of funds was not possible.

“... Despite the large number of people who had these needs, we had to abandon it due to lack of funds. We also encountered disagreements due to this. For example, if 50 people are to be selected in a village, the amount required for 100 people may be needed. In this situation, there may be some conflicts between the government agencies and the selected people in the villages.” (KII K)

4.10. Vridhhi Network

Certain regions in Sri Lanka boast active and dynamic civil society networks, though the situation is not uniform throughout the country. Notably, CSOs in Badulla, Hatton, Batticaloa, Trinco, and Vavuniya have forged collaborative bonds. This collaborative spirit bolsters citizen representation, monitoring, protection, and

assistance efforts throughout Sri Lanka. The enhancement of these existing networks has emerged as a pivotal catalyst for peacebuilding and social cohesion in various localities. Thus, it remains imperative to unite civil society organizations laboring on behalf of the populace, offering them the appropriate guidance and acknowledgment at the grassroots level. Such policies necessitate the recognition of civil society to ensure the formulation of laws that do not hinder their vital work. As per several stakeholders' perspectives, this network, if cultivated with sustainable, long-term strategies, undoubtedly holds the potential to significantly contribute to peacebuilding.

Within the framework of the Vriddhi network, several key activities have been executed spanning a spectrum of thematic areas including agriculture and food security, livelihood, education, water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, shelter, housing, resettlement, human rights, legal assistance, protection, psychosocial support, nutrition, social cohesion, and health which were delivered under the 5 pillars. These activities encompass:

- Conducting awareness sessions on access to justice.
- Delivering training on protection measures.
- Offering legal assistance to victims of human rights violations, coupled with the documentation and archiving of human rights events in Sri Lanka.
- Providing training to lawyers in fundamental rights and criminal defense.
- Empowering communities by enhancing their awareness of Right to Information (RTI) processes.
- Conducting community awareness campaigns on Gender-Based Violence (GBV).
- Engaging children, youth, women, CSOs, and religious leaders in community activities to foster social cohesion.
- Enabling youth participation in the prevention of hate speech.
- Extending psychosocial assistance to victims.
- Training mental health and psychosocial practitioners.
- Distributing food aid, promoting home gardening, and offering livelihood support.

The Vriddhi network embodies an innovative strategy for advancing peacebuilding and human rights promotion in Sri Lanka, especially through its partnerships with women-led groups, networks, and human rights advocates across the nation. The Vriddhi network continues to expand its reach and influence, currently boasting over 150 dedicated members. This project has the potential to bring about transformative and far-reaching changes in the pursuit of peace, justice, and human rights in the region.

Table 4.22 Matrix on Criteria-wise Evaluation by Five Core Pillars of Assistance: Summary of Findings

Evaluation Criteria	FIVE CORE PILLARS OF ASSISTANCE (AS PER TOR)				
	1. Financial Grants (Provision of financial assistance)	2. Skills Development Support Services (Training)	3. Protection (Access to justice & legal assistance)	4. IT & Communication Services (procurement & equipment)	5. Support to Artists (artistic creations)
1. Relevance & Appropriateness	<p><i>-It is relevant and appropriate to provide grants to the most needy CSOs. First-round grants were given at \$ 10,000 to 10 CBOs; Second round - 4 grants were given at \$ 30,000 as food assistance (mainly for food & livelihoods) Another 4 to Artists.</i></p> <p><i>-All the grants are provided in LKR.</i></p> <p><i>-In total, grants were provided to 18 CSOs.</i></p> <p><i>-Grant assistance was the most relevant pillar to many beneficiary groups</i></p>	<p><i>-A critical factor that contributes to achieving the goal of peace and social cohesion in Sri Lanka is strengthening civil society, which can protect the vulnerable and raise concerns.</i></p> <p><i>-As such, project goals and approach are appropriate and strategic, and on par with peacebuilding efforts, priorities, and challenges</i></p> <p><i>-Skills & learning was a high-priority area of most CBOs/Groups</i></p>	<p><i>Access to justice has addressed issues related to fundamental rights and gender sensitivity</i></p> <p><i>Beneficiaries, CSOs many individuals require legal, land rights, education, psychosocial assistance which is not provided by the public services.</i></p> <p><i>This pillar of project assistance is relevant to the UN's peacebuilding strategic objectives in particular to SDG 16 (Peace & Justice)</i></p>	<p><i>The needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries provided to CSOs/Groups, in consultation during the implementation period meeting SDG 5 (Gender Equality)</i></p> <p><i>-These services & equipment were a continued demand throughout the implementation period</i></p>	<p><i>-Under this pillar, assistance has been provided to areas; viz. a)Film and cinema, b) Performing arts, c) Music, d) Drama, e) Arts & creative literature.</i></p> <p><i>-The project has supported a lot of people, who work with the youth allowing them to work thereby preventing youth from going into drugs & other anti-social livelihoods; and help themselves to be involved in meaningful work for their community as well.</i></p>
2. Efficiency	<p><i>Over and above other pillars, the financial resource disbursement and management were closely monitored by the Senior M&E Officer, enabling rational utilization of allocated</i></p>	<p><i>-The Senior M&E Officer of UNOPS, being the focal point in charge of overall monitoring of results, has used their field staff to effectively collect and update data</i></p>	<p><i>-Project efficiency in this pillar has been evident by employing a Program Associate to head the pillar and introducing legal services/protection by</i></p>	<p><i>Being a demanded area of assistance, ITC and associated services are extended by the project team to communicate with CSO partners, stakeholders, and other</i></p>	<p><i>-Project efficiency in this pillar too has been evident by employing a separate Program Associate to head the pillar and closely looking into the needs of Artistic groups and individuals through local-level focal point. support staff.</i></p>

	<i>funds by all recipients, converting them into outputs in a timely and cost-effective manner.</i>	<i>and manage the project outputs. -The hiccups & delays in project implementation have been compensated to minimize missed opportunities to harness potential.</i>	<i>BASL officer/stakeholder. -Overall staffing, has been planned and coordinated to facilitate the project area together with relevant UN and local authorities, & other stakeholders</i>	<i>project beneficiaries in a progressive manner. -Project has worked towards other UN partners like FAO ensuring synergies with such programs launched by other agencies and in relation to procurement and grant management</i>	
03. Effectiveness	<i>All Key Informants have positively admitted the fact that the project has achieved its intended objectives, outputs, and outcomes keeping in line with its results framework.</i>	<i>The project has contributed to its strategic vision and Skills Development Support Services to CSOs has enhanced their capacities thereby contributing to their efforts in conflict prevention and peacebuilding</i>	<i>The beneficiary groups, in particular, are of the view that the contribution made to the project's strategy in protecting and resilience building of civil society and thereby actions leading to conflict prevention are highly commendable.</i>	<i>-ITC area of the project has contributed to addressing other crosscutting thematic areas interrelated with peacebuilding and conflict prevention. -The project has a healthy bias in the project's targeting strategy in terms of geographic locations and beneficiary targeting</i>	<i>An effective connection between artists groups has been demonstrated by all the artists who came to display their work. The project is trying to connect people. through these artists and journalists, and facilitating them to form a network. (e.g. satisfactory progress has been shown in the Eastern Province in this regard</i>
4. Impact <i>(The project has completed only its first 2-year phase and has planned a second 2-year phase. Therefore, it is premature to measure actual project impact. However 'difference made by the project' is used</i>	<i>-Demand for further grant assistance is a governing factor in facilitating or inhibiting the achievement of positive project impact.</i>	<i>Next to financial grants, 'skills development support services' has been the core pillar that the project has produced as a secondary yet critical service. It has generated positive results that have affected people's livelihoods and well-being.</i>	<i>- Many marginalized groups are supported through the project in terms of legal protection and realization of human rights. -With this Pillar of assistance, access to justice & legal assistance goal has been achieved to a considerable extent for continuation in the</i>	<i>-The partnering CBOs & other groups have received IT & Communication Services, including procurement and equipment, making a tangible difference to them, as they have not received such equipment and services before from the government or any other service provider.</i>	<i>Art-related assistance has a spin-off impact as it has attracted many young and talented artists who represent various parts of Sri Lanka. This is one of the achievements made by the Art Pillar, through public outreach and marketing workshops.</i>

<i>in the analysis of project impact).</i>			<i>next phase of the project aiming at higher-level results of a transformative nature.</i>		
<p>5. Sustainability & Ownership</p> <p><i>The project personnel are of the view that as this project is a catalytic project. As such, in the design stage, a test was conducted to ascertain its feasibility. In terms of the exit strategy, the project which ended on 5th June 2023, has been developed based on a six-year strategy)</i></p>	<p><i>-CSOs worked actively and managed the finances properly and also built a bridge between stakeholders and beneficiaries. Most of the partner CSOs have built sustainable and healthy relationships and communication with external stakeholders effectively using the grant</i></p>	<p><i>There has been no direct enhancement of the project in terms of the capacity of government agencies, as it extended its support to CSOs and other groups that are in need of such skills /capacities that have contributed towards sustaining the efforts and benefits</i></p>	<p><i>In terms of legal protection, the project has made a strong commitment to all concerned parties to sustain the project results and continuing initiatives, especially women empowerment and women participation in decision-making.</i></p>	<p><i>-The Pillar of IT and Communication Services is a continuous process, that calls for an appropriate sustainability concern, including a promotion of national/local ownership, development of the capacity of civil society, government, and other stakeholders</i></p>	<p><i>Like the other pillars, Art also needs a sustainability and exit strategy in continuing support for positive changes through various artistic creations by imparting know-how for peacebuilding even after the end of the total project period</i></p>

6. Coherence	<i>Grant assistance has maintained consistency to impart support which matches to the work of other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNICEP, ILO etc. However, CSOs' demand for further assistance shows the inadequacy to match their needs.</i>	<i>The project's skills development support services have contributed to meet the high demand in this sector, creating synergy with other parallel programs of different UN agencies, INGOs, and CSOs themselves.</i>	<i>The project's support in relation to legal protection and realization of human rights is in coherence with the globally accepted UN charter, which sets out the aim of the world organizations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights,</i>	<i>ITC-related services of the project are on par with the element of coherence in relation to providing equal opportunities to men and women across the country and in keeping with accepted norms that are carried out by other similar programs.</i>	<i>Particularly under the Art pillar, project stakeholders have been involved in the identification of recipients' needs which are included at the implementation stage, and the project has catered to hitherto unserved marginalized individuals and groups. (Re. KIIs G, L & V).</i>
7. Conflict-Sensitivity	<i>Assistance to partnering CSOs to fulfill their financial base has worked as the project's approach to deal with conflict-sensitivity keeping in line with felt requirements of the marginalized groups</i>	<i>The internal capacities of both UNOPS and UNODC have been adequately used to impart knowledge for skill development support, ensuring the ongoing conflict-sensitive approach in the relevant locations.</i>	<i>All 5 pillars, in particular, providing access under Justice & Legal Assistance Pillar, the project has followed an explicit approach to conflict-sensitivity, with a close connection between peace and human rights. Only under conditions of peace can human beings achieve full enjoyment of their rights.</i>	<i>The project has followed an explicit approach to impart services in a conflict-sensitive manner using the existing capacities of both implementing partners (UNOPS and UNODC). (Re. KIIs L, V & Q).</i>	<i>Support to individuals and groups as assistance to partnering CSO members have fulfilled their identified requirements mainly in conflict-affected locations.</i>

Table 4.23 - Summary of The Findings Related to Evaluation Questions

Evaluation areas and questions	Summary of the findings related to evaluation questions
<p>RELEVANCE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent were the project goals and approach relevant in addressing conflict drivers and factors for peace identified in a conflict analysis? If there were significant contextual shifts, did the project goals and approach remain relevant throughout the implementation? 2. Were the project goals and approach appropriate and strategic to the peacebuilding goals, priorities, and challenges in the country at the time of the project's design? Did relevance continue throughout implementation? 3. Was the project relevant to the UN's peacebuilding strategic objectives, mandate, and the SDGs, in particular, SDG 5 and 16 4. To what extent is the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries? Were they consulted during the design and implementation of the project? 	<p>This project is designed to make a meaningful contribution to the protection and resilience-building of civil society in Sri Lanka, even in the face of a rapidly shrinking operating space. It specifically targets grassroots women's organizations, human rights defenders, artists, and activists who are at the forefront of conflict prevention, all while leveraging the support of government allies. The project's overarching goal is to establish an integrated support program that addresses a range of critical needs, including protection, financial support, legal aid, skill enhancement, and creative empowerment. By doing so, it aims to enhance the capacity of these individuals and groups to carry out their vital work, ultimately improving their ability to cope with challenges and strengthening their resilience.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project was able to conceptualize conflict drivers and factors for peacebuilding and human rights at the grassroots level (bottom-up approach: innovative integrated approach). 2. The project is strategically designed to work at the micro-level, building the capacity of civil society groups and individuals, thereby contributing significantly to peacebuilding objectives. 3. The project falls under the UN's Conflict Prevention and Management agenda. It contributes to: Driver 3. Human security and socio-economic resilience. Human Rights, Gender, Youth, and conflict sensitivity are cross-cutting themes on all UNSDF outcomes for Sri Lanka, UNSDF Sri Lanka (2018-2022), and Driver 2 on 'Strengthened innovative public institutions and engagement towards a lasting peace'. Further, the project directly contributes to Sustainable Development Goal(s): SDG 5 on Gender Equality, and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. 4. The results of the study demonstrate its relevance and appropriateness, as it effectively addresses pivotal conflict drivers and pertinent peacebuilding concerns within the community. The project has accurately gauged the needs of beneficiaries, and subsequently, these identified needs have been effectively met.
<p>EFFICIENCY:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The Senior M&E Officer of UNOPS/UNODC, being the focal point in charge of overall monitoring of results, has used their field staff to effectively collect and update data and

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. How efficient was the overall staffing, planning, and coordination within the project (including between the two implementing agencies, relevant UN and local authorities, Civil Society, and other stakeholders)? 6. To what extent have the financial resources been converted to outputs in a timely and cost-effective manner? 7. How efficient and successful was the project's implementation approach, including activities under the 5 core pillars, procurement, and grant management? 8. How well did the project collect and use data to monitor results? How effectively was the updated data used to manage the project? 9. Were there delays in project implementation? Did these delays create missed opportunities to address time-sensitive peacebuilding opportunities? 10. How well did the project team communicate with CSO partners, stakeholders, and project beneficiaries on its progress? 11. To what extent did the PBF project ensure synergies within different programs of UN agencies and other implementing organizations? 	<p>manage the project outputs. It successfully identifies and meets the specific needs of beneficiaries.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. At the evaluation stage, a budget breakdown was not provided. However, under the 5 pillars, the financial resource disbursement and management were closely monitored by the Senior M&E Officer, enabling rational utilization of allocated funds by all recipients, converting them into outputs in a timely and cost-effective manner. Certain delays were observed due to the prevailing crises in the country (COVID-19 and the economic crisis). 7. The project's staffing has been well-coordinated to facilitate operations in the project area, in collaboration with relevant UN and local authorities, and other stakeholders. Activities across the five core pillars have been efficiently delivered, although the conceptualization of the 5 pillars is not clear. 8. The project team from UNOPS and UNDOC has developed a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation plan along with a mid-term review every 6 months to reassess the situation and feasibility to make necessary operational adjustments. Baseline surveys, capacity assessments, and internal evaluations have already been conducted. 9. Delays and challenges in project implementation have been managed effectively, minimizing missed opportunities to harness the full potential of the project. 10. Results of the study (KIIs and FGDs) indicate that the project has maintained a continuous focus on progress monitoring, with the Senior M&E Officer of UNOPS overseeing the overall results monitoring efforts. Additionally, dedicated Program Associates have been assigned to oversee specific pillars and address the needs of artistic groups and individuals at the local level. 11. There is enough evidence to show that the project ensured synergies within different programs of UN agencies. For instance, the project has worked towards other UN partners like FAO ensuring synergies with such programs launched by other agencies and in relation to procurement and grant management.
<p>EFFECTIVENESS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. To what extent did the project achieve its intended objectives, outputs, and outcomes in line with the results framework 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. The study results unequivocally affirm that the project has diligently achieved its stated objectives, outputs, and outcomes, remaining wholly aligned with its results framework (refer to Chapter sections 4.5 & 4.6).

<p>13. How did the project contribute to the project's strategic vision in protecting and resilience building of civil society and thereby contribute to conflict prevention and peacebuilding?</p> <p>14. What were the reasons for the achievement or non-achievement of the planned results?</p> <p>15. To what extent did the project substantively mainstream a gender and support gender-responsive peacebuilding with a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes?</p> <p>16. To what extent did the project contribute in addressing other cross-cutting thematic areas interrelated with peacebuilding and conflict prevention/</p> <p>17. How appropriate and clear was the project's targeting strategy in terms of geographic and beneficiary targeting?</p>	<p>13. The project has been instrumental in enhancing the capacity of relevant CSOs/partners, women leaders, and artists (Section 4.6). These empowered stakeholders are now actively engaged with communities in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts (Section 4.6 & 4.7). It is noteworthy that the beneficiary groups express their deep appreciation for the project's contributions to protecting civil society and fostering resilience, which, in turn, facilitates conflict prevention.</p> <p>14. The project exhibited prudence during the design phase by meticulously identifying potential risks and challenges, as documented in the project proposal. These included: (i) heightened restrictions on civil society imposed by the Government of Sri Lanka, (ii) the discontinuation of government institutions and key public officials, (iii) apprehension regarding engagement with the proposed support platform, and (iv) constraints on the physical implementation of certain activities due to COVID-19 restrictions. Notably, the economic crisis situation, unforeseen at the design stage, has been effectively addressed through the inclusion of mitigation strategies.</p> <p>15. The project has been a catalyst for promoting women's empowerment, elevating peace and well-being as top priorities. It has placed specific emphasis on facilitating women's active participation in peacebuilding processes and has effectively contributed to advancing gender equality (Section 4.5).</p> <p>16. This project has systematically addressed a spectrum of critical cross-cutting issues within the country context, including (1) Human Rights, (2) Food Security, (3) Livelihood, and (4) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Section 4.2).</p> <p>17. The project's targeting strategy exhibits a commendable geographical balance and beneficiary diversity. Some CSOs involved in the project operate across the entire country, ensuring a broad and inclusive reach (Section 4.6).</p>
<p>IMPACT</p> <p>18. To what extent has the project achieved the planned higher-level results of a transformative nature?</p> <p>19. To what extent has the project produced secondary or indirect positive results likely to affect people's well-being and realization of human rights?</p>	<p>18. This project holds immense potential for instigating transformative and far-reaching changes in the relentless pursuit of peace, justice, and the safeguarding of human rights in the region (Section 4.6).</p> <p>19. The sample study serves as a compelling testament to the project's tangible contributions across several critical domains: (i) Remarkable achievements in conflict prevention and peacebuilding throughout the country, (ii) The commendable endeavors in safeguarding</p>

<p>20. What factors facilitated or inhibited the achievement of a positive impact?</p>	<p>and nurturing the resilience of civil society actors, (iii) Noteworthy advancements in gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders, and (iv) Substantive progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular emphasis on SDG 5 and 16 (Section 4.6).</p> <p>20. Employing a participatory approach during the project's design phase has proven instrumental in ensuring its effectiveness. At the implementation stage, the project's organizational structure has been thoughtfully orchestrated to maximize efficiency and impact. Furthermore, the project has meticulously crafted a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation plan to continually track and assess its progress.</p>
<p>SUSTAINABILITY & OWNERSHIP</p> <p>21. Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, development of the capacity of civil society, government, and other stakeholders etc.) to support positive changes in peacebuilding after the end of the project?</p> <p>22. How strong is the commitment of the Government and Civil Society Organizations to sustaining the results of project support and continuing initiatives, especially women empowerment and women participation in decision-making, through the Vridhhi platform</p> <p>23. To what extent did the project enhance the capacity of government agencies, civil society organizations, and individuals to contribute towards sustaining the efforts and benefits?</p>	<p>21. The project proposal highlights the exit strategy and sustainability. The ultimate ambition of this project is to improve the resilience and sustainability of the civil society in Sri Lanka and of its female leaders across the country as a primary protection measure and also with the aim to achieve their self-reliance and self-care. There is no follow-up strategy.</p> <p>22. Throughout the project, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and women leaders have consistently exhibited their unwavering commitment. However, the commitment of government agencies to promote civic engagement has been relatively limited, particularly in light of the ongoing economic crisis. Interestingly, as the economic crisis persists, there is a growing imperative for government institutions to collaborate with civil society and non-governmental organizations, resulting in a notable increase in their contributions (Section 4.7).</p> <p>23. The project has effectively demonstrated its capacity-building initiatives for CSOs, partners, and women leaders. However, there remains less clear evidence of how the project directly supports government officers (Section 4.7).</p>
<p>COHERENCE:</p> <p>24. To what extent did the project complement work and create synergies with other projects implemented by different entities, especially with other UN actors, NGOs, and Civil Society Organizations?</p>	<p>24. According to project personnel and various stakeholders, the project assistance has remained consistently complementary to the efforts of other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF, and ILO, among others (Section 4.8).</p> <p>25. Both primary and secondary stakeholders have actively participated in the project's design and implementation processes (Section 4.2).</p>

25. How were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?	
CONFLICT-SENSITIVITY 26. Did the project have an explicit approach to conflict-sensitivity? 27. Were UNOPS and UNODC internal capacities adequate for ensuring an ongoing conflict-sensitive approach? 28. To what extent was the ongoing process of context monitoring and a monitoring system that allows for monitoring of unintended impacts established?	26. As articulated by several key informants and CSO groups, the project's support for partnering CSOs in enhancing their financial foundations and other essential services has proven to be an effective approach. This approach has been instrumental in addressing conflict sensitivity, aligning with the expressed needs of marginalized groups (Section 4.9). 27. Moreover, the internal capacities of both UNOPS and UNODC have been judiciously harnessed to facilitate knowledge sharing and skill development support. This ensures the continuous application of a conflict-sensitive approach in the project's pertinent locations (Section 4.9). 28. The project has prudently engaged an external, independent party to conduct the final evaluation (refer to TOR). While the project's outputs and outcomes are already visible at this stage, it is recognized that it may take some time to witness the full and lasting impact of the project.

Chapter 5 Conclusions, Recommendation and Best Practices

5.1. Conclusion

- The Project was planned as a 2-year project and implemented only for one year from June 2022 to June 2023, owing to some initial operational setbacks.
- Five-fold core Pillars of Assistance has been the project flagship for both its design and implementation stages; however, all five pillars of assistance have commenced at different timespans showing mixed results.
- Grant assistance emerged as the most relevant and highly sought-after pillar for many beneficiary groups, enabling them to sustain their peacebuilding efforts.
- The project has adeptly pinpointed critical areas at the community level, identifying root causes and implementing timely interventions.
- The project has aimed at protecting and resilience building of Civil Society organizations, including women grassroots organizations, human rights defenders, artists, and journalists.
- The relevance and appropriateness of the project have been demonstrated by effectively addressing the pivotal conflict drivers and pertinent peacebuilding concerns within the community.
- By employing a participatory approach during the project's design phase, the project has accurately captured the needs of beneficiaries, achieving meaningful outputs and results in an efficient and effective manner.
- The survey findings underscore the congruence between the project's objectives and the National Peacebuilding Policy, as well as the overarching national priorities of the country.
- Over and above the Five-Pillar Assistance, the project has made attempts to address the cross-cutting issues of human rights, food security, livelihoods, and gender inclusion.
- The Project has shown a commendable implementation of planned activities, in relation to the main Evaluation Criteria, particularly in its relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- In the event that the project lacks an explicit and formalized exit strategy adhered to at its design, the stakeholders are poised to endure over an extended period of yet another two 2-year Phases, making the project a 6-year project in actual terms.
- There is a notable impetus to transition into the project's second phase, which aims to encompass broader beneficiary coverage in a complementary manner.
- All partnering CSOs, Women Groups, and Artist Groups have shown different capabilities, some requiring much more time and continued assistance while others are able to catch up quickly and continue the accrued benefits in a sustainable manner.

