PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
Updated November 2023

COUNTRY: Papua New Guinea
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL: semi-annual
YEAR OF REPORT: June 15, 2024

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Title: Empower Her-PNG Peace Initiative **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: PRF 00140559**	

If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:	Type and name of recipient organizations:
☒　　　Country Trust Fund ☐　　　Regional Trust Fund **Name of Recipient Fund:** PRF	**RUNO　UNDP (Convening Agency)** **RUNO　UN Women** **RUNO　UNFPA** **RUNO　OHCHR**

Date of first transfer: 28.01.2024
Project end date: 27.01.2026
Has this project received a cost or no cost extension? No
Will this project be requesting a cost or no-cost extension? No
Is the current project end date within 6 months? No

Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:
☒ Gender promotion initiative
☐ Youth promotion initiative
☒ Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions
☐ Cross-border or regional project

Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):

Recipient organisation	Budget Allocated ($)	Amount Transferred to date ($)	Amount spent / committed to date ($)
UNDP	**1,642,450**	**1,067,593**	**93,000**
UN Women	**1,016,500**	**660,725**	**31,083**
UNFPA	**299,600**	**194,740**	**109,702**
OHCHR	**299,600**	**194,740**	**4,523**
TOTAL	**3,335,002**	**2,334,502**	**238,308**

Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 10%

ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE
The budget templates are available here

Implementing partners
To how many implementing partners has the project transferred money to date? 0

Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each to date

Name of Implementing Partner	*Type of Organisation (ex. Govt, civil society, etc.)*	*What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner to date*	*Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner (175 mots)*

Gender-responsive Budgeting:
Indicate what percentage (%) of the budget contributes gender equality or women's empowerment (GEWE)? 3,258,150

Indicate dollar amount from the project document to contribute to gender equality or women's empowerment: $3,258,150.

Amount expended to date on efforts contributing to gender equality or women's empowerment: 3,258,150.

Project Gender Marker: GM3
Project Risk Marker: Low
Project PBF focus area: Dialogue and co-existence

Steering Committee and Government engagement
Does the project have an active steering committee?
Yes

If yes, please indicate how many times the Project Steering Committee has met over the last 6 months?
The project steering committee is planning to meet in September 2024

Please provide a brief description of any engagement that the project has had with the government over the last 6 months? Please indicate what level of government the project has been engaging with? (275 words max.)

The project has worked closely with the Government of PNG through the Department of Community Development, Families and Regions as a main body to drive the national WPS agenda. The Department was invited to the project inception meeting and provided a keynote speech covering the WPS agenda. The project has also started work with the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) on the WPS agenda and work plans are being fnalise din alignment to the project results framework. Under outcome 2, the UNDP Highlands team is working with the provincial administration in Hela and Southern Highlands. All four Government agencies attended the inception meeting and provided inputs into the project proposals including results framework.

PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS

Please rate the implementation status of the following preliminary/preparatory activities
(Not Started, Initiated, partially Completed, Completed, Not Applicable):

Contracting of Partners	Initiated
Staff Recruitment	Completed
Collection of baselines	Partially completed
Identification of beneficiaries	Partially completed

Provide any additional descriptive information relating to the status of the project, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (250-word limit):

UN agencies delivering the project have started the project on a positive note and are working collaboratively to work on the WPS agenda. A first inception meeting was held on June 6, 2024 that aimed to bring together the Government, civil society, UN agencies and others in reviewing and discussing the results framework as a way of validating the prodoc. Importantly, the inception meeting was a forum to provide briefing to potential partners and government on the way forward. The staff recruitment has been advanced, and agencies have contracted staff with all recruitment to be finalised by August 2024. The first project steering committee is expected to be held in September 2024.

Project implementation will see an accelerated delivery of on the ground initiatives in the period between August and November 2024 as resources are committed and events and activities are rolled out across the regions and in the national capital.

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize **the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. This is not anecdotal or a list of individual outputs or activities, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project where evidence[1] of contribution to outcomes is available if requested. (550-word limit):

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[1] Evidence can include evidentiary support for results, including but not limited to: Surveys and other data collection initiatives, field mission reports, community based monitoring or other monitoring reports, third party monitoring, pre- and post surveys, photographs, policy and other documents, meeting minutes, evaluations, communication materials etc. PBF may request these documents if needed.