- Most of the benefits provided to the partner organizations would only be sustained if they were ready to rely on their strengths and do away with the dependency attitude, which calls for continuous external assistance.

5.2. Recommendations

- Having a perspective plan of six years with intermittent three 2-year phases, the project should encompass scope for reaching a wider range of beneficiary groups, leaving space for the 'learning by doing' principle.
- The total package of the project (i.e., five-fold core pillars of assistance), should take-off simultaneously to accrue intended outputs and outcomes and to assure synergy.
- As a valuable recommendation, the project could consider organizing a benchmarking visit to a model country that exemplifies the successful implementation of peace and human rights principles; such a visit may serve as a practical illustration of effective strategies, potentially yielding more impactful outcomes.
- A project of this nature should entail an explicit and formalized exit strategy, as the services it has rendered to stakeholders are poised to endure over an extended period, in such a way as to ensure self-reliance and to do away with the dependency attitude.
- Having a notable impetus to transition into the project's second phase aiming at encompassing a broader beneficiary coverage and complementary actions, the project strategy should emphasize the imperatives found in the sample surveys, advocating a robust backup plan.
- Different capabilities and skills developed by partnering CSOs and other groups should be sustained in a sustainable manner making adequate provisions for their additional requirements and leaving sufficient time together with the supervisory eye for maintaining overall results.
- The range of benefits provided to different organizations should be sustained, if they were ready to rely on their strengths and to do away with the dependency attitude, which calls for continuous external assistance.
- Continue and expand training programs specifically for women to increase their sense of empowerment in and knowledge of peacebuilding processes. Women-only training should lead to mixed-gender training that weaves together men and women working for peace.
- Continue with the funding appropriated for projects that further a gender analysis of conflict and violence, gender equality, and gender mainstreaming. Women's groups often lack funding to engage in peacebuilding processes.
- Support intensive and comprehensive research on situations where women have used unique methodologies, approaches, and thinking to contribute to peacebuilding and develop and publish case success stories. Much of the current knowledge on women's contributions is anecdotal and lacks the conceptual clarity to inform track-one negotiations and policy formulation.

- Build a strong partnership among women working in training, research, and peacebuilding practice in a diverse range of areas such as multi-track diplomacy, peace education, mediation, transformative development, coexistence, and peace advocacy.
- Finally, the project should undertake a comprehensive study to assess the community-level impacts with a little time gap shortly after the project concludes, since the impacts can only be assessed as a post-project exercise.

5.3 Best Practices

- Awareness and training sessions conducted for members of women's associations and other groups have yielded positive impacts in terms of skill development and empowerment. These individuals have evolved into agents of change, championing peacebuilding, human rights, gender-based violence (GBV), and women's empowerment.
- The project has significantly improved local-level saving practices, replacing unsafe borrowing methods and liberating communities from the clutches of local money lenders.
- A critical factor contributing to the achievement of peace and social cohesion in Sri Lanka is the strengthening of civil society, which plays a pivotal role in safeguarding vulnerable populations and advocating for their concerns.
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have played a crucial mediation role in facilitating interactions with government services. Traditionally, rural poor individuals have faced difficulties when dealing with government officers due to bureaucratic hurdles.
- The training of preschool teachers serves as a catalyst for peacebuilding and attitudinal shifts within society. Organizations such as AWF and Prathibha Media are exemplary in this regard.
- Access to justice initiatives has addressed issues related to fundamental rights and gender sensitivity among beneficiaries, with organizations like AHRC and CCDP leading the way.
- The provision of Information Technology and Communication (ITC) services has been in high demand, with the project team collaborating closely with CSO partners to extend these services.
- Art-related assistance provided under the Artist Pillar has had a ripple effect, attracting many young and talented artists from various regions of Sri Lanka.

- Empowered and skilled groups have emerged as catalysts for change in women's empowerment and have played a pivotal role in improving access to services and establishing correct referral pathways.
- The provision of pro-bono awareness and legal support has boosted the enthusiasm and confidence of victims, encouraging them to take action.
- The maintenance of information collectives for land rights violations has proven useful in categorizing and prioritizing these issues.
- The revitalization of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) forums and the prioritization of GBV victims in the provision of food, agriculture, and livelihood assistance, along with the establishment of village-level GBV committees, as seen in the case of AWF, has been instrumental in addressing these critical issues.
- Community active groups have been trained to identify individuals in need and provide home-based counseling sessions, online support, or hotline contact-based encouragement.
- The combination of psychosocial assistance with food, agriculture, and livelihood support has resulted in sustainable improvements for beneficiaries.
- Livelihood support, coupled with business management training, accounting assistance, small-scale savings mechanisms, and cash-for-work opportunities for the elderly, disabled individuals, and women who face challenges in securing labor jobs, has made a significant impact. Organizations like Shanthinm and Action Aid have been at the forefront of these efforts.
- Grant assistance was the most relevant and demanded pillar to many beneficiary groups for the continuation of their peacebuilding efforts.

ANNEXURES

Appendix A

Table A1 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **resource competition** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the **peacebuilding** issues.

Table A1- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: Resource competition

		Relevance					Level of project Intervention				
		Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	Freq	6	-	3	2	1	6	2	1	2	5
	%	50	-	25	16.7	8.3	50.0	16.7	8.3	16.7	8.3
Pillar 2	Freq	15	3	6	6	4	15	6	2	7	4
	%	44.1	8.8	17.6	17.6	11.8	44.1	17.6	5.9	20.6	11.8
Pillar 3	Freq	19	4	8	8	5	19	8	1	12	4
	%	43.2	9.1	18.2	18.2	11.4	43.2	18.2	2.3	27.3	9.1
Pillar 4	Freq	19	5	9	10	5	19	8	3	12	6
	%	39.6	10.4	18.8	20.8	10.4	39.6	16.7	6.3	25.0	12.5
Pillar 5	Freq	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
	%	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-
Total	Freq	28	5	14	13	6	28	10	3	19	6
	%	42.4	7.6	21.2	19.7	9.1	42.4	15.2	4.5	28.8	9.1

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A2 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **ethnic, religious and cultural differences** as one of the key drivers of conflict and **the peacebuilding** issues.

Table A2- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: ethnic, religious and cultural differences

		Relevance					Level of project Intervention				
		Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	Freq	7	1		3	1	7	1	2	1	1
	%	58.3	8.3		25.0	8.3	58.3	8.3	16.7	8.3	8.3
Pillar 2	Freq	19	4	2	4	5	18	2	5	3	6
	%	55.9	11.8	5.9	11.8	14.7	52.9	5.9	14.7	8.8	17.6

Pillar 3	Freq	23	6	2	7	6	23	3	6	6	6
	%	52.3	13.6	4.5	15.9	13.6	52.3	6.8	13.6	13.6	13.6
Pillar 4	Freq	26	6	4	5	7	27	5	5	5	6
	%	54.2	12.5	8.3	10.4	14.6	56.3	10.4	10.4	10.4	12.5
Pillar 5	Freq	3					3				
	%	100					100				
Total		35	8	4	9	10	35	6	8	8	9
1		53.0	12.1	6.1	13.6	15.2	53.0	9.1	12.1	12.1	13.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A3 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **economic inequality** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A3- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: economic inequality

		Relevance					Level of project Intervention				
		Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	Freq	4	1	2	4	1	4		2	5	1
	%	33.3	8.3	16.7	33.3	8.3	33.3		16.7	41.7	8.3
Pillar 2	Freq	11		6	10	7	11	2	5	9	7
	%	32.4		17.6	29.4	20.6	32.4	5.9	14.7	26.5	20.6
Pillar 3	Freq	12	3	8	13	8	12	5	7	12	8
	%	27.3	6.8	18.2	29.5	18.2	27.3	11.4	15.9	27.3	18.2
Pillar 4	Freq	13	6	10	13	6	13	6	8	14	7
	%	27.1	12.5	20.8	27.1	12.5	17.1	12.5	16.7	29.2	14.6
Pillar 5	Freq	3					3				
	%	100					100				
Total	Freq	19	9	12	17	9	19	7	9	21	10
	%	28.8	13.6	18.2	25.8	13.6	28.8	10.6	13.6	31.8	15.2

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A4 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **political grievances** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A4- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: political grievances

		Relevance					Level of project Intervention				
		Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	Freq	5		4	2	1	5		5	2	
	%	41.7		33.3	16.7	8.3	41.7		41.7	16.7	
Pillar 2	Freq	14	2	11	3	4	14	3	10	3	4
	%	41.2	5.9	32.4	8.8	11.8	41.2	8.8	29.4	8.8	11.8
Pillar 3	Freq	19	4	13	4	4	19	6	12	4	3
	%	43.2	9.1	29.5	9.1	9.1	43.2	13.6	27.3	9.1	6.8
Pillar 4	Freq	19	5	15	5	4	19	5	14	6	4
	%	39.6	10.4	31.3	10.4	8.3	39.6	10.4	29.2	12.5	8.3
Pillar 5	Freq	1	2				1	2			
	%	33.3	66.7				33.3	66.7			
Total		27	7	19	5	8	26	9	18	7	6
		40.9	10.6	28.8	7.6	12.1	39.4	13.6	27.3	10.6	9.1

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A5 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **human right violations** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A5- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: human right violations

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	50.0		41.7		8.3	50.0	8.3	25.0	8.3	8.3
Pillar 2	41.2	11.8	17.6	20.6	8.8	38.2	11.8	14.7	23.5	2.9
Pillar 3	38.6	11.4	18.2	20.5	11.4	36.4	11.4	15.9	25.0	11.4
Pillar 4	39.6	14.6	12.5	20.8	12.5	39.6	14.6	12.5	22.9	10.4
Pillar 5	100					100				
Total	40.9	15.2	16.7	16.7	10.6	39.4	15.2	13.6	21.2	10.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A6 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **good governance** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A6 - Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: good governance

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	25.0		25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	8.3	16.7	25.0	25.0
Pillar 2	26.5	2.9	20.6	23.5	26.5	29.4	2.9	23.5	20.6	23.5
Pillar 3	31.8	6.8	15.9	25.0	20.5	34.1	4.5	18.2	25.0	18.2
Pillar 4	31.3	10.4	22.9	25.0	10.4	31.3	10.4	16.7	31.3	10.4
Pillar 5	33.3				66.7	33.3			33.3	33.3
Total	28.8	10.6	21.2	22.7	16.7	30.3	9.1	16.7	30.3	13.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A7 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **community non-engagement and participation** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A7- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: community Non-engagement and participation

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	33.3	8.3	16.7	33.3	8.3	33.3	8.3	25.0	25.0	8.3
Pillar 2	32.4	17.6	17.6	20.6	11.8	32.4	11.8	23.5	17.6	14.7
Pillar 3	27.3	13.6	15.9	31.8	11.4	27.3	13.6	20.5	29.5	9.1
Pillar 4	29.2	6.3	25.0	31.3	8.3	29.2	6.3	25.0	33.3	6.3
Pillar 5	33.3	33.3	33.3			33.3		33.3		33.3
Total	27.3	10.6	19.7	30.3	12.1	27.3	9.1	22.7	31.8	9.1

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A8 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **gender inequity and lack of women empowerment** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A8- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: gender inequity and lack of women empowerment

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	33.3		16.7	41.7	8.3	33.3		8.3	50.0	8.3
Pillar 2	20.6	11.8	23.5	26.5	17.6	20.6	14.7	17.6	26.5	10.6
Pillar 3	22.7	11.4	25.0	29.5	11.4	22.7	18.2	15.9	29.5	13.6
Pillar 4	25.0	10.4	25.0	27.1	12.5	22.9	14.6	18.8	29.2	14.5
Pillar 5	66.7		33.3			66.7		33.3		
Total	27.3	9.1	24.2	24.2	15.2	25.8	13.6	18.2	25.8	16.7

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A9 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **education and media for peace** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A9- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: education and media for peace

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	16.7	16.7	8.3	41.7	16.7	16.7	25.0	8.3	33.3	16.7
Pillar 2	11.8	8.8	17.6	23.5	38.2	11.8	11.8	17.6	23.5	35.3
Pillar 3	11.4	9.1	18.2	25.0	36.4	11.4	9.1	20.5	27.3	31.8
Pillar 4	14.6	10.4	20.8	18.8	35.4	14.6	10.4	22.9	20.8	31.3
Pillar 5	33.3				66.7	33.3				66.7
Total	12.1	12.1	19.7	24.2	31.8	12.1	13.6	21.2	24.2	28.8

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A10 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **health** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the peacebuilding issues.

Table A10- Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: Health

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	16.7	8.3	16.7	41.7	16.7	16.7	8.3	16.7	41.7	16.7
Pillar 2	8.8	14.7	20.6	44.1	11.8	8.8	8.8	23.5	47.1	11.8

Pillar 3	9.1	15.9	18.2	38.6	18.2	9.1	13.6	15.9	43.2	18.2
Pillar 4	14.6	14.6	25.0	29.2	16.7	14.6	10.4	18.8	41.7	14.6
Pillar 5	33.3	33.3	33.3			33.3	33.3	33.3		
Total	12.1	18.2	22.7	30.3	16.7	12.1	13.6	16.7	40.9	16.7

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table A11 presents how beneficiaries in each pillar recognized the relevance of **technology** as one of the key drivers of conflict and the **peacebuilding** issues.

Table A11-Drivers of conflict and their relevance for peacebuilding, and level of project intervention: technology

	Relevance %					Level of project Intervention %				
	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
Pillar 1	25.0	25.0	41.7	8.3		25.0	25.0	41.7	8.3	
Pillar 2	26.5	23.5	20.6	23.5	5.9	29.4	11.8	29.4	23.5	5.9
Pillar 3	27.3	22.7	22.7	20.5	6.8	27.3	13.6	29.5	25.0	4.5
Pillar 4	35.4	20.8	14.6	16.7	12.5	37.5	12.5	20.8	18.8	10.4
Pillar 5	33.3	33.3	33.3			33.3	33.3	33.3		
Total	28.8	22.7	18.2	18.2	12.1	30.3	13.6	22.7	22.7	10.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table B

Table B1- Project implementation efficiency: Pillar 1

Efficiency criteria	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient	8.3		25.0	58.3	8.3
There was no delay in project implementation.	25.0	33.3	33.3	8.3	
There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project		16.7	58.3	16.7	8.3
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff	8.3	16.7	41.7	33.3	
CSOs are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project		33.3	33.3	25.0	8.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table B2- Project implementation efficiency: Pillar 2

Efficiency criteria	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient	5.9	8.8	14.7	58.8	11.8
There was no delay in project implementation.	17.6	32.4	26.5	20.6	2.9
There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project	2.9	14.7	52.9	20.6	8.8
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff	2.9	20.6	35.3	35.3	5.9
CSOs are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project	2.9	23.5	26.5	32.4	14.7

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table B3- Project implementation efficiency: Pillar 3

Efficiency criteria	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient	2.3	9.1	25.0	54.5	9.1
There was no delay in project implementation.	20.5	27.3	25.0	25.0	2.3
There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project	2.3	11.4	52.3	22.7	11.4
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff		20.5	36.4	38.6	4.5
CSOs are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project	2.3	20.5	29.5	34.1	13.6

Source: Sample survey 2023

Table B4- Project implementation efficiency: Pillar 4

Efficiency criteria	Not at all	Little 2	Neutral	Some 4	Very much
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient	6.3	12.5	22.9	52.1	6.3
There was no delay in project implementation.	27.1	22.9	31.3	16.7	2.1
There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project	6.3	14.6	47.9	16.7	14.6
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff	6.3	20.8	31.3	33.3	8.3

CSOs are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project	4.2	16.7	37.5	31.3	10.4
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Source: Sample survey 2023

Table B5- Project implementation efficiency: Pillar 5

Efficiency criteria	Not at all	Little	Neutral	Some	Very much
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient		33.3	33.3	33.3	
There was no delay in project implementation.	33.3	66.7	-	-	-
There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project	-	33.3	66.7	-	-
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff	33.3	33.3	33.3	-	-
CSOs/partners are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project	33.3	33.3			33.3

Source: Sample survey 2023

According to the results presented in Tables B1 to B5, it is particularly noteworthy that project implementation stands out for its exceptional efficiency, although some delaying was observed. This underscores the project's effective execution and underscores its commitment to proficient delivery.

Serial Number

End Survey

Obtaining Verbal Consent

Enumerator, please read this out to the respondent to get her verbal consent before you start the interview.

Good morning/Good afternoon, my name is (Name of the enumerator). I am collecting information for the end survey related to the project, “*Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka*”.

This project aimed at protecting and resilient building of the Civil Society including women grassroots organizations, human rights defenders, artists, journalists, NGOs, and other activists who are at the forefront of conflict prevention, with the help of government allies.

The information you share with me will be used only for this project. Information will be handled confidentially, and participants will always remain anonymous, and your name will not be revealed to any outside parties.

Taking part in this interview is completely voluntary, and we can stop at any time you wish. You do not need to give a reason, and there are no consequences for stopping our conversation.

This interview will take approximately 30 minutes.

Consent Form (Ethical Consideration)

- I have read (someone explained to me) understand the questionnaire and have been given adequate time to consider it.
- I was given the opportunity to ask questions about the Survey and the questions were answered to my satisfaction
- I understand that my participation in the Study is voluntary.
- I understand that taking part in the Study will involve me being interviewed.
- I understand that my personal details such as name and employer contacts will not be revealed to people outside the project and the study.
- I understand that my words may be quoted, but keep my name anonymized when the report is submitted for publication.
- I understand that I can withdraw from the Study at any time and I will not be questioned about why I no longer be in the Study.
- I understand that if I withdraw from the Study my data will not be used.

Name of Participant:

Signature:

Date:

Name of Researcher:

Signature:

Date:

Do you agree to participate?

YES

☐

NO

☐

Serial Number

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and Multi tech Solutions (Pvt) Ltd
Project on Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka
End Survey Questionnaire

Enumerator's name:
 Date :
 Start time :
 End time :

Part A: CSO information (interview with key persons of CSOs)

1.0. Organizational information

11. Organizational Information							
Name of CSO					Year of establish		
Registration	Yes 1	No 2					
Number of Members			Male		Female		

How many members does your CSO have under following categories?

A women leader		Artist	Community Leaders
Media personal		human right defender	Grassroot Organizations

1.1. District of work (where the key operations are taking place) (Multiple responses possible)

Ampara 1	Anuradhapura 2	Badulla 3	Batticaloa 4	Colombo 5
Galle 6	Gampaha 7	Hambantota 8	Jaffna 9	Kalutara 10
Kandy 11	Kegalle 12	Killinochchi 13	Kurunegala 14	Mannar 15
Matale 16	Matara 17	Monaragala 18	Mullaitivu 19	NuwaraEliya 20
Polonnaruwa 21	Puttalam 22	Ratnapura 23	Trincomalee 24	Vavuniya 25

Are you a partner of Vridhhi network	Yes 1	No 2	Not aware of it 3
If Yes, year of joined the UNOPS project			
Did you apply UNOPS/Vridhhi services	Yes 1	No 2	Not aware of them 3

2. Relevance

2.1 Areas of working your CSOs (multiple answers)

Agriculture-food security 1	Livelihood (income) 2	WASH 3	Housing 4
Social protection 5	Health 6	Education 7	Legal assistance 8
Human rights 9	Social Cohesion 10	Nutrition 11	Children 12
Psychosocial support 12	Others (specify) 13		

2.2. As your CSO believes, what are the key drivers of conflict and the **most relevant peacebuilding** issues and what extent the project addressed them?

1= Not at all, 2= Little 3 = Neutral, 4 = Some, 5 = Very much

Key drivers and issues	How much is it relevant as a conflict and peacebuilding issue (1to 5)	How could the project address them (1 to 5)
Resources competition		
Ethnic, religious and cultural differences		
Economic inequality		
Political grievances		
Human right violations		
Climate changes		
Good governance		
Community Non-engagement and participation		
Gender inequity and lack of women empowerment		
Education and media for peace		
Health		
Technology		
Resource Competition		
Others (specify)		

2.3. What do you think that the degree to which the project addressed the following cross-cutting issues?

1= Not at all, 2= Little 3 = Neutral, 4 = Some, 5 = Very much

Areas	What degree to which the project addressed (1 to 5)
Human rights	
Food security	
Livelihood	
Women empowerment	

2.4. What extent the project has made a concrete **contribution** in terms of the following areas

1= Not at all, 2= Little 3 = Neutral, 4 = Some, 5 = Very much

Areas	Score
Conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country	
Protecting and resilience building among civil society actors	
Achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders	
Achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16	

2.5. Explain what outside supports/assurances required for your CSO in line with peacebuilding.

Financial assistance 1 (Explain the key reason)		
External audit 2	Project management training 3	Legal advisory service 4
IT knowledge support 5	Information management system 6	Advocacy 7
Others 5 (please specify other necessary supports/services)		
1.		
2.		
3.		

2.6. Services received by the project (UNOPS) and their usefulness:

	Service received	If year, please record their usefulness				
		Not useful 1	Little useful 2	Indifference 3	Useful 4	Very useful 5

	Yes 1	No 2					
Financial grants							
Preparation of financial statement							
External audit services							
Project management training							
GIS training							
Workshop (for artists)							
ICT training							
Project management certification							
Protection training							
ICT equipment							
ICT help desk							
Meeting space							
Equipment (for artists)							
Grants (for artists)							
Others (specify)							

2.7. To what extent is the project relevant to the needs and priorities of our peacebuilding and human rights	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
Were you consulted during design and implementation of the project?	Yes 1	No 2			

2.8. How many persons did your CSO support under following categories?

A women leader		Artist	Community Leaders
Media personal		human right defender	Grass root Organizations
Others (Specify)			

2.9. What is the recently improved peacebuilding and conflict resolution role of your CSO's?

Do not know/cannot think of	1
Our participation does not matter	2
It is about just to know the subject	3
Others' role is important but we should also participate	4
Our active participation should be there	5
We think, it's not possible without our participation	6

3. EFFICIENCY (Output)

3.1.

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
The overall staffs and project officers were efficient (the project implemented by UNOPS which support received under PBF).					
There were delays to project implementation.					

There were enough/timely available resources and facilities provided by the project					
There were enough/timely motivation & encouragement given by the project & its staff					
We are satisfied with the activities carried out by the project					
Were your CSO consulted during design and implementation of the project?				Yes 1	No 2

4. EFFECTIVENESS: (outcome)

4.1. The project was the reason for the following achievements.

Women empowerment (Outcome Indicator 1.1)

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
Project supported our female members economic empowerment					
Our female decision-making power improved due to the project					
Our female members' knowledge on peacebuilding and human right improved during the project period					

4.2. How many of your membered trained and individually facilitated by the project?

Support/Services	Members		Non-members	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Financial grants				
Preparation of financial statement				
External audit services				
Project management training				
Project management certification				
Protection Services				
ICT equipment				
ICT help desk				
Meeting space				
Access to basic services				
Others (specify)				

5. IMPACT

5.1.

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
Has your CSO done substantial work in peacebuilding last 2 years than before?					
Has your CSO been able to make any influence on human rights and peacebuilding through regional level authorities during the last 2 years?					
Has your CSOs supported to strengthen (capacity building) relevant regional or national institutions related					

to peacebuilding and human rights in last 2 years?					
Did any of your female members get a chance to participate regional or national level decision making body in last 2 years?					
In the last 2 years, do the state authorities have greater means to protect and provide assistance to vulnerable and marginalised victims					

SUSTAINABILITY & OWNERSHIP

6.1

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
We are strong enough now to carry out peacebuilding work					
Our CSO are good enough now to carry out our work since being a part of the Vriddhi Network					
We now have enough cultural awareness and the competence					
All members of CSOs capable now					
We can get necessary support from the relevant government institutions					
The project has enhanced capacity of government agencies and their officers					

Part B:

This part of the questionnaire will be asked from 2 selected members (randomly by snowballing) categories of women leaders, artists, media personals

B. Personal information

7.1.

Name of the respondent:					
Phone/mobile:					
Gender		(1) Male (1)	(2) Female (2)	(3) Other (3)	
Age (Year)		Years of experience			
Level of education		No formal (1)	Up to grade 5 (2)	Up to O/L (3)	
O/L passed (4)	A/L passed (5)	Degree or above (6)		Others (7)	

7.2.

Membership position	Official (1)	Member only (2)	Other (specify)
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7.3. How do you like to describe yourself as a: (single answer)

1. A women leader
2. Artist
3. Media personal
4. human right defender

8.1. Perception of confidence (Outcome Indicator 1.2: % increase in the perception of confidence and improved protection among targeted women groups and women peacebuilders)

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
Your perception of confidence has improved towards peacebuilding					
I have a high hope for building of peaceful community					
As women we can play a significant role in peacebuilding					
Are you satisfied with the activities carried out by the project to build your confidence and improved toward community peacebuilding					
My role in peacebuilding and conflict resolution have improved recently					
Peace building process is not possible without the involvement of women					

9.1. Explain what outside supports/assurances required for you in line with peacebuilding.

Financial assistance 1 (Explain the key reason)		
External audit 2	Project management training 3	Legal advisory service 4
IT knowledge support 5	Information management system 6	Advocacy 7
Others 5 (please specify other necessary supports/services)		
1.		
2.		
3.		

9.2. Services received by the project (UNOPS) and their usefulness:

	Service received		If year, please record their usefulness				
			Not useful 1	Little useful 2	Indifference 3	Useful 4	Very useful 5
	Yes 1	No 2					
Financial grants							
Preparation of financial statement							
External audit services							
Project management training							
Project management certification							
Protection Services							
ICT equipment							
ICT help desk							
Meeting space							
Access to other services							
Others (mention)							

9.3. To what extent is the project relevant to the needs and priorities of our peacebuilding and human rights	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
Were you consulted during design and implementation of the project?	Yes 1	No 2			

Perceptions of peacebuilding and human rights

10.1. Which of the following statements express respect, equality, fairness, and peace?

	Agree	Somewhat agree	Strongly disagree
14.1. Being able to join or participate in any CSOs/CBOs of my choice			
14.2. Being able to express ideas freely and discuss issues and problems with CSOs, government officers and community leaders			
14.3. Being able to express ideas freely and discuss issues and problems with family members			
14.4. By listening to the opinions of community and religious leaders and women/men but also giving voice to one's own views and opinions			
14.5. Being treated equally and fairly in CSOs, by government officers and community leaders, (no discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, disability and caste)			
14.6. Being treated equally, fairly and in an unbiased manner within the family			
14.7. Being protected from violence, abuse and threats in the community			
14.8. Being protected from violence, abuse and threats within the family			
14.9. By reporting violence, abuse and threats due to fear of reprisal			
14.10. Being able to vote at elections and participate in a political party of choice			
14.11. Being able to practice my religion and respect for my ethnicity and culture			
14.12. Living without fear of being arrested without reason			
14.13. Working collaboratively to address social (poverty, education, transport, market related) and economic issues arising from bias and discrimination			
14.14. We all get same (equal) chance to access to basic services			

Note: please not that this questionnaire is neither formatted nor numbered properly until address comments

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDELINE (for Beneficiary Groups)

Focus group Guide- (Questions are guidelines only)

Name (s) of the Province / District (s)

Participants Register (Attach register): No. of Women Men.....

Name of the Facilitator:

Date: D .../M /2023

Venue:

The focus group will take about 2 and ½ hours with a short comfort break after about 60 minutes. *(Please make sure that COVID-19 protocol is followed; Optional).*

Introduction:

- Introduce all the facilitator/s by name, objectives of the focus group discussion and explain COVID-19 protocol: *(Explain about the recording and how to maintain confidentiality).*
- Ice breaking / familiarizing informal dialogue for making a healthy environment.
- Facilitator asks participants to introduce themselves by their name, relevant Centre.
- Facilitator helps group to set rules.
- Facilitator asks: *Please can I turn on the recorder?*
- *As I have now turned on the recorder can I just ask everyone to consent to the recording of this discussion. Each person needs to say ‘yes’. The facilitator then confirms for the recording that everyone has given their consent.*

-
1. How did you become a main beneficiary group of the ‘*Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace*’ project?
 2. Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?
 3. Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?
 - 3.1 Project design stage involvement
 - 3.2 Implementation stage involvement
 4. In your collective opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present needs of the country?
 5. Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?
 6. In your opinion, do the stated project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to peace building, and Protecting *the Rights Space to Foster Peace* in Sri Lanka?

7. In your collective opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?
8. How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the contributing partners cum activists (CBOs, NGOs etc.), during the project implementation?
9. To what extent that the providing of 5-pillar assistance of the project worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? (Moderator explain 5-pillars)
10. Do you know of any external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? If yes please explain?
11. Are there any positive and negative unexpected/ unplanned outcomes of the projects? What are they?
12. Have the needs of the all-beneficiary groups taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to groups like yours?
13. In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the a) value addition aspect towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) reaching the beneficiary groups / communities like you, in a desired manner, and c) enhancing stakeholder engagement for project outcomes, impact and sustainability? *(If you as a group, have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)*
14. What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of the main goal of project (i.e., consistent peacebuilding)?
15. Based on your experience with the project as a group, what kind of farsighted suggestions you would like to make for better-informed decision making in designing future programs if similar nature through various dissemination platforms?
16. Any other comments / information you would like to share?

—**Part B: this part will be completed by the individual members (categories of women leaders, artists, media personals)**

1. Personal information

B1. Name of the respondent:				
B2. Phone/mobile:				
B3. Gender		(1) Male (1)	(2) Female (2)	(3) Other (3)
B4. Age (Year)		B5 Years of experience		
B6. Level of education		No formal (1)	Up to grade 5 (2)	Up to O/L (3)
O/L passed (4)	A/L passed (5)	Degree or above (6)		Others (7)

B7. Membership position of a CSO that works as a partner of the Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace' project?	Official (1)	Member only (2)	Not a member (3)	Other (specify) (4)
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B8. How do you like to describe yourself as a: (single answer)

5. A women leader
6. Artist
7. Media personal
8. human right defender

B9. Explain what outside supports/assurances required for you in line with peacebuilding.

Financial assistance 1 (Explain the key reason)		
External audit 2	Project management training 3	Legal advisory service 4
IT knowledge support 5	Information management system 6	Advocacy 7
Others 5 (please specify other necessary supports/services)		
1.		
2.		
3.		

B.10. Services received by the project (UNOPS) and their usefulness:

	Service received		If year, please record their usefulness				
	Yes 1	No 2	Not useful 1	Little useful 2	Indifference 3	Useful 4	Very useful 5
10.1 Financial grants							
10.2 Preparation of financial statement							
10.3. External audit services							
10.4. Project management training							
10.5. Project management certification							
10.6. Protection training							
10.7. ICT equipment							
10.8 ICT help desk							
10.9. Meeting space							
10.10. Others (mention)							

B11. To what extent is the project relevant to the needs and priorities of our peacebuilding and human rights	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
B12. Were you consulted during design and implementation of the project?	Yes 1	No 2			

B13. Perception of confidence (Outcome Indicator 1.2: % increase in the perception of confidence and improved protection among targeted women groups and women peacebuilders)

	Not at all 1	Little 2	Neutral 3	Some 4	Very much 5
13.1. My perception of confidence has improved towards peacebuilding					
13.2. I have a high hope for building of peaceful community					
13.3. We can play a significant role in peacebuilding					
13.4. Are you satisfied with the activities carried out by the project to build your confidence and improved toward community peacebuilding					
13.5. My role in peacebuilding and conflict resolution have improved recently					

13.6. Peace building process is not possible without the involvement of women					
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Perceptions of Peacebuilding and Human Rights

B.14. Which of the following statements express respect, equality, fairness, and peace?

	Agree	Somewhat agree	Strongly disagree
14.1. Being able to join or participate in any CSOs/CBOs of my choice			
14.2. Being able to express ideas freely and discuss issues and problems with CSOs, government officers and community leaders			
14.3. Being able to express ideas freely and discuss issues and problems with family members .			
14.4. By listening to the opinions of community and religious leaders women and men but also giving voice to one's own views and opinions			
14.5. Being treated equally and fairly in CSOs, by government officers and community leaders, (no discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, disability and caste)			
14.6. Being treated equally, fairly and in an unbiased manner within the family			
14.7. Being protected from violence, abuse and threats in the community			
14.8. Being protected from violence, abuse and threats within the family			
14.9. By reporting violence, abuse and threats due to fear of reprisal			
14.10. Being able to vote at elections and participate in a political party of choice			
14.11. Being able to practice my religion and respect for my ethnicity and culture			
14.12. Living without fear of being arrested without reason			
14.13. Working collaboratively to address social (poverty, education, transport, market related) and economic issues arising from bias and discrimination			
14.14. We all get same (equal) chance to access to basic services			

KII GUIDELINES (for Project Personnel)

OPTIONAL

The UNOPS “Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka” project, has taken various actions to strengthen peacebuilding in the country by reaching different levels of society. By conducting this assignment, the client expects to evaluate the project to find out its outcomes towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. To achieve their goal, we are conducting an in-depth study focusing on the project. You have valuable information and knowledge that can help us, so we highly appreciate your participation in this short interview.

Consent Form (Ethical Consideration)

- I have read (someone explained to me) understand the questionnaire and have been given adequate time to consider it.
- I was given the opportunity to ask questions about the interview and the questions are about to answer to my satisfaction
- I understand that my participation in the Study is voluntary.
- I understand that taking part in the Study will involve me being interviewed.
- I understand that my details such as name and employer contacts will not be revealed to people outside the project and the study.
- I understand that my words may be quoted, but keep my name anonymized when the report is submitted for publication.
- I understand that I can withdraw from the Study at any time and I will not be questioned about why I no longer be in the Study.
- I understand that if I withdraw from the Study my data will not be used.

Name of Participant:

Signature:

Date:

Name of Researcher:

Signature:

Date:

1. How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?
2. Please explain your role in the project during its implementation period?
3. In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?
4. Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need re-examination?
5. If you had reservations on the above have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / stakeholders about them and get changes made as necessary?
6. Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to ‘*Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka*’?

7. In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as reasons behind them?
8. How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?
9. To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?
10. What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?
11. Has the Project used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? Your comments?
12. Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?
13. In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas?
 - a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,
 - b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.
 - c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.

(If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)

14. What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?
15. Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?
16. Extent to which that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?
17. Based on your records of project performance what kind of futuristic steps or recommendations you would contemplate for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?
18. Any other comments/information you would like to share?

KII GUIDELINES (for Stakeholders of the Project)

OPTIONAL

The UNOPS “Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka” project, has taken various actions to strengthen peacebuilding in the country by reaching different levels of society. By conducting this assignment, the client expects to evaluate the project to find out its outcomes towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. To achieve their goal, we are conducting an in-depth study focusing on the project. You have valuable information and knowledge that can help us, so we highly appreciate your participation in this short interview.

Consent Form (Ethical Consideration)

- I have read (someone explained to me) understand the questionnaire and have been given adequate time to consider it.
- I was given the opportunity to ask questions about the interview and the questions are about to answer to my satisfaction
- I understand that my participation in the Study is voluntary.
- I understand that taking part in the Study will involve me being interviewed.
- I understand that my details such as name and employer contacts will not be revealed to people outside the project and the study.
- I understand that my words may be quoted, but keep my name anonymized when the report is submitted for publication.
- I understand that I can withdraw from the Study at any time and I will not be questioned about why I no longer be in the Study.
- I understand that if I withdraw from the Study my data will not be used.

Name of Participant:

Signature:

Date:

Name of Researcher:

Signature:

Date:

1. How long you are engaged in the present location (District) or in your area of discipline?
2. When and how did you become a concerned party/stakeholder to the present peacebuilding project?
3. Please explain your part of responsibility or involvement in the project during its implementation period?
4. As a concerned or involved entity / person, were you able to play a significant role in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (*Please explain*)?
5. In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?
6. Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need re-examination?

7. If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes?
8. Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to *Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace* in Sri Lanka?
9. In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?
10. How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?
11. To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?
12. What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?
13. What are the unexpected outcomes and output of the project?
14. Are you in the opinion that the Project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? If not why?
15. Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?
16. In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas?
 - d) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,
 - e) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.
 - f) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.

(If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)
16. What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?
17. Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?
18. In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?
19. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?
20. Any other comments / information you would like to share?

KII GUIDELINES (for Other Partners – Media, CSO/WO leaders)

OPTIONAL

The UNOPS “Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka” project, has taken various actions to strengthen peacebuilding in the country by reaching different levels of society. By conducting this assignment, the client expects to evaluate the project to find out its outcomes towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. To achieve their goal, we are conducting an in-depth study focusing on the project. You have valuable information and knowledge that can help us, so we highly appreciate your participation in this short interview.

Consent Form (Ethical Consideration)

- I have read (someone explained to me) understand the questionnaire and have been given adequate time to consider it.
- I was given the opportunity to ask questions about the interview and the questions are about to answer to my satisfaction
- I understand that my participation in the Study is voluntary.
- I understand that taking part in the Study will involve me being interviewed.
- I understand that my details such as name and employer contacts will not be revealed to people outside the project and the study.
- I understand that my words may be quoted, but keep my name anonymized when the report is submitted for publication.
- I understand that I can withdraw from the Study at any time and I will not be questioned about why I no longer be in the Study.
- I understand that if I withdraw from the Study my data will not be used.

Name of Participant:

Signature:

Date:

Name of Researcher:

Signature:

Date:

1. How long you are engaged in the present work location or in your area of discipline?
2. When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?
3. Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?
4. What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?
5. As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (*if yes, please explain how to what extent*)?
6. In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?

7. Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?
8. If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? *(If yes, please explain)*
9. Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to *Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace* in Sri Lanka?
10. In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?
11. How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (*viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists*) and other activists during the project implementation?
12. To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?
13. What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?
14. Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?
15. In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas?
 - g) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,
 - h) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.
 - i) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.

(If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)
16. What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?
17. Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?
18. In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?
17. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?
18. Any other comments / information you would like to share?

Annexure 06 – Analysis Metrix

Objective	Desk	Survey	FGD	KII
Assess the relevance and appropriateness of the project in terms of				
1) addressing key drivers of conflict and the most relevant peacebuilding issues;		X		
2) addressing the needs and aspirations of the direct and indirect beneficiaries;		X	X	
3) alignment with National Peacebuilding Policy and national priorities of the country;	X			
4) alignment with UN strategic objectives of peacebuilding	X			
5) the degree to which the project addressed cross-cutting issues such as human rights, food security, livelihood and gender-sensitivity in country		X	X	
6) Gender equality and Women empowerment		X	X	
● Assess to what extent the project has made a concrete contribution in terms of				
1) conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country		X	X	X
2) protecting and resilience building among civil society actors		X	X	X
3) achievement of gender empowerment and equality for women's groups and women peacebuilders		X	X	
4) achievement of the SDGs, and in particular SDG 5 and 16	X			
Evaluate the project's efficiency , including its implementation strategy, institutional arrangements as well as its management and operational systems and value for money;		X		X
Assess whether the support provided by this project has promoted the Women, Peace and Security agenda (WPS), allowed a specific focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes, and whether it was accountable to gender equality;		X	X	
Assess whether the project has been implemented through a conflict-sensitive approach;			X	X
Document challenges, successes, good practices, innovations and lessons emerging from the project including on GEWE		X	X	X
Provide actionable recommendations for future programming.				X

Annexure 07- Sample Selection Under Five Pillars (CSO and Artists)

<i>No</i>	<i>CSO/Artist Name</i>	<i>Pillar 1 - Financial Grants</i>	<i>Pillar 02 - Skill Developm ent and Support Services</i>	<i>Pillar 03 - Protecti on</i>	<i>Pillar 04 - IT Servic es</i>	<i>Pillar 5 - Supp ort to Artist s</i>
1	Children Development Fund				1	
2	Organization of People for Engagement and Enterprise/OPEnE		1	1	1	
3	Social Economic Development Organizations				1	
4	Navayugam Social Development Forum (NSDF)		1	1	1	
5	Sammugam performing group					1
6	Friendlyship foundation		1	1	1	
7	Action Unity Lanka (Old Name - Vavunathivu Development Organization)				1	
8	Ash Shupan Welfare Association (ASWA)		1		1	
9	Women's Empowerment & Development Forum (WEDF)			1	1	
10	Family Rehabilitation Centre (FRC)		1	1	1	
11	Eastern Self Relaint Community Awakening Organisation (ESCO)		1	1	1	
12	Mahashakthi Women Federation		1	1	1	

13	<i>Child Action Lanka</i>		1			
14	<i>Rural women Forum (RWF)</i>		1	1	1	
15	<i>Kaviya Self Development Women Centre</i>		1			
16	<i>Centre for Social Concern (CSC)</i>			1	1	
17	<i>Al-Wafa Foundation</i>		1	1		
18	<i>Centre for Human Rights Development (CHRD)</i>		1	1		
19	<i>Social Education Economic Development Organization (SEEDO)</i>			1	1	
20	<i>Centre for communication training</i>				1	
21	<i>Islamic Women's Association for Research and Empowerment (IWARE)</i>			1		
22	<i>National Ethnic Unity Foundation</i>				1	
23	<i>Peoples Welfare Association (PWA)</i>	1	1	1	1	
24	<i>VILUTHU</i>	1	1	1		
25	<i>Aaalumai womens Group</i>		1	1	1	
26	<i>CIRCLE –Wing of young feminist team</i>	1	1		1	
27	<i>Human Elevation Organization (HEO)</i>		1	1	1	

28	<i>Social Development Organization (SDO)</i>			1	1	
29	<i>Sevaham</i>	1	1	1	1	
30	<i>Affected women's forum (AWF)</i>	1	1	1	1	
31	<i>Birds of Affection Youth Organization (BAY.Org)</i>		1	1		
32	<i>Centre for Community Development and Peace (CCDP)</i>	1	1	1		
33	<i>SLAiD ASSOCIATION</i>			1		
34	<i>Healthy Lanka</i>			1		
35	<i>Yougasakthy women federation</i>		1	1	1	
36	<i>Rural Development Panning Organization (RDPO)</i>		1	1		
37	<i>Social Welfare Development Forum</i>			1		
38	<i>newAROW</i>		1		1	
39	<i>Women Life and Rights Association</i>			1		
40	<i>Save a Life</i>		1	1	1	
41	<i>Forum for Affected Families (FAF)</i>					
42	<i>Foundation for Rural Empowerment in Digamadulla</i>				1	
43	<i>Ezhuthani Art Council</i>	1				1
44	<i>Organization for Rehabilitation of the HANdicapped (OR HAN)</i>		1	1		
45	<i>Burgher Cultural Union</i>					1

46	<i>Future in Our Hands Development Fund (FIOH)</i>				1	
47	<i>SERVE</i>	1				
48	<i>Eastern Province Preschool Teachers Association (EPPTA)</i>	1	1	1		
49	<i>YES WE CAN</i>				1	
50	<i>HEARTS Social Welfare Development Source</i>			1	1	
51	<i>People's Service Council (PSC)</i>	1	1		1	
52	<i>Social Welfare Organization Ampara District (SWOAD)</i>			1		
53	<i>Kalai Elakkiya Wattam</i>				1	
54	<i>Social Welfare Mandram</i>				1	
55	<i>Society for Welfare Educational and Awareness Training (SWEAT)</i>		1	1	1	
56	<i>Social Institute for Development of Plantation Sector (SIDPS)</i>			1	1	
57	<i>The Social Architects (TSA) - Earlier HHR</i>			1	1	
58	<i>selundhthamizh</i>				1	
59	<i>Movement For Plantation People's Land Rights (MPPLR)</i>			1	1	
60	<i>Community development Foundation</i>				1	

61	<i>Uva Workers Development Foundation</i>				1	
62	<i>PALM Community Development Services Company (Guarantee) Lt</i>		1	1	1	
63	<i>Diriya Women Development Foundation</i>				1	
64	<i>Rural Development Foundation (RDF)</i>	1	1	1	1	
65	<i>Mannar women's Development Federation</i>		1	1	1	
66	<i>Sirakukal Cultural Forum</i>			1		

Total = 66

Annexure 08 - Summary of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) Findings

Summary of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

A. KII with Project Personnel: No.1- Ms. Bagya Karawita–Sr. M & E Officer-UNOPS

No,	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>I have been working in UNOPS for 2 and a half years, in regards to this project I have been involved from the inception phase to the completion phase.</i>
2	Please explain your role in the project during its implementation period?	<i>During this project my role has been a Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. There are 5 pillars, and the project was commenced with a baseline. I actively engaged in the data analysis of the baseline survey. As all the pillars was not commenced simultaneously and the first pillar that was launched was the grants pillar, my role was monitoring and engage in grants selection process and financial grant proposal selection. Later the M & E framework was developed for grants pillar, from the grantees point to SDG reporting. At the beginning stage majority of the CSOs lacked the knowledge on M&E and reporting thereby we had to capacitate them on developing frameworks and reporting results with good quality data. Further I had the responsibility of visiting the grantees and collect some qualitative data to capture outcome impact level results.</i>
3	What is the degree of relevance & appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>In Sri Lanka there are many people who have actively engage in peacebuilding work, with the pandemic and the economic crisis, activists haven't been able to continue their work. For example, human right defenders work with CID and other organizations, however, they don't publish their work in fear of being stigmatized. They also have problems in securing funding, safe locations for discussions and lack equipment. The five pillars of the project are designed to support them. Through the project many marginalized groups are supported. Beneficiaries, CSOs many individuals require legal, land rights, education, psycho-social assistance which is not provided by the public services.</i>
4	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need reexamination?	<i>Yes, we believe that the goal has been met.</i>
5	If you had reservations on the above have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / stakeholders about them and get changes made as necessary?	<i>As there was very limited funding for this project, we have covered the most important areas; however there are further areas that can be supported. For example: CSOs require further trainings on ethical aspects, when dealing with individuals they require adopting ethical principles. They also require trainings on technology, mass media usage. This absence causes them to spend higher amounts of values to reach the people.</i>
6	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka'?	<i>Yes, it does.</i>
7	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as reasons behind	<i>Our success in achieving the objectives can be viewed in the results framework. Success in the sense the satisfaction of the civil society organizations, it is in high level.</i>

	them?	
8	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>It was gradually process from building trust in CSOS, human right defenders to journalists. Considering the time period and the funds, we have been able to do a lot however there are more areas that can be done especially targeting other regions of the country.</i>
9	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	<i>When it comes to the core pillars, we have engaged other partners such as from IT. Monthly meetings are conducted with the partners to assess the issues faced. Within the given scope we believe have achieved a 100 percent success.</i>
10	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<i>In a such a sensitive project, there can be objectives from the government. However, we were able to handle it strategically. First the government individuals from the selected areas were contacted and their consent was taken. This allowed us to obtain much more support from the government. Humanitarian assistance was provided by other UN Agencies such as FAO and world vision. In parallel to the peacebuilding interventions, humanitarian assistance was provided.</i>
11	Has the Project used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? Your comments?	<i>Staff was allocated efficiently, and the team is dynamic which allowed to us encouragingly work together.</i>
12	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<i>Their needs were identified.</i>
13	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a) The platform is a safe space for the CSOs, now we are going to transfer the platform for them to continue, which is a value addition. During the trainings, we are providing a value addition for their work. Young workers who work don't possess GIS and ICT skills from the trainings they are able to obtain the relevant knowledge. b) At the initial stage, we request them to submit a proposal, from their proposal we identified if they are within the most marginalized groups. c) We are communicating all the results with the stakeholders, for CSOs, we are sharing data through the meetings. Data is shared through fact sheets, this creates an accountability, as gaps can be identified. During activities, government officials are updated, and the requirements.</i>
14	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>Different CSOs have different capabilities, some require much more time. Some are able to catch up quickly and continue the sustainability of the benefits provided.</i>
15	Did the intervention design	<i>The project design consists of an exit strategy, transitioning the</i>

	include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>platform to the CSOs.</i>
16	Extent to which that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?	<i>The assistance is designed to be aligned with the policies. In a way we assist in implementing these policies. We have done several knowledge management sessions. Such knowledge management sessions are very much important in policy developments. We have done one knowledge management session for psychosocial assistance to develop a network for psychosocial assistance.</i>
17	Based on your records of project performance what kind of futuristic steps or recommendations you would contemplate for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?	<i>It would better to conduct more knowledge management sessions in some other areas such as land issues, legal assistance. It would be better to improve the visibility of the organization, create attractive dashboards.</i>
18	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<i>This has been a turning point in my career, it was an eye opener and it was great opportunity. The M&E in this project, since the initiation and finalization support from all members was provided to conduct the M&E through the project.</i>