N/A

PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME

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

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

How many outcomes does the project have? 3

Outcome 1: An enabling environment is created and strengthened for active participation of women in decision-making and leadership roles.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Initiated

Progress summary: *(350-word limit)*
During the reporting period, UN Women (UNW) recorded progress in four activities:
(1) Stakeholder Engagement
UNW leveraged existing relationships and influence with the Department of Community Development and Religion (DfCDR), women political leaders in the National Capital District (NCD), the sub-national government in Hela province (HP), and key stakeholders to work together on the WPS agenda through:
- First DfCDR-UNW consultation on WPS decides to implement WPS training for DfCDR officers
- Inception meetings to convene stakeholders were attended by 24 participants, including 16 women from national and sub-national governments, civil society organisations, youth and women's groups.

(2) Capacity Building
In response to a request for capacity building for the preparation of a WPS National Action Plan (NAP) in the first consultation, UNW provided a one-day WPS training workshop for the 20 DfCDR officers, including 8 female officers, 4 junior female officers and 3 junior male officers through three sessions:
- Gender equality with a specific focus on gender and conflict
- WPS in the world and in PNG
- WPS NAP overview, case studies, and brainstorming

UNW is working with DfCDR to develop a concept note for the WPS NAP and future activities for Outputs 1.1 and 1.2, and is leading the development of the WPS NAP.

(3) Partnership Building
UNW organised the Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment-Development Partners' Coordination Group (GEWE-DPCG) on WPS, which was attended by 30 participants, including national government, key sub-national stakeholders and development partners.

UNW also actively participated in WPS related meetings and identified potential Implementation Partners (IPs) for Output 1.1 and 1.2, developed a contact list of IPs, and advertise a call for proposals.

(4) Procurement

UNW has hired an International Consultant on Governance, Peace and Security and fully committed to the project from May to July.

UNW developed a Terms of Reference (ToR) for a consultant specialised in communication and advocacy to develop a multimedia campaign strategy for Output 1.3. UNW advertise the call for applications.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome: *(350 word limit)*

- In the first DfCDR-UNW consultation on WPS, a senior female official and a junior male officer from the DfCDR participated and nominated attendees for WPS training workshop including junior female and male officers.
- In the WPS training workshop, 8 female officers, 4 junior female officers and 3 junior male officers attended and provided insights into the current state of gender equality and WPS in PNG from the perspectives of women and youth.
- In the inception meeting, 16 women participated and successfully represented sub-national governments, civil society organisations, youth and women's groups.

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 1 in the table below

Outcome Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 1.1 Percentage of women in decision-making and leadership roles.	TBD	2	2	
Indicator 1.2 Level of progress with finalization and adoption of key national frameworks, plans and budgets on WPS e.g. NAP.	TBD	2	0	
Indicator 1.3 Level of NAP integration of key recommendations coming from women peacebuilders, activists and organization;	TBD	TBD	0	

How many Outputs does Outcome 1 have? 3

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 1 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

Output 1.1: Development of evidence-based policy frameworks on WPS and related gender equality.

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 1.1.1 Number of evidence-based policy frameworks to advance WPS.	0	2	0	0	
Indicator 1.1.2 Number of government representatives and parliamentarians (sex-disaggregated) reporting better knowledge, skills and ability in the oversight on WPS agenda in the Parliament.	0	300	0	0	

Output 1.2: Strengthen youth, women and the community's participation in policy dialogues and initiatives at the national and sub-national level with government stakeholders to contribute towards gender-sensitive policymaking.

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 1.2.1 Percentage of participants who report being satisfied with the programs and having stronger capacity as a result	TBD	TBD	0	0	
Indicator 1.2.2 Number of networks supported in communities with the support of	TBD	TBD	0	0	
Indicator 1.2.3 Number of youth, and women leaders (sex-disaggregated) engaged in trainings.	0	200	0	0	

Output 1.3: Change in perception of women as equal partners in nation building leading to reduced levels of violence and intimation

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 1.3.1 Number of media campaigns/advocacy on the legitimacy of women as leaders in peace and security.	0	3	0	0	
Indicator 1.3.2 Representative sample of women, youth and others on the ability of women to be as equal to men in human and social leadership	0	300	0	0	
Indicator 1.3.3 Number of media campaigns launched	0	5	0	0	

Outcome 2: Improved women's access to justice and conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and post-conflict recovery in the Highlands of PNG

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: *(350-word limit)*

UNDP has initiated consultations with provincial administrations and stakeholders from the rule of law, peacebuilding, and development sectors to explain the project's purpose and activities, and to seek advice on how to effectively initiate project interventions. On 07 March 2024, UNDP convened a stakeholders' meeting, inviting the deputy provincial administrator, Executive Officer of the Provincial Governor, Provincial Chief Commander, District Education Advisors, Head of the Family & Sexual Violence Unit, District Administrators, Local-level Government (LLG) representatives, local councillors, and representatives of faith-based organizations from various denominations.