B. KII with Project Personnel: No.2-Ms. Suranga Mallwa Arachchige–Project Manage-UNOPS

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>From 5th Feb 2020 – 5th June 2023</i>
2	Please explain your role in the project during its implementation period?	<i>The focal point throughout the project period. (from design onwards to the end of the project implementation)</i>
3	What is the degree of relevance & appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>This project was conceived in the early stage when it observed a change in the political regime in Sri Lanka which was followed by the presidential election in October 2018. Concern that the civil society organizations and the activists may find themselves in a risky and unsafe environment as they used to operate under the conflict. Because they were targeting civil society organizations during the election to get into power. The political regime, the legal framework with regards to PTA enforcement, arbitrary arrest, and various other targeting of minorities in Sri Lanka were observed. Therefore, something needs to be done to protect the space in society organizations are operating. The degree of relevance of this project to CSOs is 100% because of the current socioeconomic and political context in Sri Lanka.</i>
4	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need reexamination?	<i>The main beneficiaries of this project are CSOs and activists who are members of the CSOs. The project was designed to have a meaningful and significant impact on the targeted communities. To strengthen CSOs for them to continue to provide the protection to the marginalized and vulnerable communities. UNOPS didn't interact directly with the communities since they have a very strong fabric of</i>

		<i>civil society dealing with the community on daily basis. If it can strengthen, provide protection, restoring trust, and provide trainings to CSOs, they can continue the meaningful work in peace, building, social cohesion and other work that they are doing with the communities. This project initiated at a time when civil society was at risk. The timing of this project is perfect.</i>
5	If you had reservations on the above have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / stakeholders about them and get changes made as necessary?	<i>In the first 6 months of the design of the project, it didn't have much support even within the UN because it's too dangerous and it was too risky. When the UN decides to support civil society organization action and safety from challenges that are coming, there was a huge concern that UN UNOPS will be targeted. The first six months of the project, there was a big pushback even from inside the UN, why the UN was going to take a risk to protect and support civil society. The second aspect was the reputational risk and if the government was going to question this work. They have mitigated this risk by involving the government to this project, specifically through financial management.</i>
6	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka'?	<i>A critical factor which contributes in achieving peace and social cohesion in Sri Lanka is strengthening civil society, who is able to protect the vulnerable and raise concern. Protecting civil society to continue their work with vulnerable in protecting and assisting them was the way they chose to address the needs of the country.</i>
7	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as reasons behind them?	<i>On gender empowerment and equality, they heard at some point over 60. It a very difficult position to be to be a civil society member as a women's, especially in the north and east. There is a large network of women and a very large network of very brave women across the country to act on gender-based violence and child protection. The project has definitely contributed positively to achieve cross cutting. The project has empowered and provided skills & training and have contributed to strengthen individual civil society organizations. This project in the East as in the Hill Country has really contributed and makes civil society organization that was perhaps a bit dormant.</i>
8	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>UNOPS is monitoring the incidents specifically the attacks on civil society members and figures of how much this has increased. (E.g.: number of obituaries, number of summoning, number of surveillance) The reasons why perhaps UNOPS has not been able to deliver on this because the number of people being targeted has trickled years because initially the baseline was 30 organization and now there are hundreds of organizations in the country who are facing the same threats and risk.</i>
9	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	<i>When designing the project, it has conducted separate baseline for each pillar. It has conducted way more trainings than expected and in terms of equipment, the CSOs didn't had basic requirements like laptops and printers to operate. They have provided the equipment in ICT mostly to the grassroots organizations. More than 90 organizations wanted ICT equipment, but they were able to provide the same to only about 20 organizations due to lack of funding. But they have over delivered in terms of skills development, in terms of trainings and has provided assistance to the artists. In terms of quality, it had space to provide more in-depth training. As an example, a lot of civil society organization asks for GIS and the GIS team developed a curriculum in introduction to GIS.</i>
10	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not	<i>Received some support from the government, especially in North & East and Hill country. In addition, it has received good support from</i>

	achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<p>NGOs. A lot of food assistance to the communities came through the CSOs. In terms of mental health, a psychiatric follow-up in remote areas is currently being conducted on behalf of the MOH. There are a number of victims of the conflict and a number of patients requiring psychiatric assistance. However, the psychiatric private psychiatrists and clinicians who provide support for these victims and patients are unable to cater for all of them because of the financial crisis. The same thing is happening for shelters as well. The deterioration of the social-political situation in Sri Lanka is bringing together the government and civil society to address the needs of the population and the needs of vulnerable communities, which is a positive development that can be witnessed.</p> <p>It received support from many diplomatic missions and donors (EU, the Australians, UN etc.). Their ambassadors, ministers etc. wanted to understand the current political and conflict analysis situation. Therefore, UNOPS has organized dialogues between these high-level diplomats and communities, and it has become an unexpected external factor that has been supportive of the project. The state intelligence has been a threat to the project and some partners stopped their work. (E.g.: UNOPS has provided financial grants for them and it became too dangerous for them, so they have decided to shut down because they were too scared following the threats. This negatively affected on the project.</p>
11	Has the Project used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? Your comments?	<p>It has faced a major challenge during the COVID period. At the earlier stage, the project team was just Ms. Suranga and the driver, because it was not able to open offices and not able to recruit. They have opened an office in Batticaloa. During the 1st phase of the project, most of the things were done online. In terms of human resources, it has kicked off in 2021.</p>
12	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<p>UNOPS's role always comes from a structural perspective. UNOPS is always supported in terms of improving their performance. They are very sure that the partners whom they have supported and the partners who have joined support the most vulnerable and the most marginalized.</p>
13	<p>In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas?</p> <p>a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,</p> <p>b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.</p> <p>c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.</p>	<p>Certain areas of Sri Lanka have active and dynamic and involved civil society networks. It's not the same all across the country. The CSOs in Badulla, Hatton, Batticaloa, Trinco, and Vavuniya are collaborating together. It strengthens the citizen representation, monitoring, protection and assistance to Sri Lanka. The strengthening of existing networks has been the main added value to peacebuilding and social cohesion in many places. The next value added was the financial grants. These grants have been used to continue the care and treatment of the mental health of the victims of torture. To ensure that there is accountability in what is being given, all that programmatic support was given by UNOPS. (E.g.: when giving the crisis grant, the way they have instructed on how to select the elderly who were isolated and how to select mobility analysis based on income and expenditures)</p> <p>They have closely worked with the government.</p>

14	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>This project is a catalytic project. In the design stage of this project, it conducted a test whether this project was going to work or not. In terms of the exit strategy, the project ended in 5th of June and they have developed a six-year strategy. In the first two years, the PBF project is the project that currently being evaluated. The next two years to establish the platform supporting and establishing to civil society and the next two years are for extension.</i>
15	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>UNOPS is working primarily in the North and the East and the Hill Country, but from other parts of the country, there are lots of other civil society requests for support. UNOPS is going to be dedicated to giving to other areas increasing that support to a higher number of members. The last two years of the project are building the platform, to a civil society coalition. When UNOPS decided to do this project, we had concerns about safety and risks. Currently, they are setting up the platform and are building up a number of civil society organizations to take over from them and pursue the work.</i>
16	Extent to which that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?	<i>UN has a peacebuilding policy and our project is in line with that policy. Anyhow, this project is not directly targeting the peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. But we have provided legal assistance to the partners. We do not directly support policy-making.</i>
17	Based on your records of project performance what kind of futuristic steps or recommendations you would contemplate for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?	<i>This program is continuing for a total of six years. The 1st phase is over now and next, we are moving to the 2nd phase of the project targeting the other geographical areas. Also, we are expanding the services and expanding them to more CSOs as well. We have received funds</i>
18	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<i>We are mainly focusing on CSOs, we are providing services, and grants not for peacebuilding but to strengthen, maintain, and protect the civil society in Sri Lanka. by sustain the civil society organizations, the peacebuilding will be maintained in the country.</i>

C. Interview with Project Personnel: No.3 - Mr. T. Ilangovan – UNOPS - ITC Officer / Trainer

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>18 months; as the ITC Officer and ITC Trainer</i>
2	Please explain your role in the project during its implementation period?	<i>I'm handling mainly two components of this project. ICT support services for CSOs, especially dealing with hardware and software-related issues of CSOs. Secondly providing ICT training for CSOs for capacity building of CSOs. Which representing one pillar Mullaitivu, Batticaloa, northeast and upcountry</i>
3	What is the degree of relevance & appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>The ICT is really important globally as well. Then providing such IT services will help CSOs do their work in a very good manner and from that they can provide better service to the community. We provide support to the CSOs to enhance their capacities so that they can serve the community.</i>

4	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need reexamination?	<i>Yes, it's addressing the needs of CSOs based on the 5 pillars of the project. Sometimes we identify the specific issues related to each CSO and provide support.</i>
5	If you had reservations on the above have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / stakeholders about them and get changes made as necessary?	<i>Sometimes we identify the specific issues related to each CSO and provide support. As an example, sometimes, they will have issues related to the IT policies, and sometimes it may be a hardware or software issue. Currently, we are doing basic software and hardware training for the CSOs in the first phase, then we will advance these trainings in the second session.</i>
6	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka'?	<i>Yes</i>
7	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as reasons behind them?	<i>Exactly</i>
8	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>All the types of activists come from CSOs from human rights defenders to journalists.</i>
9	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	<i>The CSOs are supported by every pillar of the project. Personally, I have trained 150 participants and 100 CSOs</i>
10	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<i>There is no negative impact from the government parties and officers and they have joined the ICT training as well. Since it's important for everyone in the world.</i>
11	Has the Project used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? Your comments?	<i>Yes. Regional offices worked with CSOs to arrange the training and other grants and services.</i>
12	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<i>Yes exactly. Some organizations are financially poor and some have good financial status. Therefore, this project provides support for the poor CSOs that can't get better ICT training and hardware.</i>
13	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a). Providing financial grants, artistic support, and project management training capacities are building up in the CSOs and it will help to strengthen the peacebuilding in Sri Lanka. b). Yes. When CSOs receive the proper training, they provide effective and efficient services to their beneficiaries. c). There are no negative impacts from the project stakeholders</i>
14	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when	<i>After the end of the first phase of the project on June 1st second phase is currently in operation for CSOs</i>

	the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	
15	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>We have developed a website for the Vriddhi platform and it is the main evidence that the project is going on continuously.</i>
16	Extent to which that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?	<i>The 13 amendment is also still in the discussion process. A lot of talks are going on but with fewer actions. This National Peacebuilding Policy will be also like that.</i>
17	Based on your records of project performance what kind of futuristic steps or recommendations you would contemplate for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?	<i>Some CSOs have different working patterns and requirements. Therefore, understanding them has to redesign the future training. Ex – cyber security components to protect the data.</i>
18	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<i>I'm receiving good feedback from the partners. The trainings are developing day by day and its good thing about the project. I'm fully satisfied about the project.</i>

D. KII with Project Personnel: No. 4 - Ms. Randula Koswatta - Fund manager - UNOPS

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
1	What is your position in the project?	<i>Fund manager of the project and overlook the funds of the project.</i>
2	How the project started?	<i>I was joined to the project after the 1 year its started. The project was started in 2021 during the covid period. After I came to the project the provisions started very quickly. The context of the</i>
3	When did the grants are released?	<i>First round of grand released in July 2022. this is the 1st time that UNOPS providing grants, especially for civil society. We don't have a grants unit and currently we are building the grant unit. Therefore, it takes bit time to provide the financial grants.</i>
4	What is the selection process of the beneficiaries?	<i>In the selection. 1st we have call for proposal document, it explains the purpose of the project, time frame, budget, CSO location. After that we gave them an application document, which includes the location, M&E plan and the budget</i> <i>After the applications are in, we do a group evaluation and we do it team expertise. 1st we select eligible ones and ineligible documents. Ineligible ones are incomplete ones and late ones. After that selected ones are sent to the technical evaluation. After that we gave them to our location experts to evaluate. After that we evaluate it from project expertise. After selection, we have informed them via e mail with relevant small modification they need to have done.</i>
5	How did you inform about the applications?	<i>We send informed them through e mails and tell them to inform to the other CSOs as well. After we sent the e mail and we did an information session them to understand and explain the application and application process. In all three languages.</i>

6	During the selection process, are there prioritisation for CSOs based on their location, language, ethnicity or any other factor?	<i>There is no prioritisation based on any of these factors. All are treated equally. However, after the selection of the CSOs, they were asked to provide the financial information and the government registration.</i>
7	How do you select the Artists, journalists and media personal for grants?	<i>We launch separate call for proposals for artists, journalist, media personals because they are not registered organisation. they had a different application document. Other than that, it's a similar process.</i>
8	How do you decide the financial grant range?	<i>Budget are decided on the proposal, financial documents. For the 1st ten grants, we tell them to proposed the projects under 10,000 USD. After that 4 grants were provided worth of 30,000 USD for food and economic crisis. These grants are mainly for food, lively food and protection purposes consider the political situation in the country at that time. All the grants are provided in LKR. Grants are provided for 18 CSOs.</i>
9	How do you monitor the interaction among the 5 pillars?	<i>The selection process for each pillars happened independently. That is because its to ensure the selection happened on merit and unbiased way. As example lot of previously grantee CSOs didn't get the grants this time.</i> <i>The grant is the 1st big thing that launch from the PBF project. Also, lot of CSOs are asking for the financial grant service. Grants and project management trainings are overlapping. Therefore, there is complementarily.</i>
10	What did you think about the efficiency and the effectiveness of the grant services.	<i>Only negative thing I see here is my late recruitment. We gave our grants for six months for CSOs and 7 months for artist. It would better we could give this for 1 year. The grants were effectively support for the community, especially during the covid period.</i> <i>Most important one is we able to response for the economic crisis and food crisis. Therefore, we quickly decide and provide 30,000 USD support. All the grantees are completed their proposed work and they have used all the money.</i>
11	Who has been monitor the activities based on these grants?	<i>Our regional officers and financial officers are monitoring the activities. This monitoring happened monthly. Midterm monitoring and visit happened and our M&E person visit the CSOs every time.</i>
12	Can already rejected CSOs can apply for the 2 nd round?	<i>We are conducting new selection for the 2nd round of the project. Rejected CSOs can reapply for this round my correcting their mistakes from previous round of selection.</i>
13	Lot of CSOs are asking for the financial grants again. What do you think about that?	<i>Yes, its true we have provided the financial support only for six months. They want to continue their project and we also want that but we are also have limited funds. If they want that support again, they have to apply again.</i>
14	What is your overall view about the project	<i>I'm very happy about the project. We were able to make civil society safer. We address the different types of needs of CSOs to be functioned. Also, I'm happy about the team and dedication towards the project</i>
15	Anything else you want to mention?	<i>No, I don't have anything to mention</i>

E. KII with Project Personnel: No. 5 - Irfana Sally- Procumbent Associate -UNOPS

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	What is your role in this project?	<i>I'm the procurement associate of this project.</i>
02	What is role in this project?	<i>After we identified the requirements, we are making the TOR. The terms of reference for the requirements and I will go through it to ensure that it is in line with the policies and procedures that we have to follow and that it can be used to make a transparent and a very comprehensive evaluation, because we have to make sure that it is specific that people have understood. It is not unfair on some or fair on some. After that because we have to establish the evaluation criteria and all that based on that document and everything has to be done. So, I work with them because I also have my knowledge, my background. Also, I help with the requirement definitions and then we start the procurement process.</i>
03	All together what is strength of the project team?	<i>Some officials are locating in the Colombo office and some areas handling by the regional offices in project locations.</i>
04	How are the procurements are happening for the donations?	<i>We buy for donations like for example the ICT equipment that we gave to the CSOs. Likewise, we are buying products for the CSOs and providing them. Mostly ICT equipment. then there were requirements of project management trainings these as we purchased then we have project management, we get PMP project management certification from the PMI Institute. So, we hired the project management Institute to provide PMP course.</i> <i>when we gave a training, we made sure that they were following some standard. That if they want, they can actually go and sit an exam and get a certification and we gave the certifications they need.</i>
05	Altogether how many people did you trained by the project and how the trainings are done?	<i>41 Members in project management and 20 in PMP. Also, this was requested by the CSOs. Similarly, we did financial management Statement, financial statement Preparation Services. Therefore, we hired Gaja and Company for the auditors and we provided 25 financial statement preparations for like 21 organisations, and we hired Ernst and Young to do audit trainings. What was interesting to learn like they were some people had thought they had audited accounts before, but when they actually saw an auditor opinion, they realize that the auditing. We have done this for capacity building of the organization. Also, we have identified there is huge requirement for financial management, especially basics.</i>
06	How often the project team meet to discuss about the project?	<i>We are meeting once week and we are having a physical meeting once a month. but are getting meetings as soon we need to get the meetings.</i> <i>Also, when it's come to the procurement, we are making sure that we are make sure that we are providing best equipment for the CSOs. then once we do the deliveries, we do a feedback system. We ask them what is the feedback not only on the training, on the trainer, on the materials, on the locations, the logistics and also what they think they should. We should improve in the future and that's how we go for the next training.</i>

		<i>Also, we are very strong and close as a team and our manager are very close with us and support us for our future career and the project.</i>
07	How do you address the feedbacks of the CSOs?	<p><i>We are getting the feedback from the google forms. After the training we are giving them chance to give their opinion.</i></p> <p><i>Things like PMI, we were sure because it was trainer. So, we asked for things like, you know, do you are you are authorised trainer of PMP for PMP they're authorised trainers. So, things like that wherever we could we did our own background checks to see because we have a process to check due diligence before we avoid any contract.</i></p>
08	How differentiate the services and procurement according to the different thematic and geographical areas of the project?	<p><i>We have to understand geographically also there are differences like you said depending on the type of activities that they are doing on the type of thematic areas that they are handling; you know there are so many different thematic areas. But unfortunately, or fortunately, the thing is when we do things like delivering equipment, we buy same quality product for the everyone. We make sure that everybody gets the same thing. Same standard is maintained, we give the best. We make sure it's of a certain standard not a brand.</i></p> <p><i>In terms of services, we can't really differentiate because PMP is PMP. Project management professional cannot be changed. but then when you did PMT training and depending on the people who attended it, the trainer did it. We have provide services and equipment for people different areas in the country.</i></p>
09	How do you effectively and efficiently handle the project with the challenges you have faced during the project implementations?	<p><i>The biggest issue for the procurement was by the time we started the project the economic crisis hitting us. And the biggest problem for procurement was the currency fluctuation. Normally to do an evaluation we need at least a certain number of days of mid validity. But that time suppliers not willing to give that and finally we asked the quotations from dollars.</i></p> <p><i>By following the open bid process, we got very good prices.</i></p>
10.	Do the purchases are done locally or internationally?	<p><i>We have open up to the local and international market, but we always try to purchase from local seller consider the after sales and maintenance.</i></p> <p><i>After we provide the equipment, we made sure the supplier went and installed them and taught them how to use it and move on with the IT Help desk support.</i></p> <p><i>We also check whether the equipment available are being used. We can just give it and say no, don't know what they're doing. So, we also when we go discreetly, we also check have you, how are you using, what are your benefits, anything else that you would like from us.</i></p>
11.	Were you think you able to contribute in achieving the project objectives?	<i>I'm very satisfied about the project. We have delivered project management trainings. The people have managed to get finance, they are doing better by project management and they're able to better complete their projects better cycle time.</i>
12.	Do you want to add anything else to this discussion?	<i>Yes, please look into the people that we have provide services from other pillars and overall project.</i>

F. KII with Project Personnel: No. 6: Ms. Anne Devanand–UNOPS –Program Associate/Art Pillar

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
1	What is role in this project?	<i>Programme management associate for arts</i>
2	Can u explain us what kind of autistics areas that you provide that you provide the services	<p><i>I can give you list areas that we provide our artistic services. Film and cinema, Performing arts, Music, Drama, Arts & Creative literature</i></p> <p><i>We also support a lot of people who work with the youth then they can work young people going into drugs and things like they're giving them something else to do and getting them involved in the work that they do with the communities. I met several people like that.</i></p> <p><i>for example,</i></p> <p><i>Priest in the Kilinochchi area, where he goes into each now, he has actually removed his ropes because he doesn't want it to look like a religious, but to serve the community. So, he takes Theatre and drama to these little communities who have no access to Internet and mobile devices.</i></p>
3	Before your requirement in the project, is anyone else work for the art pillar?	<i>No, I started the service provisions in last six months but the team was mapped out and researched about areas and CSOs in need of the artistic areas.</i>
4	What are the positive areas you see in the project and the service provisions?	<p><i>There is nice merger among the CSOs and the community through this project.</i></p> <p><i>When we had the Vriddhi Festival in last year, we saw a very nice connection between artists because all the artists who came to display their work. I think that's what this project is trying to do connecting people. That is also another way we want to connect Sri Lanka through connecting these artists and journalists and them to be able to form a network. We achieve a progress in eastern district in regard to this.</i></p>
5	How do you provide support to these artists?	<p><i>We want to make sure a lot of people come together from various parts of the area so that they get to meet. So, one of the things that we did public outreach and marketing workshops.</i></p> <p><i>Also, we gave a grant to a photographer to do the photo exhibition. He captured the problems the Hill Country. Which was very successful for him and he now takes that exhibition that we have supported, to all around the country. I think last he went to Batticaloa and showed it. He couldn't show it in the Hill Country yet because of the political issues. So, he's trying to make those endeavours and I think people from Australia also want to take his work after our support to him. So that message is going across.</i></p> <p><i>Also, we provide another grant to an artist to do a film. he's trying to capture young women's issues in Bibile division, as in school children who have passion for various things and they're not allowed to do things because just because they're women.</i></p> <p><i>Also, we did another project for journalists in Trincomalee, where Sinhala journalists are learning Tamil and Tamil journalists are learning Sinhala, they've gone through like six months. and I recently visited them and I got some really great feedback. As an example, one Tamil lady journalist. She's used to not smile with Sinhalese because</i></p>

		<p><i>she's scared. They are come and speak to her and she would not be able to speak. And that's the reason she doesn't want to smile at them. But now she voluntarily smiles and goes up to them and speaks to them. And which is quite the contrast because she has the confidence and the language skills to go across.</i></p> <p><i>In addition to this, we have supported some of the drama groups with equipment. We supported some institution with equipment. They not only support their institution but they also lend out to all the schools in the area for any cultural shows. Anything that they want. They have been giving out and giving to people who are ready and willing to support other people.</i></p>
6	What are the future plans for artistic pillar in the vrddhi platform?	<p><i>yes, we want to continue some of the programmes, specially the marketing and public outreach programme for them. It's more of confidence building and also for them to meet likeminded people, which is severely lacking and all these people come from backgrounds where they are criticised for doing what they're doing. So, when they are meeting people like them, they're able to continue their passion going. So, we want to continue the workshops. I send out a survey request on this thing and they said this is what they wanted like this is how they wanted support. We gave them specific topics that we thought would help them do better as in their career and to support the Community and take their message to everyone else. The marketing and public outreach was mostly asked services that they requested. there is huge demand for the second phase as well.</i></p> <p><i>We are trying to make a network for the artist which last long period of time.</i></p>
7	When you organise a workshop, is it only for one specific art or are you targeting multiple arts?	<p><i>When we organised the marketing and public outreach Workshop, it's for all types of arts. But we are now going into the second step, where we also want to look at residencies and master classes and bring people from. We actually looking at bringing drama people together later this year to put up a play.</i></p> <p><i>Also, we are providing master class so we'll bring experts in and also their knowledge sharing from their areas like what are the tricks and tips that they use sometimes to bring them together. So, we looking at it in both ways we are all different arts come together and also at the same time. Provide space for specific arts so that these other people from all around the country can meet.</i></p>
8	Did u able to cater the demand of this pillar?	<p><i>So, there is some research I do on my own. I look at the problems in the area, so there is some support from my end. So I have some understanding and then I also take feedback from the people that I'm going to work with.</i></p> <p><i>We want everyone to be in the equal plane and we want to respect them, because everyone has good inputs to give and they are the ones who have the problems and know how. So what sort of support they want, right? We can't be like here. The computer. We don't know either you need it or not. So there is a nice feedback into my knowledge from them.</i></p>

9	Are you happy about this particular pillar has contributed towards achieving the objective project Peace Building?	<i>Yes, it's, I know it's very difficult for some people to understand the direct correlations of it, but I think it makes a significant impact that a lot of people overlook towards what our project and objectives of the project. People might think it's very subtle, but these subtle subtleties is what is going to at the end of the day, make a real change. I don't think the art pillar is too special from the civil society pillar is because they're all civil society actors. We see them under that.</i>
10	How do you view about this project?	<i>I think this good and very innovative project.</i>

G. KII with Project Personnel: No. 7 Ms. Shamalin Yasothanan- UNOPS - Financial Statement Preparation /Audit Services – Eastern Province

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	What is your designation and the role in this project?	<i>I'm Shamalin Yashodaran, Finance Associate in UNOPS and I have done financial capacity building, Finance Monitoring, Budget revision in the eastern province when the project implemented.</i>
02	How do you select the partners for this project?	<i>Through the competitive process, we provided CSOs financial grants, initially with the support of Government Authorities we find the contacts of CSOs and connect them to the VIRUTHI platform. For financial pillar and the service pillars we identify the CSOs through a survey. We contact them over the phone and collected information to choose the exact leads. Also, while delivering services through the email, we identified few more CSOs.</i>
03	What types of issues and challenges that you have faced during the implementation of the project?	<i>Most difficult part was managing the CSOs. Therefore, we had to conduct special programs to educate them and capacitate their knowledge on accounts and financial statements</i>
04	what is the number of CSOs have selected for the service (protection pillar) out of 95 CSOs?	<i>From the EASTERN province there were 52 CSOs, for 22 CSOs we provide financial service and the audit service.</i>
05	What do you think about this project?	<i>In my opinion this project is sustainable project for CSOs. To deliver the service we have partnered with two suppliers and the processing period were 6 weeks. As outcomes CSOs learned to develop petty cash ledgers, presentations through capacity building programs. they have Learned about Sri Lanka Accounting Standards. This project identified the needs of CSOs and provide them with the maximum financial support.</i>

H. KII with Project Personnel–No. 8-Mr. Kanapathipillai Vendhan–UNOPS/Protection Services

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	What is your designation and the role in this project?	<i>I'm Kanapathipillai Vendhan and I'm the Project Management Support Officer of this project. As a Protection officer I'm ensuring the safety and protection of CSOs and reporting, I worked for 5 Districts of northern province and the aspects are protection, security violations, and issues CSOs face</i>
02	What kind of services that you provide by this Project?	<i>under this project there are 5 pillars. Namely financial grants, Protection, Skill Development and Capacity Building, equipment and other supports for Artists and Communication and ICT. My service is under the pillar of Protection.</i>

		<i>I am responsible for services under Protection in the northern province. We are Conducting awareness programs, participating in the field missions, monitoring issues occurring in the protection pillar.</i>
03	what was the selection process of beneficiaries	<i>Through an online survey we identified CSOs who were in need of Protection, and also, we identified eligible CSOs via our monthly official gatherings and meetings with CSOs, we had a very good relationship with them. considering their threats and issues on protection issues they faced</i>
04	What type of beneficiaries that you were identified during the project?	<i>we cannot specify in groups, in the beginning of this project we end to choose the CSOs who speak up the human rights violation's issues to the authorities, and the CSOs who are facing issues publicly, later on we identified there are some other CSOs facing protection issues, we had to concern their needs on protection.</i>
05	What are the issues that you faced during the service provision?	<i>So far, we didn't face such problems during the service. but project got delay to implement, we were unable to start our process as we planned. Also, we have faced language issues while providing trainings to the CSOs. We had to UN ODC to the functions and it has supported us. Therefore, we have hired translators and interpreters to mitigate this issue.</i>
06	what is the number of CSOs have selected for the service (protection pillar) out of 95 CSOs?	<i>Total number of 67 CSOs got selected and 109 participants have participated to the training program. we were able to introduce protection tools to the CSOs, Digital security tools, Knowledge sharing tools, how to handle the security officers and high authorities when involve in the protests. Also, we report to the parliament regarding the violations, harassments and few protection issues in the country. Among them issue about Maveeran day is special one. In here Tamil society and the media personalities got arrested and we were support them. Also, Mullivaikal Day happened in the north and we supported to that protest and for their rights. Also, we took some actions about harassments happened in the military and police checkpoints</i>
07	What do you think about this project?	<i>This project successful and sustainable project for the CSOs and their future.</i>

I. KII with Project Personnel – No. 9 Ms. Niroshima Dilanthi – UNOPS Focal Point – Eastern Province - Project Management, ICT Training, IT Equipment, GIS Training,

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	What is your designation in the UNOPS?	<i>M.D. Niroshima Dilanthi, Programme management associate. I'm a field officer of this project and I'm working as focal point of the services.</i>
02	What is your role in this project?	<i>I was worked as a focal points of project management trainings and the GIS trainings. Also, I helped to the ICT training and equipment distribution in the eastern province. In GIS training I s</i>
03	What is the selection process of these services?	<i>For management trainings we got applications from 49 CSOs. After received the applications we have selected the participants based on the selection criteria. We gave opportunities for 2 members form 1 CSO and we consider 1year minimum experience in project management, for academic qualification we consider Als as an academic qualification, we consider the designation of that person as well. After the selection process, 29 CSOs were eligible to receive the project management training. Among these CSOs 44 participants got the training.</i>

04		<p>For professional project management certification training, we got 36 applications and our main criteria was fluency in English. Consider the international standard of the certificate we got these criteria. Also, we consider the minimum 3 year of experience, diploma level education and the designation should be in management level. As example project managers, project executives. After the training 18 CSOs got this training and overall, 20 individuals got this training. Most of the applicants dropped in the selection process due to the language issue. But they got chance to participate the project management training.</p> <p>-When it's come to GIS training. We have given the opportunity for everyone based on their request. We have done the programme applicants from Batticaloa, Hatton, Vavuniya and all island. But most of the applications are came from Northern, Eastern and central provinces. In GIS, we have provided the service for 40 participants and total 38 CSOs.</p>
05	What type of CSOs are participated to these trainings?	<p>We haven't specifically chosen the CSOs. In generally these trainings are important for every CSO in the country to conduct their day-to-day duties and services. But when we selecting the participants, we select whether they want basic level or the advance level of that training. Based on that we organised the trainings.</p> <p>Therefore, especially in project management services most of the applicants are got basic training rather than the professional certification.</p>
06	What are the challenges/issues that you faced during the implementation of these trainings?	<p>In project management trainings, we got lot of applications from the CSOs but we were able to provide these services for lesser amount of people that requested. therefore, we have to categorised them based on their abilities. All the participants are actively participated to these trainings because they are the ones who requested these trainings from us and we have delivered them effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>Also, we have got good feedback from the participants. Some CSOs said they will use this knowledge when they planning the projects. Especially they have mentioned they will use this knowledge for risk analyse the projects, cost analysis, budget schedules, critical thinking, communicating with the donors and for proposal writing and the problem solving.</p>
07	What do you think about this project?	<p>This is a very good project for capacity building of the CSOs. Because if we get the CSOs, there are numerous categories. Some are international, some are national and some are local. Each CSO have different capacities and these trainings are effectively and efficiently help to the CSOs to enhance their capacities and to conduct their day-to-day duties and responsibilities.</p>

J. KII with Project Personnel: No. 10 - Ms. Anusha, Project Manager -UNODC

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	I have been working in UNODC for six years and my designation is the national program coordinator for the Regional Office of South Asia. For this particular project, I am the project manager.
2	Please explain your role in the project during its implementation period?	As a project manager, I had all the responsibility to manage the project. I received guidance from my colleagues at the head office in Vienna as well as from the regional office in India. This particular project PBF is implemented by my team under my guidance at UNODC as we consider this project to cover various aspects of access to justice and fundamental rights component in Sri Lanka.
3	What is the degree of relevance & appropriateness of the	In terms of peacebuilding what we did here was focusing at the grassroots level of the society. We reached out to various government officers and other small-scale organizations providing them with necessary skill and knowledge

	project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>to understand the concerns of the people who are coming to them looking for their support be it in a micro or macro level. What we are trying to do is to make the public aware on what is the most useful way to help them understand fundamental rights and understand how to protect their fundamental rights by obtaining the services of the officials.</i>
4	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need reexamination?	<i>Yes, we firmly believe the goal has been achieved.</i>
5	If you had reservations on the above have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / stakeholders about them and get changes made as necessary?	<i>Yes, we talked to them and we realized that their requirement is much border and found out there are some loopholes. So now we are addressing the loopholes correctly.</i>
6	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to ‘Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka’?	<i>Yes, it does, particularly under the component access to justice we have addressed issues related to fundamental rights and gender sensitivity.</i>
7	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as reasons behind them?	<i>Yes, our component is very little in this project, and with the available budget yes, we have achieved the objectives. we have worked mainly with government officials, lawyers, judges, and judicial officials. We have done capacity building, knowledge sharing, analysis, training, etc., and got good feedback from the participants. UNOPS has played a huge part in the project and altogether this project has made a good impact on the CSOs.</i>
8	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>We have worked with judicial officers. During the period that the project was implemented, the definition of fundamental rights drastically changed. Therefore, we have changed our approach and context towards our beneficiaries with these changes. We educated lawyers and police officers on the ways fundamental rights are can violated. We are happy about the way of resilient building.</i>
9	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	<i>Our main focus out of the 5 core pillars was the protection, access to justice and legal assistance. Although under this component we were not able to establish online support programs, we were however successful in addressing the entire cycle, from the ordinary people to the public officials like judges, lawyers police officers, prison officials on where we think these victims are facing obstacles in obtaining justice and how their fundamental rights are violated.</i>
10	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<i>I have to give credit to certain government officials we were worked with, particularly the Legal Aid Commission. From the very beginning of the project, we worked very closely with them, and they provided us the bridge to build connections with government officials in northern and eastern, as well as the southern provinces.</i>

11	Has the Project used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? Your comments?	<i>Yes, by utilizing the assistance of various agencies we were able to manage the resources and funds efficiently and effectively when it came to obtaining the practical knowledge and specialties required for this project.</i>
12	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<i>They were definitely taken into consideration when we were targeting how to further knowledge on victimization to marginalized groups in society.</i>
13	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a) Through the Legal Aid Commission, we have reached out to the people who don't have a proper voice in the peacebuilding context. Especially police officers who got violated their rights and provide them with correct guidance to get proper legal actions. Also, we went to the micro level and provided legal advice for marginalized people. Which ultimately benefitted towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka b) Contact the divisional secretaries and identify the most suitable officers for the training. Also, we have followed a more user-friendly manner to reach out to the communities. c) Project outcomes will be sustainable. Providing the training for government key officials, even lower-level ones, they can use that skill and knowledge in their day-to-day work and duties. Then it will be sustainable.</i>
14	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>We took a psychosocial approach to train the officials on how to provide support to marginalized groups in relation to victimization. By inculcating the thought that their actions have repercussions and reminding them to step into the shoes of the victims, we believe the sustainability of the project will be maintained.</i>
15	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>We don't follow a specific exit strategy for this project but the services that we have provided to the stakeholders will continue for a long time. We are also moving to the second phase with larger group.</i>
16	Extent to which that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?	<i>Yeah, the project activities are compiled with ongoing and proposed national peacebuilding policies.</i>

17	Based on your records of project performance what kind of futuristic steps or recommendations you would contemplate for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?	<i>The 1st phase of the project benefitted the larger group of government and judicial officers understanding this situation project aims to expand to the 2nd stage and provide more support to the officials and community.</i>
18	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<i>This is a great project that served to enhance the capacities of the government officials, which was finally affected to the betterment of the peacebuilding situation in Sri Lanka. We have learned a lot from the 1st phase of the project and we have expanded the project in the 2nd phase.</i>

K. KII with Other Stakeholders: No. 11 - Ms. Thushari Sakunthala – UNODC / Legal Aid Commission

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	
2	When and how did you become a concerned party/stakeholder to the present peacebuilding project?	<i>The legal aid joined this project since the beginning of the project and I have been working on this project for almost 18 months.</i>
3	Please explain your part of responsibility or involvement in the project during its implementation period.	<i>All the legal trainings are conducted by the Legal Aid Commission with the grants of UNODC. We have mainly conducted these programs for government servants, including police officers, prison officers, judges, DOs, doctors, etc. I have personally provided coordination support to the project.</i>
4	As a concerned or involved entity/person, were you able to play a significant role in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (Please explain)?	<i>Definitely yes. We have provided 1 or 2-day program sessions for the officials. Therefore, these officials are actively engaged in the project.</i>
5	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace-building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>The government officials are getting better and updated knowledge about the right legal direction. Therefore, they will be able to provide better service to the public which lead to maintaining peace in the society.</i>
6	Has the project goal met the beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that	<i>Yes, the project met its beneficiary requirements by addressing human rights and fundamental rights. But need to aware these people about the general law of the country which will use full day-to-day legal works.</i>

	need re-examination?	
7	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes?	<i>The training topics were selected by UNODC but we also gave input when selecting the topics.</i>
8	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>We are able to deliver good knowledge about fundamental rights to the larger community among the governmental officials.</i>
9	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Yes, I believe this project is successful in achieving its objectives. because now the number of people who requesting legal advice from our regional offices has increased. This is because the community is now aware of the legal aid through government officials. Fundamental rights cases are also increased in these areas. But project need to expand to other areas as well.</i>
10	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>No external influences reported.</i>
11	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	<i>Yes, the project was successfully conducted and the objectives were achieved.</i>
12	What external factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<i>In some areas we provided services to a limited audience this should be increased in the future.</i>
13	Are you in the opinion that the Project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? If not why?	<i>Yes, the available resources were used very efficiently and effectively. Especially the project team gave their fullest support to the implementation of the training.</i>
14	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<i>We have conducted certain lectures for these marginalized or victimized people and we consider their requirements as well.</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the differences the present project has brought about in	

	<p>the following areas?</p> <p>a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,</p> <p>b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.</p> <p>c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.</p>	<p><i>-Yes, government officials get thorough knowledge about the provisions of the law which helps them to maintain good relationships with the community.</i></p> <p><i>-Yes,</i></p> <p><i>-Yes, government officials got better knowledge about the law.</i></p>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>The benefits of the project will be maintained for a long period of time but the project audience must to expanded to get better results. We need to provide this support to the officials every year to refresh their knowledge.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>The government officials informed us they are conducting knowledge sessions for small groups regionally.</i>
18	To what extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?	<i>The programs were conducted in line with the justice ministry.</i>
19	Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming?	<i>The training and awareness topics need to expand. The topics are not only limited to the fundamental rights and need to expand to the general laws of Sri Lanka as well.</i>
20	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<p><i>The topic area needs to be expanded.</i></p> <p><i>The training and awareness programs need to geographically.</i></p>

L. KII with Other Stakeholders-No. 12 -Mr. Yohan Pieris-BASL - Ex-Co-Chairman-Junior Bar

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	How long you are engaged in the present location (District) or in your area of discipline?	<i>I have been a lawyer for 15 years and worked as the Co-Chairman of the BASL Junior Bar Association for the last 2 years.</i>

02	When and how did you become a concerned party/stakeholder in the present peacebuilding project?	<i>BASL Junior Bar Association joined UNOPS in January 2022 and worked until January 2023</i>
03	Please explain your part of responsibility or involvement in the project during its implementation period?	<i>The BASL Junior Bar Association has conducted 6 workshops for junior lawyers about the criminal law. The UNOPS has fully funded to these programs and I worked as the coordinator of the workshops.</i>
04	As a concerned or involved entity / person, were you able to play a significant role in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (Please explain)?	<i>I worked as the main coordinating officer of these workshops. Therefore, I have contacted the resource persons for the workshops and coordinated with UNOPS for the workshops.</i>
05	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>The law is directly involved in maintaining peace in the country. Therefore, conducting this kind of workshop for lawyers will help peace-building efforts of the project.</i>
06	Has the project goal met the beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need re-examination?	<i>Yes, the project has definitely met the beneficiary requirements and needs of the country. Subjected junior lawyers are in need of new knowledge about the law and the country also needs a more knowledgeable law community. both needs were captured by this project. Also, it is better if we can expand this project to more lawyers and areas.</i>
07	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes?	<i>Yes, I have talked about the expansion of the project with UNOPS officials.</i>
	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to <i>Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace</i> in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes, by strengthening the law and law communities of the country, its automatically strengthens peace and peace building of the country.</i>
08	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Yes, the project has achieved its stated objectives. the project was conducted for junior lawyers who in need of new law knowledge and these workshops are organised in rural areas such as Nuwara Eliya and down south. Therefore, the project is successful from 70% to 80%.</i>
09	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across	<i>These covered the pillar 1 of the Vriddhi project.</i>

	the country? Please explain the degree of success during the project period?	
10	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? How and to what extent?	<i>No external influences were impacted on the project.</i>
11	Are you in the opinion that the Project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively? If not why?	<i>Yes, all the resources are used effectively and efficiently. The UNOPS provide the fundings, hotels and other logistic supports to the project.</i>
12	Have the needs of the marginalized or victimized segments taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to target beneficiary groups?	<i>The junior lawyers who have less than 5 years of experience were the target group of these workshops. Also, these lawyers are directly involved with enforcement authorities during their duties. Therefore, I can say the project has prioritized the most important target group in the country.</i>
13	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a). Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,	<i>Yes, it definitely brought a value addition to the legal sector and the peacebuilding in Sri Lanka.</i>
	b). Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.	<i>Yes, the service is effectively and efficiently reached to the junior lawyers.</i>
14	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>Yes. Because junior lawyers get good knowledge about the criminal law nature in Sri Lanka and they get the opportunity to meet the judges and senior lawyers of the country. This knowledge will important them in the future.</i>
15	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>Not aware about that</i>
16	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied	<i>Not Aware about that</i>

	with the issues encountered?	
17	Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions through various dissemination platforms?	<i>The project needs to be implemented in more areas and need to conduct more workshops in these areas. Also, it would be better that if could organise these workshops for other legal areas as well.</i>
18	Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>The project is a very successful one and it helps to enhance the knowledge of the junior lawyers and helps to the reach the ultimate goals of the project which is peacebuilding.</i>

M. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 1- Mr. Kandumani

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>Since 2019 as a Coordinator I was working for Youth Development Society from 1996 to 2019 altogether 27 years of experience in NGOs</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>I Was work on reconciliation and peace building projects since 1996 till now, in south and east I was with all the communities</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>In overall activities, in our organization we have objectives and activities to achieve the mission and visions of our organization, I have a depth connection working on peace and reconciliation, human rights and land rights, livelihood woman employment; managing monitoring, supervising the activities workers volunteers etc. also contacting the donors when needed,</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>I was the key person to manage the project, coordinating the overall activities and run the project I the exact way</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>Yes, it has been two years working with UNOPS. I had the opportunity to convey my ideas also I had good relationship with the team especially field officers as well</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>As we are most effected people in Sri Lanka, UNOPS priorities us I felt, this project made a change within us. it supports us on reconciliations, developing the few of ancient organizations to get back the people with their belongings as well.</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>Yes, but not 100% they worked on need based , its need to reach to the people more and more</i>

8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes Obviously, I had that freedom on connect with many personalities, and they were flexible on our requests, they were not strict on their objectives, always they were trying to respect my opinion.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes Obviously, it does, we got opportunity to work with all the 3 communities, this is what we needed and the UNOPS made it. Now we are not afraid of other communities, and we were waiting for this opportunity and now we have good connection with other NGOs from other communities. also, especially they paid attention in all the areas like capacity building peace building</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Yes, According to MNA plan we did an evaluation to see if the project successful. We have 3 number of projects under UNOPS, two has completed and one is ongoing</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>They were more concern about our protection, am fully satisfied. As we got many services from UNOPS, they have guide us how to deal with outers and also, we tend to win the challengers as well.</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>It strengthens our organization, it is valuable and accountable trustworthy since it's a network, we can connect with NGOs nationally and internationally.</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>In our programs we have lots of challengers with governments services since it's a reconciliation project. we got supports from Human rights commission, UN, civil societies and also networks from North east</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes, Obviously</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>Sure, I accept</i> <i>Yes, they planned the project well and it worked</i> <i>Its better if this project continuing</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>We filed cases on reconciliations and even the project ends we continue the cases through another donor and a service provider; we stated the project only because of UNOPS. It helps. Reconciliation is very important part for peace building I guess</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an	<i>Yes, it has.... Our reconciliation project is the best</i>

	appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>example</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>In our working area can see, people lost many things from war, still some areas need to be rebuilt.</i> <i>Its better if UNOPS could come up with more sustainable projects I future. Also, VIRITHTHI need to be continue its service as we are in need</i> <i>-UNOPS did a great job and we are expecting more in future</i>

N. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 2 Mr. Abdul Rameez

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>I am the founder of the organization, Since 1984 as general secretary (Executive)</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>As a Muslim in Sri Lanka, we are from conflict Society. It's been 30 years we have been involving in peace and reconciliation programs almost 25 years for now. In 1990 Muslims were forcedly evicted from north, it created bitterness among other community, we were waiting for moment to reconnect with them.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>If we talk about organizations structure, this is a membership organization. As usual people gather in a general meeting and appoint positions. as per our constitution, annually we change positions and also appoint project coordinators, volunteers, and other members and distribute duties as well, as the secretary and the founder of this organization I take responsibility for overall activities</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>I was the bridge to UNOPS and our organization. My intervention was to discuss with project associates' personalities and coordinate until we meet the requirement. Arranged the field visits with UNOPS officials, identifying the beneficiaries and also monitoring the project functions till end</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>Yes, Obviously UNOPS officials were good listeners and were flexible to make changers according to our requests.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>Actually, our Project was Improve Food Security Vulnerable Groups in Mannar and Puttalam Districts; In Sri Lanka people struggling to overcome from food insecurity. People have to fight with their day to day lives they expecting lifesaving aids to fulfill their needs. Our project met the scope and we are satisfied since it</i>