The meeting's agenda included discussions on the current state of people's access to justice, particularly for women, the role of insider mediators in identifying, preventing, and resolving conflicts, and the potential integration of peace and development interventions. Stakeholders were also briefed on the findings of a recent study by UNDP on people's access to justice in the Highlands, the recommendations of which were also incorporated into the project. The stakeholders provided specific recommendations for the project's implementation, emphasizing support for village courts, particularly by providing facilities for women magistrates to help and encourage women to refer their cases to the village courts.

UNDP also started the identification of potential local partners for the three components of the project under this outcome. Given UNDP's strong presence in the Highlands, and its extensive work with

various civil society groups, faith-based organizations, and women and youths' groups, UNDP will continue to engage these entities based on their areas of expertise to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the project activities.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome: *(350 word limit)*

UNDP has invested in capabilities and capacities of women organizations int the Highlands through the PBF-funded 'Creating Conditions for Peace' project, and as such, UNDP will engage these women organizations in the implementation of this project.

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 2 in the table below

Outcome Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 2.1.1 Percentage increase in women's meaningful participation and leadership in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, post-conflict recovery and initiatives for accessing justice systems.	TBD	20% increase		
Indicator 2.1.2 Percentage of women reporting that the men's perception about women and girl's positive role in decision-making and peacebuilding leadership has improved in their communities.	TBD	50% increase		

How many Outputs does Outcome 2 have? Three

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 2 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

Output 2.1: Women and girls have improved access to quality local justice services.

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 2.1.1 Percentage of women and girls of those who seek dispute resolution take their cases to formal and informal justice services.	TBD	30% increase			
Indicator 2.1.2 Extent to which the traditional leaders and male champions report addressing sociocultural norms linked to GBV.	TBD	30% increase			
Indicator 2.1.3 Eight village courts have dedicated safe spaces for women and girls to allow them to bring their cases without any barriers.	0	8 village courts with dedicated safe spaces for women			
Indicator 2.1.4 Extent to which women and men's access to justice is increased due to the empowerment of informal mechanisms and community structures:	TBD	30% increase			

Output 2.2: Women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding are strengthened in the PNG Highlands through Women Insider Mediators and Mediators Networking

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 2.2.1 Number of women insider mediators actively engaged in resolving conflicts and promoting peacebuilding.	31	80			

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 2.2.2 Number of action plans implemented for advancing the WPS priorities through joint collaboration of male and female Mediation Teams.	0	10			

Output 2.3: Women-led community initiatives fostered to promote post-conflict recovery, sustain local peace processes, and advance WPS priorities.

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 2.3.1 Extent to which the community peacebuilding projects improve living conditions for women and men in post-conflict communities	TBD	30% increase			
Indicator 2.3.2 Percentage of trained women putting their newly gained entrepreneurial, financial literacy and technical skills into work.	TBD	50% increase			

Outcome 3: Women meaningfully participate and lead in peace and security processes that contribute to sustaining peace and resilience in the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG).

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: In progress**on track**

Progress summary: *(350 word limit)*

UNDP Bougainville

UNDP has initiated consultations with Autonomous Bougainville Government. The engagement has been fruitful with the ABG Government including representation at the inception meeting and with the CSOs and other groups. The main stakeholders for the Bougainville section of the WPS (outcome

3) have agreed to further collaborate and work together to refine the key activities in line with the ABG gender and peace priorities. The first session to roll out the WPS in Bougainville will be held on the 7th of August in Buka that brings together various stakeholders.

OHCHR completed the recruitment, onboarding and deployment of a Human Rights Advisor, and revised its mapping of human rights defender networks, especially women HRDs.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome: *(350 word limit)*

Women CSO and networks fully engage with the project team.

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key outcome indicators for Outcome 3 in the table below.

Outcome Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 3.a Number of women represented in decision-making roles within ABG's peace and security platforms.	TBC	TBC		
Indicator 3.2 Number of women occupying leadership positions (political and administrative) within peacebuilding and security initiatives in ABG. Bougainville Executive Council and Bougainville Departmental Secretaries.				
Indicator 3 c Number of gender-responsive policies and measures integrated into ABG's peace and security strategies.				