		<i>made a change among people and effort was successful on peacebuilding</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>Our project period was just 6 months, it was very useful for the needy, pregnant mothers and poor families; Better if UNOPS come up with new sustainable projects and provide services to NGOs for on make changers within people by identifying the right people and fulfill their needs but not for a short period solution</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes, Obviously. I had that freedom on making and requesting for changers, it was very flexible conversations`</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes, obviously we are satisfied with that</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Yes, it does</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>When the time of implementation, I love the way they planned the event. There were no any issues created or not any problems occurred</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>Beneficiaries for home gardening for sustainability, also we distribute dry foods. we received enough financial grants and also Skill development programs ICT for the teams as well,</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>We have good relationship with government officials, they support to our projects when we need, we have some good contacts with few groups in villages, they act as on call helpers for our project works.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes, they allocated resources correctly. Their assessment was helpful us to make the project successfully</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a) The project made a valuable change among people b) Yes, but this needs to spread in other areas too, limiting in specific areas won't break the barrier of peace building c) --</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent	<i>-</i>

	peacebuilding?	
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	-
18	<p>In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?</p> <p>1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?</p> <p>2. Any other comments / information you would like to share</p>	<p><i>This was a quick impact project, if it is a long-term project we could manage and plan for build peace among people not in a limited group. Sri Lanka is unstable country economically, it's easy to spoil peoples mind in negative ways. Also, it's difficult to choose people who are eligible to receive the service. By solving issues in livelihoods could drive them towards peace.</i></p> <p><i>UNOPS introduce a complaint box, it gives a good learning, it was a good experience and it was a good chance to know people's opinions as well</i></p>

O. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 3 – Mr. Aleem

<i>No</i>	<i>Question asked</i>	<i>Response / Opinion</i>
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>It's been 9 year for now as Administration Manager</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>From beginning of our organization, we did lots of cultural events and programs, also we have a peace unit which we do programs based on peace building</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>Overall activities both internal and external</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>I was as coordinator for the project, I worked to run the project on time</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>Yes, they were very flexible on make changers and we could negotiate according to our requirements</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes, it seems the project designed based on the present geographical situations In Sri Lanka</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>Yes, it does</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes, the project personals were more supportive and was more helpful till end</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes, Obviously</i>

10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Yes, in my opinion even in the short period of time project reached its target in many ways</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>No idea</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>By connecting with many CSOs and NGOs it was an opportunity to share our knowledge and learned new things them, and it was very effective.</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>We are not as a CSO or NGO who involved directly to the project</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes, very satisfied</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a) Yes it gives value to the concept b) This should not be for a limited group c) Need for long time</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>No idea</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>No idea</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>As I'm not involved in the project directly, I don't know much about the project.</i> <i>In my opinion need to identify the needy people in the border areas in Sri Lanka and firm groups because they are the people who starve for peace since they have gone through worst experience in past</i>

P. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 4 - Mr. Spirithyon

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	25 Years
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	Only Because of Vridi platform
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	I'm responsible for overall activities, supervising Coordinators, drivers, Minor staffs, Field officers, Accounts assistants. Running a training center for coordinators and volunteers.
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	Mostly as a local NGOs we were able attend the all the meetings and gatherings which has organized by UNOPS. This was a very good opportunity to build our organization's capacity as well. Our staff got trainings from UNOPS. PMP, Project Management, ICT etc. It was a valuable opportunity to connect with INGOs
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	Obviously, by forming 21 migrants Agencies for migrant mothers who lives in the northern area, we could educate them on current issues which they face through migrations. Our coordinators trained from UNOPS to manage those groups
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	We conduct peace building programs in our areas which we gained experience from this project, Initially UNOPS conducted to exhibition gathering all people in our areas and t made a huge impact within people.
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	CSOs have funding issues, too much competition, should increase funding. donors think of north only but its east that needs. east has way serious issues.
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	Yes, with donors but no proper solution was given. Still north remains top priority amongst all donor organizations. We also did discuss these limitations with concerned officials who now have agreed to take this issue into serious consideration.
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	Yes, the project exhibition was a good initiative but it's just a beginning. there are certain concerns to be addressed to reach the full potential goal.
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	Yes it does, but not 100%
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	We were provided with financial support on auditing and also enhanced the skills necessary through their skill development programs.
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and	As we discussed in the questions before (11) skill development programs and ICT trainings made a big change within our organization, we took financial

	physical counters across the country?	<i>and audit support too</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>It is yet the beginning so we do not believe that we might have made a moving influence. For now we received Governmental support like DS officers, PHIs, on ordinations</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources-If not why?	<i>Yes, it was done carefully and justly. through capacity assessment only they distribute the services as we know</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	<i>a) Yes it does b) Happily we do see a difference created by this platform c) We expecting services for long term</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>Individual functioning will ensure sustainability</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>Although we do not encounter safety related concerns but we do see that they have supported those that needed such protection</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>If they are concerned about nation building policies, they should have invited government officers in inaugurations; They could have organized the exhibition better refreshments were not provided, ill organized exhibition stall ground and time and whether wasn't taken to proper consideration etc.</i>

Q. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 5. Ms. Indumathy

<i>No</i>	<i>Question asked</i>	<i>Response / Opinion</i>
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>Only 2 years</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>I have actually been in this field for more than 15 years now as a general concerned individual for the betterment of female gender related issues</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>I was mainly involved in directly linking the concerned parties to the necessary help they needed. i.e. psychological or legal assistance for victimized women.</i>

4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>It is pretty similar to what I'm doing now</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>There were instances where our voices were not heard but I believe that I have made a considerable change in building confidence and awareness amongst the target groups.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>This peace building project is definitely important to Sri Lanka especially after the past few years. Corvid -19 following the Easter attacks in the country had brought forth the essentiality of peace building in Sri Lanka</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>The project has been successful in reaching the goal of beneficiary requirement.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	--
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>As I explained before, yes it has to a certain extent.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	-
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	-
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>I am not sure about the 5 core pillars</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>The government had been supportive, if I am to consider government as an external source.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	-
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in	-

	<p>the following areas?</p> <p>a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka,</p> <p>b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.</p> <p>c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.</p>	
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>I don't think the achieved benefits will be maintained for a long time because all we do is raising awareness not practically involving the target groups in bringing out solutions.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>No idea</i>
18	<p>In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?</p> <p>1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?</p> <p>2. Any other comments / information you would like to share</p>	<i>Increase practical involvement</i>

R. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 6 - Mr. Mohamed Faris

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>We have been doing humanitarian work since 1999. Initially, we were doing educational related matters based on the Kuchaveli area in Trincomalee district. Then we started improving our education factor economically after the tsunami. Gradually we are becoming a company that does nationwide and national stage projects. Currently we are carrying out a program related to economic development with harmony in six districts of the USA with international NGO support. Similarly, we create networks on the basis of coexistence and social integration in collaboration with the national organization known as IST and do awareness activities through it. We are doing small programs through a company called Australia. Providing smartphone facilities for engaging in school learning and teaching activities providing livelihood assistance we are doing these kinds of action plans. Now we are carrying out our action plan in 7 districts. Last year we did a project in collaboration with UNOPS. We did a project on food security in the emergency contemporary economic situation.</i>

2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>After the tsunami, our activities increased. It was after the war period when there was a need to unite different communities or to work with different communities that I started thinking about peace and coexistence. I started working around 2002, I think. Since we started working with multi-ethnic communities in 2002, we have developed an interest in working with peace and co-existence.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>More and more companies are working towards building social cohesion and coexistence. Having been in this project for a long time, I can say that many companies, including ours, see a work plan as just a project. If a toner is given to us then the projector is working. We have two issues. The work program carried out by organizations based on civil society organizations has a short-term component. The issue of building peace and coexistence should be long-term. But when we bring it in the form of an action plan, if we limit it to one or two years, then there will be a situation where we will not go continuously. We probably see it as a challenge. The next thing is that we are thinking about social integration and coexistence based on the activities in the action plan, but the mechanism to carry it out after leaving the specific action plan has not been developed. They go without opportunities to continuously stand and work. A five-year, ten-year continuance in an action plan can only bring about change. In fact we all avoid it. We do it in a year or two and leave it again. Our responsibility is truly limited. The nature of the project may be due to its environment and financial problems. But the issue of social cohesion has to be taken for a long time. I believe that we have a huge responsibility as a civil society and many places fail to do so, including me.</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>We just did a short-term project with UNOPS. We see the food security of a society in economic trouble as a harmonious coexistence. In the Hambalagama area where we worked, all three communities comprised of different Grama Sevaka sects. We provided opportunities for them to make home gardens. For that we provided some training events. The Tamil Muslim Sinhalese community got an opportunity to merge which basically became a field for a good coexistence. We worked in a village called Pathinipuram in Hambalagama. There were more Tamil people in Pathinipuram. One of the areas closest to the training program is Jayapura, a Sinhalese village. By bringing together the Sinhalese community in Jayapura and the Tamil community in Pathinipuram and doing some projects, a relationship developed between them. Also, we brought together the respective religious priest of that village through the relevant training program. We found their things that interacted with each other even if they did not actually reflect religious and cultural issues. Although it is a project that basically fulfills the need for food, there is an opportunity to create a basic ethnic unity and mutual understanding between the multi-ethnic society through development-oriented food security or agriculture dependence.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>When we look at the UNOPS project as a whole, we cannot find long time importance in three months. However, as I said, a lot of good things have happened. At the time of the economic crisis, we concentrated two hundred people and created an agricultural product, i.e. a home garden. We have done work programs to meet the need for food so that they can produce food that can be used at home. Out of 200 people selected, almost 90% of users completed it. Two things contributed to this. An inspector who worked in the Agriculture Department went to every house and did a good promotion. The second point is that 90% of the people did household gardening as there was direct supervision by the Economic Officer in each GN Division in the</i>

		<i>Divisional Secretariat. We consider this a massive success for the project. Most of the farming is not done like this. A proper cooperation of the government officials and a monitor of the UNOPS organization made this goal achievable. Till today they are continuously doing this work project in that village. So overall, we consider this project a success.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes Mandatory, contemporary peace and social cohesion building projects must be done through long term plans by all. There is no benefit in doing it in a short period of time. True, it is not only civil societies but government institutions that must be led by various parties. This project is also relevant for Sri Lanka.</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>As far as we are concerned this is a short-term project so we have changed the attitude of farmers to produce their food needs at home. In our plan, we conducted it properly. First, we created a capacity awareness for them. We took awareness door by door. Thus they have become active in addition to home gardening. It perfectly meets the needs of the users. A substantial number of people are engaged in home gardening through this scheme in the three non-agricultural villages. In fact, this project has paved the way for regional economic upliftment. I see it as the individual beneficiary's needs and the country's economic contribution.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes; Actually we targeted the farmers. Normally, a farmer has reached the level of producing food for himself. There are opportunities to take them to commercial level but still need to provide human resource and other resources for them. In fact, they have reached a situation where they are self-sufficient in food production. The next level is the economic gap to increase the subsistence needs, if it is met, there is definitely a lot of opportunity to go to the next level.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Indeed, peace-building must be done. If we look at it in modern times, it is a big challenge when another government appears as a solution at the same time as there is a leader who builds peace in the political structure of the country. If you look at the previous government, it developed a mechanism to encourage peace. In other words, the ethnic harmony was created. Then when the next government came it changed. As this is changing there are many challenges to achieving a long-term goal. Therefore, it is not possible that the plan reflects the needs of Sri Lanka in terms of protecting the rights space to promote peace as it is seen as a short-term plan.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>I consider our implementation plan to be a complete success. Our project was not a peace and unity building project but it was successful as a project to encourage self-sustainable economies related to food security and take food security on their own. We consider this project to be a complete success in that it has created a natural level for the beneficiaries to be able to meet their food needs on their own, even if the issue of peaceful coexistence has not been fully achieved.</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders,	<i>In fact we have experience in the past. The commitment of government agencies to these programs to promote civil action has been minimal since the economic crisis. At present, in the period of economic crisis, government institutions are required by civil society or non-governmental organizations in some way, so their contribution is more than before. In fact, I consider the real success of such projects to be the cooperation of government agencies.</i>

	NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>For me, I see the 5 pillars of UNOPS as peace, reconciliation, Sustainability and equality.</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>Although we didn't get the long-term output, we got some output in the short-term that we expected. We have involved 180 people in agriculture. Similarly, we have conducted a nutrition program for 200 pre-school children. It was during this period of economic crisis that children who did not have adequate nutritional needs did not go to school while carrying out such nutrition activities. Some school breaks are reduced when we provide the nutrition program in schools. They came back to school. Indeed, this action plan had short-term, if not long-term, benefits. As far as this project is concerned, I am referring to a short period of time. Sometimes the students may be on a dropout after this activity program is completed. So the lack of time and funding to take it to the next level became a huge challenge.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its	<p><i>a). As I said earlier, the multi-racial community that lived apart got an opportunity to unite. This helped support an initial phase of peace-building. I have already said that there was no connection between the two communities and their economy and livelihood were separated and this project gave an opportunity to unite two or three communities.</i></p> <p><i>B). Their business acumen has increased. Their economic system of earning income has increased, their attitude has changed, when one sees a race as enemies, through such a project, a goodwill and a friendship has been formed.</i></p> <p><i>c). Yes, A mindset has been created that we have to produce our own food so that many of us may be in a similar situation after covid. After this program of ours they use it additionally.</i></p> <p><i>The only thing that really challenged us was the timing of the project. The duration of this project was a big challenge for us as we could not see an economic improvement in three months. At the same time, different types of people had similar needs in contemporary times. Due to lack of justice we have included only a certain population in this scheme. Despite the large number of people who had these needs, we had to abandon it due to lack of funds. We also encountered contradictions due to this. For example, if 50</i></p>

	sustainability. (If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)	<i>people are to be selected in a village, the amount for 100 people may be needed. In that case, there may be some conflicts between the government agencies and the selected people in the villages.</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>Yes, it is mandatory. Our plan is to meet their needs on their own. This will be an opportunity to move their income-related matters to the next level. There are some users who have gone from the beginning to the second layer and there are also time requirements to go. Of course I consider this to be the first step towards more sustainability.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>In our program Local Ownership means we have associated some beneficiaries with their respective Farmer Association at their respective community level. Even though we withdrew from the project, we contacted the Sanghas in that village to help them. We did this so that the ownership for those beneficiaries would remain internal to the local organizations even if we left the project.</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>We have to come up with such programs in society as a matter of fact. It should be brought to all the places where it is needed and not just a specific village. At the same time, these projects should be continuously carried out and monitored by various parties to make the necessary content. My recommendations are that not only civil society but also government institutions, civil societies, community level organizations etc. should be carried out continuously. The projects undertaken by civil society by UNOPS in contemporary times are indeed to be welcomed. It is a must-do contemporary project. UNOPS does such a good thing. Of course this has to be done over a long period of time and in collaboration with various parties. My point is that it should be done consistently. Sincere thanks to UNOPS for implementing such projects.</i>

S. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 7 - Mr. Patrics

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>I am currently acting General Secretary of YMCA. I have been involved with the YMCA for 25 years. I was a secretary in operational projector programs at YMCA almost two years ago.</i>
2	When and how did	<i>I started doing this kind of work probably around the time the war started. YMCA</i>

	you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>is seen as something that unites people across race, religion and language. It is also seen as a peace builder. If you look at the Jung man Christian Organization, all ethnic and religious language speakers are included in it. Since YMCA is seen as bringing everyone together, as soon as we came into this, we started things related to the peace and unity of the country at that time. Around 2001 I went to Nathan Ireland to study how the young generation was engaging in peace between ethnic conflict and religious conflict. Since its early days I have become a person concerned with peace and racial harmony.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>As far as YMCA is concerned, I am in the position of running the organization as General Secretary. YMCA can be viewed in two ways. One is the people who are managing the YMCA as Port of Directors. The staff there run the affairs of the YMCA. The post of General Secretary is seen as a bridge between these two. I am the General Secretary and deputy officer of YMCA. There is a need for me to do both types of work. My work thus covers everything from coordinating all tasks and submitting reports to the management to executing the things that the management says.</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>Actually I initially thought of UNOPS as a network between organizations. But after that, after they started the subject of Vridhi, it was possible to know about it in depth. In terms of contribution, we have done as much work in coordination with UNOPS as possible on behalf of my company.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>Based on the information we have, we can see it in two ways. The first is to provide capacity for organization. Supporting the second beneficiary. Our company had involvement in both the categories.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>In fact, bringing together civil societies is an important task for Sri Lanka. Because in the case of Sri Lanka, the effect of political interventions by the government is to disrupt civil society. In that way it is important to bring together the civil society organizations working for the people and give them the right guidelines and recognition at the community level. Such policies require the recognition of civil society to create laws that do not affect civil society. It is my view that this network, if developed with long-term sustainable strategies, will certainly contribute to peace-building. In this way this project is relevant</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the	<i>Actually I think that UNOPS has been started for a short period of time. In fact, long-term planning should be done when starting such projects within two to three years with long-term vision. Plan for its sustainability for at least three to five years. It cannot be seen in depth how far it has contributed. It has made a specific contribution in terms of how much it has supported our peace efforts or</i>

	country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>disaster relief efforts. But for me a proper long-term strategy needs to be re-designed with plans and then it becomes a sustainable system. My view is that civil society organizations should unite and plan with a long-term vision.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Of course, I have met many intellectuals. They say that their ideas are used and that their ideas are very little absorbed. Otherwise it should be done remotely in an effective manner. I am not the only one and many people are willing to contribute if the position is affirmed that it is made for civil society for the people without any other political background.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Definitely reflected. Because they are laying the foundation for it. So it's just irrelevant to it. So it is my opinion that if we lay the foundation more firmly and show our building in the right way, we can achieve this goal.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>There are two types of projects. There is a lot of difference between a program to come and change people's attitudes and other development programs. In this way, if we say that the UNOPS project is changing the human attitudes and contributing to the unity and peace of the country, we cannot see the results in a short period of time. So we cannot see whether we are successful or not. But it can be said that it has contributed to peace and unity of the country.</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>Corvid and the economic crisis have indeed created a great age gap in the country. Even if the contribution is not 100%, they are keen to contribute 60-70%. It is my opinion that mainly organizations, social organizations and individual activists are interested.</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and	<i>When looking at the 5 pillars of UNOPS, they are Equality, Inclusiveness, Sustainability and Resilience.</i>

	physical counters across the country?	
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>When it comes to external factors, the expectation is that people can experience the benefits immediately. Such expectations can sometimes lead to setbacks in what we do well. That is, if we do not do certain things in the people's style, external influences will affect such things. If it has already been done using massive amounts of funds and resources then one would expect the same to be the case. We couldn't get through it. In our times there were social activists who could serve as long-term social workers. But not now. UNOPS also expected such people. But it will take time. I think this can be seen as an external factor.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>I see it as a lack of both. We can gauge some things only when we have further discussions. If you ask to measure only a few events, it is a difficult environment to measure.</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability. (If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)	<p><i>a).No-</i></p> <p><i>b).Expect it. There have been changes in the extent to which some groups are supported by such training.</i></p> <p><i>c). Of course there is improvement but to what extent is questionable. My opinion is that it should be sustainable whether it lasts.</i></p> <p><i>According to my observation there are many requirements. The challenge is to prioritize and complete them. Some things are decided only by money. When looking at need, it can be seen in two types, urgent need and long-term need. I expect there are more issues like this. They also need to be completed in future. It will be the case that the funders will also give within the specified limits. As a result, some important problems may go undiagnosed. They should also be completed.</i></p>

16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>As I said earlier this cannot be planned in a short period of time. Must be planned for the long term. A stagnant situation exists for both people and organizations. I can give a sense that the economic crisis that was developing into a sustainable has brought them back to a standstill.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>Yes. In addition, we also expect with ownership that sustainability will come when ownership comes. That's how it's designed. This is a good thing. I think sustainability will come only when ownership comes.</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<p><i>1. When I started this project, I first went to the project called Basic Human Rights. In fact, it is something that every human being needs. Not many people know this. Not knowing the legal schemes in the country, the rights of every individual, etc. is causing many problems. Such programs should really be decentralized. Not only should it be leveled. Such issues should be promoted through social organizations and reach the common people. Therefore, my suggestions are that the solution to many problems like domestic violence, sexual violence, violence against women is not known because of this basic issue. If these programs are designed in such a way that even a common man can understand them, we can solve many problems.</i></p> <p><i>2. In addition, I have shared everything. Generally speaking it is better if planning is discussed and designed with experienced people before we do it. It is my opinion that planning succeeds when everyone is involved.</i></p>

T. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 8 - Ms. Pushparani

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>I have been working as a Program Manager at the Center for Human Rights and Development Office for 8 years. I am a sociologist by profession. I have finished my Masters. Currently I am doing a Masters in Psychosocial Counselling.</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>Ours is a human rights organization that truly builds peace. We are working especially in North East regions. Based on that, the rights of the Tamil people have been denied in terms of building peace, and a decision has been made, which is a big challenge. For example, our company is a legal department company that deals with issues related to human rights, land, and missing items. Thus We are being dutiful as victims. Accountability for what happened to them is an important issue in terms of peace. In that way, a good understanding is necessary if peace is to be established between races. The issues for the Tamil people should be clearly defined for that. It becomes a difficult situation if no action is taken by the government. As affected people, we are carrying out such works.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>I'm just on a program side. There is also a legal side. It is a program that provides free legal services to affected people. As I said before, their voice is our voice. Our organization is seen as a victim's center organization. We provide human rights related legal advice to the people, legal complaints, legal services and documentation related to land rights issues, abuse issues etc. At the same time we are making efforts for coexistence. It is referred to as a legal entity. We are also providing free legal advice to the affected people.</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>What I am going to talk about is program related. There are also legal issues. What I was given was to create a sense of community at the community level. Forming functional groups at village level as a group that can work collaboratively through clarification of legal issues. Especially among WDS we have adopted two out of three schemes. They were constantly identifiable. We are identifying. We consider this a success through this project. Also, we jointly did intelligence consolidation through UNOPS for the first time.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>A six-month program was observed. For example, when we say psychological pacification, we identify the problem victims of violence and give them counseling. This happens three times or four times per person as a recurring thing. We have a question mark as to what to do with them after this in the event that it ends up being a six-month period. We have started one and there is a situation where its sustainability has to suffer without continuity. There is a need to integrate them into other projects. To complete this in six months is a big task. They were created and imparted knowledge to their village level activities and after that they could share ideas related to them. It could have been a great project to finish in succession though. Because it is about counseling. Looking for counseling is a matter of faith in our company. Although there are many counseling services at the village level, we are sought after because of our faith. Inability to engage in follow-up activities was seen in this action plan.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building	<i>We're just giving this place what it needs rather than what the project was appropriate for. In that way, we use the past experience as an object and give it to ourselves. In that way, there are still more requirements. At our village level, every institution is self-sustaining. A thing is seen as a thing</i>

	efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>that is distorted in two or three places. Then there is a need to clarify what the requirement is in place.</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>In fact, women are empowered to voice their role in it. The women in Mather Village Development Association are really active. We selected two districts for this. This program was seen in UNOPS as a way of fulfilling the psychological needs of the concerned people on the basis of identifying and voicing the problems at the village level. This can actually be considered a great thing. There was an opportunity to develop an ethnic capacity for those people through doing this action plan. Through this they got the strength to face the daily needs and daily problems. As far as I am concerned it is a short-term project.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes, as I said above, we are still taking the people identified in that program through another program. A change in the individual changes society A change in society can make a big difference. This is what we did.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>When we say peace is peace, we have to look at the violation of rights. Rights are being violated in Tamil areas. They have no end to bribery, sexual abuse, land grabbing etc. Even if there is no end point, they should be listeners. I don't know how much reconciliation is possible when there is no voice for the injustices that are happening. Because their problems are increasing day by day. If we want to build peace in this place, we must first listen. Let's focus on getting their rights. When the people who are supposed to be protected are the driving force behind it, there is a question mark. We formed a group that spoke up for their rights as much as we could.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Success has been achieved but further action is needed. If we take Kilinochchi district for example, it cannot be said that if we identify 30 people and make a plan for them, it will be successful. Because there are more people who need it. It would have been nice if it lasted another year or two.</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>The people we have selected in this program are in WRDS who are in other programs. They are human rights activists.</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>For me, I see the 5 pillars of UNOPS as Rights, Reconciliation, Peace, Sustainability and Integration.</i>
13	What external factors that	<i>Traffic was a huge problem for us during Corona time. We had identified</i>

	have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>different areas in Kilinochchi district. But only a part was doable. Transportation has become a challenge when it comes to external pressures for us.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes, it was prioritized. We wrote to send it necessary activities.</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability. (If you have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)	<p><i>a) We executed a six-month plan as best we could. We are still working on its sequel.</i></p> <p><i>h) Our company already has credibility based on which the stockholders have expressed their lot of problems.</i></p> <p><i>c) Yes, it is indeed an upgrade. It has improved their accountability on rights issues. They learned the right way to get legal advice.</i></p> <p><i>Setting up a short-term plan was a massive challenge. Mental health is an important issue. After this project ended, we had a question mark where else to recruit those particular people. And those who come as a problem are brought to any other program? But we have to wait for another project. This created a situation where they did not trust us. Psychotherapy cannot be done for one person in a short period of time.</i></p>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>That project has ended but we are looking after them through our company.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>We have created a way for them to identify themselves and solve their problems for themselves.</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues	

	<p>encountered?</p> <p>1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?</p> <p>2. Any other comments / information you would like to share</p>	<p><i>The requirements for this are increasing with time. There is a need for coordinated action. A society as a whole must function in harmony. All this appears to be a process running out of control. So an adequate awareness should be made for them. At that time we were able to create awareness about rights issues. It is necessary to give awareness or to monitor it from time to time.</i></p> <p>-No</p>
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U. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 9 – Mr. Kishor Kumar

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>Only 2 years</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>I have been in this line of work since 2006</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>Dealing with school dropout issues and in the past 5 years resolving civil rights concerns</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>I specifically focused on bringing out the root cause of the issues in plantation areas, since I work on individual projects, I think my involvement may not be profound.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>No</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>Although there are more than 300 nonprofit organizations around plantation areas, not many focuses on the root causes of these issues. So the relevance cannot be discussed unless they are ready to address the root cause for the issues.</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>It has met the targeted goals successfully, yes. It evidently successful on a better level than what we expected.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>-</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Sri Lanka? It surely does reflect the need of peace building in our country</i>

10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	-
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>It has to a great extent</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>They provide us with a lot of consultations and providing guidance also during our legal processing.</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>France embassy through letting me conduct my exhibition at alliance Francis . also along with the British Ambassador</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Yes , but there was a minor disappointment when I met many interested parties and delegates who did not show much passion towards social work and shocked how nonprofits operate in Colombo. Out of 200-400 invitation</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.	-
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>I don't think the achieved benefits will be maintained for a long time because all we do is raising awareness not practically involving the target groups in bringing out solutions.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	--
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?	<i>Makin these projects more about personal connection and emotional support. It seems to me lately certain projects only focusing on meeting superficial goals. I did notice certain aspects of this project to be of similar nature. So in future I would recommend all project implementations should be more humane.</i>

	2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	--
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V. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 10-Ms. Nadaraja Sumanthy

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	<i>I worked as a project designer in AW for 25 years. I am currently an operation coordinator</i>
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>AW is a company that works with harmony. From the time I joined the job, I started working with reconciliation. Although we are an organization that works mainly for women, we also started working as a reconciliation organization in the early days because reconciliation problems are massive in Sri Lanka.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>We have responsibilities or obligations to be neutral when conducting reconciliation activities based on our organization. Considering the three communities, the Tamil community is the most affected. Sometimes in some places we are in a situation where we cannot say it openly. We have to work with whoever is more affected by the scriptures because you will be seen as biased narrators. Our opinion is always a neutral opinion.</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>In the initial phase, we did two or three consecutive projects in collaboration with UNDP, involving the three communities. The next step was to start reconciliation activities through UNOPS. The work already done was reinforced by the UNOPS project. Although it was a six-month project, we did a lot of valuable work. I was the coordinator of the UNOPS project. The project led to the joint action of the three communities. Through UNOPS project we visited places like Kathankudi mosque, temples, Thikavavi Pansalai in Amparai. During the war in 1990, the old shrines in the Kathankudi mosque were burned to the ground by people who came to worship the temple. They are still there. The primitive Muslims there said they would forget but never forgive. But the current generation is getting rid of it. Similarly, Muslim women do not come to the temple. But through this program we observed that people came to the temple and had offerings and visited the temples. At the same time, we learned about the Sinhalese people's food and their culture during the Deepavali Pansala in Amparai. We observed a change in everyone through the UNOPS program. Also, the groups connected through UNOPS program are supporting us till date.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>There was little opportunity to socialize with the whole community. Through this project, I understood other communities more. I consider this as a project that contributed to any community realizing that 100% of its rights should be told.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>We also handle right matters. We are currently working with families, communities and community level groups as part of ongoing projects. We have brought change in certain groups. But we don't know how to bring about change politically.</i>
7	Has the project goal met	<i>It fulfills the needs of the users. There has been a lot of change in</i>

	beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>conflicting opinions among users. There has been a change in all the Youth Groups, Women RDS Groups who participated in it. There has been a clear shift in thinking among all. But it is questionable whether the demand of our country as a whole has been met. Although it has gone to some extent with the society, there is still a need for it. There is a need to cooperate with government officials. And also to bring changes in human thoughts. Change can be brought about by promoting harmony through the upper levels of authority.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>To some extent. It is difficult to bring about complete change as we already have contact with those employees through this program. We have a good reputation as an AW company in 22 districts. I don't know how much change we can bring, but I think if we start talking, change will come.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Somewhat reflective.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Our work under the UNOPS program is to promote inter-community reconciliation activities. If we look at those things schematically, we have not been massively successful, but all the work we have done through the program has been a success. We have no restrictions on that. There is still a relationship between them about the stake.</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>All our programs from the beginning till the end of our project were in the news and the reporters supported us. Aw and UNOPS project are doing reconciliation activities together; DAN TV kept broadcasting its news.</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>I consider the five pillars of the UNOPS project to be reconciliation, peace, sustainability, coexistence and neutrality</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>Before we write a plan, we write down what results we want to get from it. We will know that while implementing the plan. We have a monitoring and evaluation for that.</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>-Yes</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in	<i>a). In this program of ours, youth groups participate in all community-based peace activities in the country. They express their opinions in such places and differences have come in this</i>

	<p>Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner.</p> <p>c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders for project outcomes and its sustainability.</p>	<p>way.</p> <p>b). There is a street drama group under the UNOPS Programme. Through it we have done cultural events. In it, a Muslim brother dressed up as a priest. We feel it as a massive change in that place. It was also an event that was seen by all the community as Tamil Sinhala Muslim. At the same time, the Muslim sisters wore saris and took part in plays with flowers on their heads. Through this program it has brought about a big change in the beneficiaries of the stock.</p> <p>c). AW has also been designated as an Organization for Reconciliation through the UNOPS project.</p> <p>- No negative thoughts.</p>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	Yes. AW has kept in touch with the organization till date the children adopted through the UNOPS program. We invite them to all events. If more training is given to the Street Drama crew, there is more opportunity to develop them. They can be formed as a team to work reconciliation in a Sri Lankan manner.
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	Beneficiaries participating in this program are linked to national reconciliation events organized by other organizations in Colombo
18	<p>In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered?</p> <p>1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions?</p> <p>2. Any other comments / information you would like to share</p>	<p>Not complied with the project. Policies for national reconciliation remain a gap.</p> <p>1). Usually we all start talking selfishly. Our stories and speeches should not be like the speeches of politicians. What we talk about should not be the same as action. No matter what community they belong to, they should be able to voice their rights. Everyone should respect the rights of every community. We don't have that characteristic in our country. Those who speak for rights should be built up.</p> <p>It is the need of the hour to build reconciliation again and again as far as our country is concerned. Our country is not in a situation where we can do it for a short period of time and let it go. Political factors influence this. Despite the political factors, if there is proper unity among the people, an environment can be created that can break down even the political structures. For that we have to do massive work projects in future.</p> <p>-No</p>

W. KII with Other Partners (Media, CSO, Women Group): No. 11 - Mr. Sathiyaseelan

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	How long and in what capacity you are working in this project?	I'm Sathiyaseelan. I live in Jaffna. I have been working in the theater industry for more than 15 years. We have formed a community management group and around 12 managers are working together in the field of theatre.
2	When and how did you become a concerned party to	In fact, during the war, I continued my school education, it intensified and in the final part there were many casualties and loss of property. I

	the peacebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka?	<i>was just an ordinary person in the midst of the war. I feel, War is the worst thing after school is over. I felt the need for the ethnic groups in the country to live in peace. And being interested in the field of art, this was my talking point. I started acting in 2004. After that there was contact with other community level organizations such as Peace, Coexistence, Human Rights and Violence Against Women. Since then, my interest in building peace and harmony in Sri Lanka intensified. Also promoting a non-violent struggle against oppression and a peaceful co-existence of all races has been the theme of all our works.</i>
3	Please explain your normal assigned duties / responsibilities in the present location/s where you operate?	<i>We have many responsibilities. Sri Lanka has more than 30 years of racism in Sri Lanka. We are on behalf of the affected people. On that side, there is a trend of political constitution that is fueling racism that is talking about racism. We as artists have a responsibility to build peace between the two. When there is already a mindset that Tamil people are like this and Sinhalese people are like this, it is a huge challenge when we build peace from it. There is a responsibility to stage plays in such a way that they can be understood by everyone, from the educated to the layman.</i>
4	What is your specific involvement relating to the theme of peace-building and of the UNOPS project during its implementation period?	<i>I started working with UNOPS for about 6 months. Although the work project had already started, it took almost six months to integrate me into our territory. We operated through the concept of peace. I feel that the action plan by UNOPS is very much needed in these times. UNOPS's program is an activity that unites artists who create ideas and expresses the concept of peace among them. I also feel that there is a deep need for it.</i>
5	As a concerned or involved party / organization, were you able to influence and/or be an important negotiator in relation to delivery of intended project benefits (if yes, please explain how to what extent)?	<i>I was properly involved. They discussed conducting the workshop with me. They asked us what our requirements were and provided us with theatrical equipment. I participated in that field training with due enthusiasm.</i>
6	In your opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present geopolitical context in Sri Lanka?	<i>I think the design of the program was good. We also have the responsibility to face the challenges while implementing. It will be more beneficial if the artistes are brought together and create the right strength without abandoning it.</i>
7	Has the project goal met beneficiary requirements and needs of the country? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting and improving?	<i>The workshop was conducted through the program of UNOPS. It was a little different. People from music department, drama department, painting department and young people all participated in this. After this, we have prepared a WhatsApp group with all the artists who participated in it. We have done the activity of sharing their artistic works. The first step is correct, we are going to do the work of taking it among people.</i>
8	If you had reservations on the above, have you been able to discuss with relevant agencies / project personnel about them and influence in making desired changes? (If yes, please explain)	<i>Yes. Simply appreciating the concept of peace cannot be the function here. Beyond that, the issue of peace must be sustained. My advice is to include these programs in order to convey this concept among the school students. Rather than developing inter-ethnic peace, peace must arise on an internal basis. At the same time, the artists who participated in the program have joined together and joined a WhatsApp group. Through this, each artist in it expresses an idea.</i>

		<i>Through understanding, artists can express peace building in their individual works.</i>
9	Do the Project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>Yes. All steps of activity are reflective of its objectives. I think it is good to emphasize it again and again when everyone is present.</i>
10	In your opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>Not successful. In the last six months they have provided me with two workshops and some materials. More action is needed.</i>
11	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in independent agencies like yours (viz. CSOs, human rights defenders, NGOs, Journalists) and other activists during the project implementation?	<i>No</i>
12	To what extent that the providing of 5 core pillars of assistance worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country?	<i>I think of the 5 pillars of UNOPS as Peace, Coexistence, Human Rights and Unity.</i>
13	What external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes, in your opinion?	<i>No</i>
14	Do you agree that the project has used the resources available to it efficiently and effectively and in such a way to meet the needs of the target beneficiary groups in prioritizing allocation of resources? If not why?	<i>Even more people can be connected while keeping the workshop that happened</i>
15	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the following areas? a) Value addition aspect of the project towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) Reaching the beneficiary groups / communities in an efficient and effective manner. c) Enhancing the accountability of stakeholders	

	for project outcomes and its sustainability. (If you have any comment on negative impacts/ shortcomings please make your observations)	<i>As a program for artists, I think the program would be more successful if the format was changed.</i>
16	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of consistent peacebuilding?	<i>It can be done differently as it is a collaborative project between artists. It will be better if the programs are rescheduled. Thus the chances of success are high. I am saying from experience that almost 13 years ago after the end of the war, brother language artists came here from South Lanka. It is a relationship between me and them. They casually brought artists. We also went there. The relationship between them and us has brought us more artists from South. After this we do a lot of artwork together. Thus there is racial unity among us. So it is my opinion that when everyone comes together and designs programs, it will last for a long time.</i>
17	Did the intervention design include an appropriate sustainability and an exit strategy (including promoting national/local ownership, use of national capacity etc.)?	<i>No</i>
18	In which extend that the ongoing or proposed National Peacebuilding Policies triggered by the project have been complied with the issues encountered? 1. Based on your experience gained during the project implementation period, what kind of futuristic recommendations you would like to make for better-informed decision making in future programming for efficient and effective support interventions? 2. Any other comments / information you would like to share	<i>I think it is good to change the design of this project. For example, instead of putting us up in a big hotel, it becomes more valuable to have all the artists stay in a small village and cook and eat together with the people and talk about a little story afterwards. Because it is my opinion that the program should be consciously designed for the concept of peace instead of having a training workshop in a big place and then eating. My suggestion is that when talking about peace, it is better to design the programs in a sensitive way. At the same time, this program will be more successful in the future by instilling the concept of peace building among school level students. The plan taken by UNOPS is really good. Never before has the program been designed by directly bringing together the artists. The way they combined as individual artists and executed it together was really good. My opinion is that in the future we can bring together senior artistes and strengthen the program further.</i>

X. KII with Other Partners (Non-Benefitted CSO member): No. 12 - MR. Thahir

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
1	When did you joined to the Vriddhi platform?	<i>I joined the Viriddhi platform in 2020 during the Covid-19 Pandemic.</i>
2	Do you know about the 5 pillars of the Vriddhi Platform?	<i>Yes, I am Aware</i>

3	What kind of issues that your CSOs Facing right now?	<i>Financial issues as the donor bodies aren't active and not ready to work in the Ampara District.</i>
4	What kind of grant/service/ training you need from the Vriddhi Platform?	<i>Our CSOs need to improve the skill of proposal writing, other than that they are quite capable of every other areas of their job.</i>
5	To what period or to what extent your CSOs need this support?	<i>We need this issue to be addressed right away and we would appreciate if the service lasted until we see a substantial development in the skill of proposal writing.</i>
6	What is your opinion about the implementation of such projects?	<i>These services are definitely remarkable as it focuses on a better tomorrow for many people who need such a support.</i>
7	What are the suggestions to the Viriddhi project?	<i>My suggestion would be to increase the financial grant support for necessary projects.</i>

Annexure 09 – Summary of Focused Group Discussion Findings (FDG)

A. FGD with CSO Partners – No 1 - Jaffna Social Action Centre (JSAC)

No	Question asked	Response / Opinion
01	How did you become a main beneficiary group of the 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace' project?	<i>p1: since we are working in the sector of child and women last 25 years, we've selected by UNOPS for this project. It was a competitive process. They called a proposal all over Sri Lanka. We have sent our proposal and it was selected by UNOPS.</i>
02	Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?	<p><i>p1: yes of course, they have brief about the project of the orientation.</i></p> <p><i>p2: Yes, as a part of the project officer of this project we were participated of their UNOPS programme before starting the project. The ultimate goal is strengthening cso's by providing a capacity and life skill development programmes. And also providing livelihood is the major one of this project. All of these activities towards peace and reconciliation.</i></p>
03	<p>Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?</p> <p>3.1 Project design stage involvement</p>	<i>p1: as we submitted in the proposal, the activities were implemented as per the UNOPS Proposal guidelines. The project design is totally what we budgeted in the proposal by JSAC Team.</i>
	3.2 Implementation stage involvement	<i>p2: as per the budget, we have implemented what she told you already. There are capacity building trainings, life skill trainings, livelihood assistance. All over these activities our project are is under. TELLIPALAI DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT. The village name is VEEMANKAAMAM. It is kind a resettlement area. So those place is more suitable to implement this project.</i>

04	In your collective opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present needs of the country?	<i>p3: yes it is really important in the current situation in Sri Lanka. Because in such case we select the areas for the 2 phase project. One is Jaffna district, Tellipalai divisional secretariat, veemankamam village. Other one is in kilinochchi district, Kandawalai divisional secretariat area. First one is resettle area, second one also direct war affected place. So there is a similarity among people is everyone eventually recovering from the trauma, somehow they are vulnerable. Most of them in tellipalai division are practicing unhealthy social orders. Such as teenage marriage, drug trafficking, illegal activities, extra marital relationship, school dropouts and family relationship issues are high there. Therefore peace and reconciliation and talking about human rights are quite difficult to deal with this concepts. So the project is very relevance and appropriateness. By empowering they can be path for country development.</i>
05	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<i>p2: youth empowerment is must. Therefore every youth should be specially considered for the future generation.</i> <i>p1: women mensural health also considered as a part of this project. They need more knowledge of family planning and sexual health. These two majorly need to be revisited.</i>
06	In your opinion, do the stated project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to peace building, and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>p3: yes, it is reflected, but need more attention on this regard.</i>
07	In your collective opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>p1: yes, the project objective was achieved, but it is a need for monitoring and evaluation process. Because only follow-ups activities can be sustained of</i>

		<i>the project.</i>
08	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the contributing partners cum activists (CBOs, NGOs etc.), during the project implementation?	<p><i>P2: as we said the duration of this project is 06 months and 2nd phase of the project of providing dry ration is located in kandawalai division, kilinochchi district. So the thing is duration need to be extended and the project location also be same. Then only the project activities and any action need to be change can be done perfectly. If not somewhere there is a lack may be emerged with a short term project.</i></p> <p><i>p3: so far we can manage it very successfully with a support of UNOPS. In between time of the project activities there is are some changes were made in the budget. Some activities need more money than we budgeted. So in that case, UNOPS team supported us in making changes. They allowed us to make changes in the budget and provided the fund.</i></p>
09	To what extent that the providing of 5-pillar assistance of the project worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? (Moderator explain 5-pillars)	<i>p1: Yes, the brief was already given by UNOPS in the time of initiation of the project.</i>
10	Do you know of any external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? If yes please explain?	<i>P2: nothing else. But there is a traditional leaders may disturbed the project activities or the initiation. Their attitude was we have to get approval from them if any activities when we implemented in the tellipalai division. Somehow we have managed them. The traditional leaders has gender stereotypes. So that in the scenario they were not happy with the female leader brought into the society. Even in a village level administration they not ready to give the president position for women. Anyhow we managed it very well. Tried to accept those stereotypes and after all that 02 women emerged as a women</i>

		<p>leader for the local election. So this is the major success of this project. We are also satisfied with that improvement of that society in tellipalai division village.</p> <p>p1: as we said earlier project duration is quite short. When we trying to make peaceful and harmonious society among people is very difficult to deal with it.</p> <p>p3: most of the youth are arising under without proper guidance of this society. So job career based guidance or programmes also need to be done. Because in future it will be a big thread to the society who are arising without proper guidance.</p>
11	Are there any positive and negative unexpected/ unplanned outcomes of the projects? What are they?	<p>p1: positive is what we already told you is two women leaders emerged as representing a political party in local election. This is the main outcome actually we didn't really expect this. They are now very well in public speaking. Skipped the hesitation and stereotypes among the people in the village, tellipalai division.</p> <p>p2: and also a women is currently being as president of their community center of the village.</p> <p>p3: yeah, as a final event of this project without any man support, all women conducted whole event by took responsibilities. Those are super success of this project. We also very happy about it.</p> <p>p1: most importantly a women team emerged as self-employment with tailoring. They are currently doing women inner wear tailoring. Now they have been selling their product in the local market and village. We were provided material</p>

		<i>and equipment support with a funding of UNOPS. So these are the major successful outcomes.</i>
12	Have the needs of the all-beneficiary groups taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to groups like yours?	<i>p1: yes, every participant considered in the end of the project.</i>
13	Based on your experience with the project as a group, what kind of farsighted suggestions you would like to make for better-informed decision making in designing future programs if similar nature through various dissemination platforms?	<p><i>P1: Capacity development programmes need to be provided to JSAC staffs who can work with relevant area. Then we can provide more efficient and effective support to the society.</i></p> <p><i>p3: project duration should be extended. At least for 2 years. Then only we can strongly see the outcome or social change in a specific manner.</i></p> <p><i>p2: if Possible can make a model country exposure visit or webinar trainings can be provided as example or the principles of peace and human rights where it is more successful. It would be more effective.</i></p>
14	<i>Any other comments / information you would like to share?</i>	<i>p1: for JSAC we are expecting in relevant of this projects, we are looking for more trainings for our staffs who will work with the peace and reconciliation and human rights such as legal side and skill development needed.</i>

B. Focused Group Discussion with CSO Members – 02 – Eastern Province - CIRCLE –Wing of young feminist team)

<i>No</i>	<i>Question asked</i>	<i>Response / Opinion</i>
01	How did you become a main beneficiary group of the ‘Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace’ project?	<i>All Participants – Since June, 2022, after we applying to the Vriddhi Project</i>

02	Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?	<i>All Participants – Yes, UNOPS has provide these details in the beginning</i>
03	<p>Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?</p> <p>3.1 Project design stage involvement</p> <p>3.2 Implementation stage involvement</p>	<p><i>P1 - In this grant our responsibility is to distribute the fund granted to us with in the period and identify an impact in positive manner with beneficiaries during the first six months. Work actively and manage the finance properly and also build a bridge in between stake holders and beneficiaries. To our 'circle' build a sustainable healthy relationship and communication with external stake holders, government sectors we use this grant.</i></p> <p><i>P2 – Before the tie up with UNOPS we didn't had a proper project. This was our first proper project intervention grant. It was a six month grant from UNOPS. After it was finished we got a six month gap without any grant. After that six month to till now we continuously work with the two divisions – Eravur patru and Vavunatheevu for the project. Now only we are emerging as CSOs so we don't have a big reservation. So we have only small amount of fund and we use those to our beneficiaries. By that we face cost problem like transport. Then be train new staff in specific areas to work effectively and reduce the expenditure problem as solution.</i></p> <p><i>P3 – We are visiting each beneficiary house weekly once and monitoring how they are doing. Continuously push them towards their growth path. And also made them to register their business in Piradesa Sabha. Other then beneficiaries we guide help and other people and victims too. We do awareness programs too such as we</i></p>

		<p><i>arrange a drama group to make awareness about drugs, alcohol addiction and display. We were able to identify impact in positive manner through that. We gave legal assistance not only to beneficiaries but also others who needed.</i></p> <p><i>P4 – Also we guide woman who need legal aid with our lawyer and we select women who lead house hold as our beneficiaries (20). Now also we are providing support to take action legally to divorces and separated women. We are actively monitoring our beneficiaries from start to now. We distribute grant to selected 20 beneficiaries for each by Rs.30, 000/-. And conduct trainings to them on Business plan and waste management. With the support of our lawyer we do three training program in legal requirements. And also we gave technical trainings and conduct awareness programs with connecting doctors, Public health inspectors, and women development officers. Through this we establish a network mean women development network including our beneficiaries and develop them as a resource able person who can do like these programs in future and take park in growth of other women in society as being a role model. We did all this as a first step to immerge them as business people, involve in politics. To sustain this growth we get the support of public servant officers like GS, WDO, EDO, DDP, ADP we connect our beneficiaries. We are continuously working for their next level growth. Now we are doing second grant and it has 50 beneficiaries. In last project we brought officers from town but now as a lesson learning we train selected officers in each area and working till now for the cost and more effective impact. And also early times we didn't had a big identity like other organisations. But now after working the project we become a well known organisation and get the help and</i></p>
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		<i>support from others more effectively.</i>
04	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<p><i>P1 – Yes, we were able to do that. Through that only we establish a effective network. Every time UNOPS staffs guide us for each step and they implement with us and that guidance gave us very big support.</i></p> <p><i>P3 - Some government stakeholders gave us support. Through that we did many training programs. Participants of those training programs obtain achieve good knowledge and they are being role models for others and now they are able to train others. For example one of our beneficiaries who are especially able person received about 8 trainings and now she is conducting draining programs. Through that we received good feedback</i></p> <p><i>P4 - We face challenge about others treating us. There are big differences between treating well settled organization and emerging organisation like us. If we need any approval or any support we were unable to get it without trying very hard. Some government employees are expecting more money for their support and if we refuse to give they make more delay us much they can. But most officers support us and guide us also. They gave us idea to how to knowledge people more effectively, what are the methods we can use for more effectiveness and involvement of beneficiaries. We build a good relationship with Koralaipatru, Koralaipatru centre DS office and Earavur patru DS office after the project of UNOPS only.</i></p>
05	In your collective opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present needs of the country?	<p><i>P4 - House is the first unit where changes should start. Then only there will we successful change in society and country. Economic crisis, financial problem reduction of income and highly increasing of cost are the main big issue in country</i></p>

		<p>now. Because of this problem many other problems are also produced by politicians and some communities to divert people. Like caste and creed conflicts, convert people as drug addicted. So first we should provide for economical sustain. So, our project provides support through the grant to achieve women house holders a financial stability. And also, the trainings which are given to beneficiaries help to the family members and people in their community to lead a life in peace full path. But for the whole success those conflicts, abuse, sexual harassments and drug addiction are being big thread.</p> <p>P1 - Some government officers stake holders and people are being reason for the existence and improvement of those issues that mentioned by P2. Other then house holders, education providing resources and government employees' mentality and behaviour should be change.</p> <p>P3 - Our beneficiaries are being real example for the successful personality who shows if we try hard we can achieve our goal. So this helps other people in community to change their attitude and build a peaceful and wellbeing society.</p>
06	Did the objectives of the program meet your long-term needs, structural factors and the needs of the group and the needs of the country? If not, what areas do you feel need to be reviewed or strengthened?	<p>P2 - I am also a victim affected by marriage. Because of trainings provided by this team only now I am being able to out come from my problem if not I may be as an unsuccessful person. But now I have achieved my self esteem and I motivating others to achieve others. This shows practically this project can achieve its motivation if we work continuously and</p>

		<p><i>develop the activities towards it.</i></p> <p><i>P1 - More than granting fund I think we should work for changing people's attitude. Should try to conduct programs like cultural programs including all community people to build a relationship, understand others and social harmony.</i></p>
07	<p>If you have any doubts regarding the above matters, can you discuss them with the relevant agencies / stakeholders or project staff and have sufficient influence to bring about the desired changes?</p>	<p><i>P1 - Yes, UNOPS staffs fully supported and guided us in a polite manner. Whenever we need we were able to approach them. Especially Ms. Niroshima madam gave us big strength. She guides us for perfect documentation work in proper systematic manner. They believe us and gave the grant for us. It was success for us and we got good impact correctly.</i></p> <p><i>P3 – Stake holders travel with us and guide us. While some officers show partiality and treat us badly higher officers help us and approve our requests. Through the grants, trainings and links we have build through our network help us to influence in making changes.</i></p>
08	<p>In your opinion, do the stated project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to peace building, and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?</p>	<p><i>P4 – Yes, our community people has more awareness, knowledge and experience about how to face a challenge. Now they know about legal rights, laws and activities. Also they are able to conduct relevant officers and know where we should approach in proper manner. They are educating others also through our network and guide others to move. These helps in peace building</i></p>
09	<p>In your collective opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?</p>	<p><i>P1 - Yes, it succeeded its goals in our first step. All our beneficiaries now reach a economical stability and they are working us volunteers to train others. Now other</i></p>

		<p><i>people are approaching our beneficiaries to ask advice to solve their problems.</i></p> <p><i>P4 – Some beneficiaries are unable to understand training plans but we guide them as much we can but they are also involved in their self-employment.</i></p>
10	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the contributing partners cum activists (CBOs, NGOs etc.), during the project implementation?	<p><i>P4 – We didn't face big threads. As we are handling some divorce and maintenance cases sometimes opposite party call us to withdraw. Sometimes they continuously call in different numbers so we handle those with the support of polices or block those numbers</i></p> <p><i>P1 – Our staffs and stake holders face some challenges because of people Caste and creed conflicts. They face threading. One GS who support and help us faced a transfer problem without doing any wrong things but to work with social responsibility. Then our staffs and village people join together and support to cancel the transfer.</i></p> <p><i>P2 – We made beneficiaries to sign contract to prevent their discontinuity of project and for protection.</i></p>
11	To what extent that the providing of 5-pillar assistance of the project worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? (Moderator explain 5-pillars)	<p><i>P1 – We had Project Maintaining trainings through online. It was very useful to us. We got training about how to maintain day today activities and learn about software like online business account package , every step maintenance and monitoring. But we are not developed to work more systematically. Now we are doing everything manually only. They were useful in risk management, registering. We use online platform (whatsapp) to do meetings everyday or often. And able conduct whenever we want. Got guidance about refresh and</i></p>

		<i>work on time. We started structural interviews after that only.</i>
12	Do you know of any external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? If yes please explain?	<p><i>P2 – It will take long time to build successful peace and harmony in country because of many peoples and some officers’ mentality.</i></p> <p><i>P4 – The trainings we received helps to develop our leadership qualities. Stake holders and young WHs support us. But some young WHs family members not supporting</i></p>
13	Have the needs of the all-beneficiary groups taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to groups like yours?	<i>P1 - Yes . According to beneficiaries standard we provide support. We grant fund in fixed and same for everyone. Trainings also provided to everyone.</i>
14	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the a) value addition aspect towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) reaching the beneficiary groups / communities like you, in a desired manner, and c) enhancing stakeholder engagement for project outcomes, impact and sustainability? (If you as a group, have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)	<i>P2 – It will take long time to build successful peace and harmony in country because of many peoples and some officers mentality. Every officers and politicians should act with social responsibility. Drug influence is a big deal in society. But actions towards drug sellers are lack and they have more supports. If any one complaint about them they face many difficulties because of officers support.</i>
15	Based on your experience with the project as a group, what kind of farsighted suggestions you would like to make for better-informed decision making in designing future programs if similar nature through various dissemination platforms?	<i>P1- We work without lubrications. We are not doing a thing again and again. also working with intervention. From learning work with improvement. For example in start we do programs by bringing resource persons from out but now we gave training to our beneficiaries and now they are monitoring new beneficiaries.</i>
16	Any other comments / information you would like to share?	<i>P4 - Politically also we need support. Because they are ruling hands and have the power. So including women political leaders also in the projects is very important. And also needed to provide and guide who has talents to become a good effective politician.</i>

		<i>P2 – Beneficiaries are in limited category. If we expand the categories and intake more beneficiaries it will be more effective.</i>
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C. Focus Group Discussion – Women Leaders – - Northern Rural women Forum (RWF), Aaalumai women Group, Yougasakthy Women Federation

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	How did you become a main beneficiary group of the ‘Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace’ project?	<p><i>p1: since we are working in the sector of social work last 10 years, we’ve selected by UNOPS for this project for the development of artist.</i></p> <p><i>p2: yes, as she said, we are doing many awareness programmes and working for GBV, Protection, peace and reconciliation in Northern Province. In order to that UNOPS identified us as a group for the community development from us.</i></p>
02	Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?	<p><i>p1: yes, we got many information from the orientation training programmes, and marketing trainings.</i></p> <p><i>p1: yes, we understand the project objective and the purpose of this project. UNOPS willing to make peace and reconciliation among in the country by empowering us. Providing in related subject trainings. So that we understood that. But in the initial stage of the project we don’t have a clear idea about that. But after following the project by participating every trainings programmes we got some idea about peace.</i></p>
03	Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?	<i>p2: We as team participated every training programme from the start to end.</i>
04	In your collective opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for	<i>p1: this initiative of this project is appreciated. But somehow there is a stigma or hesitation</i>

	peace building efforts in relation to the present needs of the country?	<i>existing among the society when we directly involve with the subject of peace and human rights.</i>
05	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<i>p2: The trainings provided with us in related with peace and reconciliation for the country by strengthening cso's. Create space for them especially to the women to speak out anything as a leader. These are the concerns should be carefully carried out the project team. Because not every artist respected in the society. This is what we already shared in the training programme as well.</i>
06	In your opinion, do the stated project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to peace building, and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>P1: yes, it is reflect the needs of pertaining to peace building and protecting the rights to space to peace. But still in our country has a barrier with the freedom of speech or discussion related with the subject of peace and human rights. Not everyone directly involves with this subject. May be some hesitation still there among people in Sri Lanka.</i>
07	In your collective opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>p1: yes, the project will successful in achieving its stated objective that is what already spoke with you.</i>
08	To what extent that the providing of 5-pillar assistance of the project worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? (Moderator explain 5-pillars)	<i>p3: yes, in the training programme they have clearly explained these 5 pillars.</i>
09	Have the needs of the all-beneficiary groups taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to groups like yours?	<p><i>p2: Yes, every woman in the society or the women group should prioritize when the allocation to group like us. That is what we said earlier in the discussion.</i></p> <p><i>p3: yes, should build like capacity development for every type of small group as like us. Legal side and advocacy are the most still we are expecting</i></p>

		<p>from UNOPS.</p> <p>p1: create a space to speak out the problems of women rights.</p>
10	Any other comments/information you would like to share?	p1: nothing else

D. Focused Group Discussion with the Members of the Artist's Groups - Chelvanayaham Memorial Trust, Semmugam Performing Group, Burgher Cultural Union

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	How did you become a main beneficiary group of the 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace' project?	<p>p1: Since we have been working in the sector of performing arts last 10 years, we've been selected by UNOPS for this project for the development of artist.</p> <p>p2: yes, as he said, we are doing many awareness programmes and street dramas related with GBV, Protection, peace and reconciliation in Batticaloa. in order to that UNOPS identified us as a group for community development from us.</p> <p>p3: since we have peace gallery in Kilinochchi, the UNOPS identified us for this project. That is how we are started to work with this project.</p>
02	Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?	<p>p4: yes, we got many information from the orientation training programmes, and marketing trainings.</p> <p>p1: yes, we understand the project objective and the purpose of this project. UNOPS is willing to make peace and reconciliation among in the country by empowering us. Providing in related subject trainings. So that we understood that. But in the initial stage of the project we don't have a clear idea about that. But after following the project by participating every training programmes we got some idea about peace. How to perform in the society with a selected subject area. By providing capacity building they expected from our side as skill development. For skill development they provided us instruments for our performing arts. There for they are</p>

		<i>expecting our performance as improved performing arts.</i>
03	Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?	<i>p4: We as team participated every training programme from the start to end.</i>
04	In your collective opinion, what is the degree of relevance and appropriateness of the project for peace building efforts in relation to the present needs of the country?	<i>p1: this initiative of this project is appreciated. but somehow there is a stigma or hesitation existing among the society when we directly involve with the subject of peace and human rights.</i>
05	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<i>p2: not only consider performing arts artist. The trainings provided with us in related with performing arts and how to market performing arts. But the project training programmes should consider other artist as street drama's, kooththu, traditional dramas and dancers etc.... evry artists should cover and to be respected in this project. Create space for them to speak what they are actually doing, and what are the problems they are facing in the country currently, what an ideal solution can be provide for them. These are the concerns should be carefully carried out the project team. Because not every artist respected in the society. this is what we already shared in the training programme as well.</i>
06	In your opinion, do the stated project objectives reflect the needs pertaining to peace building, and Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace in Sri Lanka?	<i>P1: yes, it is reflect the needs of pertaining to peace building and protecting the rights to space to peace. But still in our country has a barrier with the freedom of speech or discussion related with the subject of peace and human rights. Not everyone directly involve with this subject. May be some hesitation still there among people in Sri lanka.</i>
07	In your collective opinion, has the Project been successful in achieving its stated objectives? If yes, to what extent and how? If not, what do you consider as the reasons?	<i>p1: yes, the project will successful in achieving its stated objective that is what already spoke with you.</i>
08	To what extent that the providing of 5-pillar assistance of the project worked, in integrating online support programs platforms and physical counters across the country? (Moderator explain 5-pillars)	<i>p3: yes, in the training programme they have clearly explained these 5 pillars.</i>

09	Do you know of any external factors that have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended outputs and outcomes? If yes please explain?	<i>p1: gender may influences, because when we started to perform in any kind of drama practice the gender may be influencing. Not every women supported from the family to work in the team as artist. And if the artist is female, their sustained of the team is very doubtful. Actually they may leave this drama team 2 or 3 years. Then we have to find another one to perform from the start. More practice and time will be spent. So the gender role is actually influences as external factor in the society.</i>
10	Have the needs of the all-beneficiary groups taken into consideration, when prioritizing allocation of resources to groups like yours?	<p><i>p2: Yes, every artist should prioritize when the allocation to group like us. That is what we said earlier in the discussion.</i></p> <p><i>p3: yes, should build like capacity development for every type of small artist group as like us.</i></p> <p><i>p1: create a space to speak out the problems of artist,</i></p> <p><i>p2: every artist in the various art should be covered in this project.</i></p>
11	Any other comments/information you would like to share?	<i>p1: nothing else, mostly we covered everything.</i>

E. Focus Group Discussion with the Community Beneficiary Groups – No 1 – Northern Province

<i>No</i>	<i>Questions Asked</i>	<i>Response / Opinion</i>
01	How did you become a main beneficiary group of the 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace' project?	<p><i>P1: We have been introduced by jsac of this project, as we already working in a self-employment sector with JSAC for their previous programme with livelihood support I've started sewing business at my home. After UNOPS PROJECT with JSAC myself and other women's from society had been included this project as group business. That is why currently we are working with many women in this sewing business.</i></p> <p><i>p3: since I've started my sewing work for 10 years. So that I easily identified in this village for this project as group business.</i></p>

02	Were you able to gain and understand sufficient details of the project at the inception, in relation to its goal and objectives, intended benefits and responsibilities expected from you?	<i>p4: yes of course, because JSAC has given us many trainings. Such as GBV, Protection, business, marketing, how to integrate with society like that. So that we have known some business outside who are doing business with women's groups.</i>
03	Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period?	<p><i>p1: I have actively participated for their trainings which was provided in Jaffna district and some exposure visits to other companies (garment).</i></p> <p><i>p5: yeah, myself as well. I am currently working with this sewing business making inners for women. Since the project started in December it is been 08 months, we are working a team without any conflicts.</i></p> <p><i>P4: We have family responsibilities, so that we have decided flexible timings with daily routine schedules. Once family works done we comes in the afternoon after lunch time we comes together here to do making inners as per orders.</i></p>
05	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<p><i>p2: capacity building and career guidance for youth.</i></p> <p><i>p1: Drug dealing is high in the youth group in our division. So that if any project for strengthening society we are looking for empowerment of youth is must. so, In that kind of guidance or concern must be revisited.</i></p>
06	How far the project has managed to protect and resilient building in the contributing partners cum activists (CBOs, NGOs etc.), during the project implementation?	<i>p1: Financial and material support for us, they provide us sewing machines, materials, furnitures (cupboard, tables), appliances like iron box. And also JSAC helped us to design the product box as well.</i>
07	Are there any positive and negative unexpected/unplanned outcomes of the projects? What are they?	<i>Not negative side outcomes when it comes to our situation. We have developed our livelihood with this project, started to work as a team.</i>
08	In your opinion, what are the difference the present project has brought about in the a) value addition aspect towards peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, b) reaching the beneficiary groups / communities like you, in a desired manner, and c) enhancing stakeholder engagement for project outcomes, impact and sustainability? (If	<i>P2: No negative impacts from this project. We have many positive points that we have started this business by women group. We have good integration with each other, we have got to known many stakeholders from Tellipalai divisional secretariat staffs, JSAC staffs and UNOPS staffs as well. We had a chance to share our thoughts</i>

	you as a group, have any comment on negative impacts/shortcomings please make your observations)	<p><i>and problems. They have provided us with their good potential what they could give us their support.</i></p> <p><i>P1: but still we need to more supports to develop our business. We do not have a specific common place for our business. Temporarily we are working as a team in my home. Not having proper electricity support for our business. Just we getting connection from nearby homes who are relative of mine. So they have accepted to provide electricity facility with a mutual concern. I said to pay all electricity bill including their electricity charges as well. In that way we are continuing. But we expect for any financial support to get a separate electricity connection for our business.</i></p>
09	What is the likelihood that the achieved benefits of the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time when the project ends, in view of the main goal of project (i.e., consistent peacebuilding)?	<i>p1: started to work as a team.</i>
10	Based on your experience with the project as a group, what kind of farsighted suggestions you would like to make for better-informed decision making in designing future programs if similar nature through various dissemination platforms?	<i>p1: We are looking for more trainings for sewing business. Especially we are engaging in making of women inners, we are expecting more skill trainings of the updated design and materials of the inners which are currently using by every women in the market. There are many type of inners in the market for women. Like sports bras, cup design bras etc... so we are doing traditional inners which was used by in the early times by women. Now most of the persons buying from us who are mostly aged women. Teen women's not buying this type inners. So in the trend of the inner wears world we are looking for updated new designing inners.</i>
11	Any other comments/information you would like to share?	<i>All Participants: Nothing else. Just we are grateful to JSAC and UNOPS for initiating this kind of project. Looking for more support from them.</i>

F. Focused Group Discussion with Community Beneficiary Groups – 02 - Eastern Province

No	Questions Asked	Response / Opinion
01	Brief introduction about the participants with their employment.	<i>All beneficiaries of this community are women who are head of household (divorcees, separated from husband, widows and a special able) Their employment is self-employment. Most of them are doing poultry farm (Chicken), Home gardening in organic method, selling home gardening products (natural compost) and some do other works.</i>
02	How did you become a beneficiary group of the 'Protecting the Rights Space to Foster Peace' project?	<i>P1 – the CIRCLE provides us the support. Therefore, through them we have joined to this project.</i>
03	How long have you been with this CSO?	<i>One person joined with this CSO about 3 years and others were joined with them around one year.</i>
04	Please explain your part of involvement in the project and how did you perform during the implementation period? What kind of service/ grant/ training that you receive from the relevant CSO?	<p><i>P2 - Received Business plan trainings. Encourage and guide us to do multiple businesses and train to maintain business account. Guide to register our unregistered business.</i></p> <p><i>P4 - Receiving awareness about law and judicial system in our country about marriage and court cases. Provide counseling about our mental stress.</i></p> <p><i>P5 - CSO guide and support us for marital court cases and also other problems in society.</i></p> <p><i>All - Got Rs.30000/- as grant on last year September.</i></p> <p><i>P7 – we got relevant trainings and advices to do the self-employment. Weekly CSOs visit our place and check how we work, and helps us to do their work without any delay and provide helps and guide that we need.</i></p>

		<i>P2 – the CSO guides us to the banking activities too and provide opportunity to work as a volunteer in programs to motivate others.</i>
05	Has the project goal met your long-felt requirements, structural factors and needs as a group and the need of the country at large? If not, what areas you consider that need revisiting or strengthening?	<i>P3 – The projects address our needs and requirements that failed to address by other parties for long period of time.</i>
06	How did you benefit from the service/ grant/ training that you received from the relevant CSO?	<p><i>P4 -Through the business trainings we are able to maintaining cost, income and profit account and sustain in our business. Now they are doing everything by scheduling in proper manner and plan. (They are recording every action, accounts towards their business in separate exercise books)</i></p> <p><i>P2 – I’m an especially able person. So, I received many criticisms in society and lives with lack of self-confidence through the CSO’s long time support and training. now I feel as a self-worth person and takes pride in being an example that everyone can achieve what they set their mind to and succeed. Now I also take part in training programs and awareness programs with these CSOs as a resource person.</i></p> <p><i>P3 – As a woman and head of household I suffered a lot without sufficient income to fulfill my family’s basic requirements before joining the CSOs in this program. But now with the funds I received as capital for my employment able to receive sufficient income monthly to fulfill the needs of my family. Also receives profit now.</i></p> <p><i>P7 – Initially through funds I started a poultry farm with 15 hens. But now I have more than 30 hens including chickens. Also now I started rice flour making as a another new business.</i></p> <p><i>P1 – Early time I worried a lot as I was unable to buy exercise books for my kids when they ask and their education was affected because of lack of income. But now I’m able to fulfill my kids’ needs and encourage them in their studies.</i></p> <p><i>P5 – I’m a divorced woman. I have lack of knowledge about judicial system. My ex-husband is cheating without paying monthly settlement</i></p>

		<p><i>ordered by court. CSOs and their lawyer support and guide for my case.</i></p> <p>P8 – <i>I was cheated by her boyfriend and has a kid. My family is very poor. Through this team I filed a case about this in the court but unable to find her boy friend till now. This organization and lawyer is trying to help me as much as they can.</i></p> <p><i>Currently, im doing poultry farming and organic garden through the grant I received from the CSO. Sells eggs, chicken, plants and natural compost made by me.</i></p> <p>P6 – <i>Receives support for my divorce case. Doing poultry farm for income with the guidance and trainings of the CSO.</i></p>
07	Are you happy about the service/ grant/ training that you received from the Project?	<i>All the participants – Yes</i>
08	Are there any positive and negative unexpected/ unplanned outcomes of the projects? What are they?	<p><i>P2 - No negative outcomes at all. The project addressed our needs.</i></p> <p><i>P8 – this program saves our lives</i></p>
09	Any other comments/information you would like to share?	<i>All the participants - Please provide this support for the future as well. Because we have more needs to address.</i>

Annexure 10- List of KIIs and FGDs

No	A. KII (Key Informant Interviews)
CSO	
01	Ahame Humanitarian Resource Centre (AHRC)
02	Eastern Self Reliant Community Awakening Organisation (ESCO)
03	Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Batticaloa
04	Social Welfare Society Ampara District/ SOWSA
05	Affected Women's Forum (AWF)
06	Centre for Human Rights Development (CHRD)
07	Rural Development Foundation (RDF)
08	People's Service Council (PSC)
09	Eastern social Development foundation (ESDF)
10	Ash Shupan Welfare Association (ASWA)
11	VILUTHU
Artist	
12	Selvakumar Kisorkumar
13	Semugam Performing Group
UNOPS / UNODC Staff	
14	Project Manager – Ms. Surnaga
15	M&E Officer – Ms. Bhagya
16	ICT Trainer – Mr. Ilanngoven
17	Financial Grants – Ms. Randula
18	Procurement – Ms. Irfana Sally
19	Art Pillar - Anne Devananda
20	Protection - Venthan Kanapathipillai
21	Financial Statement Preparation/Audit Services - Shamalin Yasothanan
22	Project Management, ICT Training, IT Equipment, GIS Training, - Niroshima Dilanthi
23	UNODC Project Manager – Ms. Anusha
Stakeholder Group	
24	BASL (UNOPS) – Mr. Yohan
25	Legal Aid Commission (UNODC) – Ms. Sakunthala

No	FGD
Members of CSOs (2)	
01	Jaffna Social Action Centre (JSAC)
02	CIRCLE – (Wing of Young Feminist Team)
Women Organizations in VRIDDHI Platform (1)	
01	Rural Women Forum (RWF)
02	Yogasakthy Women Federation
Artists (1)	
01	Chelvanayaham Memorial Trust, Peace Gallery
02	Semmugam Performing Group
03	Burgher Cultural Union
Ultimate Beneficiaries of The Grants (Financial and Others) (2)	
01	Ultimate Beneficiary Group – 01
02	Ultimate Beneficiary Group – 02