How many Outputs does Outcome 3 have? 2

Please list up to 5 of most relevant outputs for outcome 2 and for each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against 3 most relevant output indicators

Output 3.1: Increased meaningful participation of women in decision-making positions in the post-referendum process through the highest levels of Government, parliamentary and community to strengthen WPS initiatives (mentoring, skills building, grassroots initiatives and storytelling and data)

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
Indicator 3.1.1 Extent to which the newly trained ABG BHOR and PNG National Parliamentary members in the gender and GBV subcommittee raise and implement WPS agenda are advancing the WPS agenda through WPS i					
Indicator 3.1.2 Number of women and youth leaders trained and resourced with skills related to the 4P of WPS and their effective participation in various forums.					
Indicator 3.1.3 Formal agreements with community Government, CSOs, private sector and other stakeholders to accept and implement WPS initiatives.	🗨				

Output 3.2: Women mediators, human rights defenders and negotiators have increased skills to participate and/or lead in the post-referendum process.

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance / Delay (if any)
Indicator 3.2.1 Number of women mediators, human rights defenders and negotiators trained in WPS skills.	🗨				
Indicator 3.2.2					

Output Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress to Date	Reasons for Variance / Delay (if any)
Number of women mentored by other women and male leaders on leadership in relation to the WPS agenda.					
Indicator 3.2.3 Number of resolutions within the Joint Supervisory Board meetings that acknowledge and explicitly address gender and WPS commitments.					

PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Is the project planning any significant events in the next 6 months (eg. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc.)

Multiple events will be held ta the national level, Highlands and in Bougainville. The first event is on the 7th of August in Buka.

If yes, please state how many, and for each, provide the approximate date of the event and a brief description, including its key objectives, target audience and location (if known)

Event Description	Tentative Date	Location	Target Audience	Event Objectives (150 word limit)
Interdepartmental session on gender and peace	07 August	Buka	ABG departments and CSOs	Workshop facilitated by an external consultant

Human Impact

This section is about the human impact of the project. Please state the number of key stakeholders (including but not limited to: Civil Society Organizations, Beneficiaries etc) of the project, and for each, please briefly describe:
  i.   The challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation
  ii.   The impact of the project on their lives
  iii. Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

Key stakeholder	What were the challenges/problem they faced	What has been the impact of the project	Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a

	prior to the project implementation? (350 words max)	on their lives (350 words max)	representative of each stakeholder group (350 words max)

In addition to the stakeholder specific impact described above, please use this space to describe any additional human impact that the project has had. (650 word limit):
N/A

You can also upload up to 3 files in various formats (picture files, powerpoint, pdf, video, etc..) to illustrate the human impact of the project and 3 links to online resources (OPTIONAL)

Please tick the applicable change based on above narrative.

How We Worked: (please select up to 3)

☐ Enhanced digitization:

☐ Innovative ways of working[2] [please explain]

☒ **Mobilized additional resources.**
Additional funding of $3.7 mil has been mobilized by UNDP from Government Japan in Bougainville in relation to renewable energy and will build upon this project to provide additional sources of energy to the community in Bougainville.

☐ Improved or initiated policy frameworks [please explain]
☐ Strengthened capacities [please explain]
☐ Partnered with local civil society organizations
☐ Expanding coalitions & galvanizing political will [please explain]
☐ Strengthened partnerships with IFIs [please explain]
☐ Strengthened partnerships within UN Agencies [please explain]

Who are we working with (in addition to the Implementing Partners):

☐ Strengthened partnerships with IFIs [please explain]

☐ Strengthened partnerships within UN Agencies [please explain]

☐ Partnered with local civil society organizations

☐ Partnered with local academia

☐ Partnered with sub-national entities

☐ Partnered with national entities

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[2] Where innovation is defined as **a product, service, or strategy that's both novel and useful.** Innovations don't have to be major breakthroughs in technology or digital solutions but includes here a new and/or creative approach to solving development challenges.

☐ Partnered with local volunteers

LNOB – Leaving No one Behind: Select all beneficiaries targeted with the PBF resources as evidenced by the narrative**?**

☒ **Unemployed persons**
☐ Minorities (e.g. race, ethnicity, linguistic, religion, etc.)
☐ Indigenous communities
☐ Persons with Disabilities
☐ Persons affected by violence (e.g. GBV)
☒ Women
☒ Youth
☐ Minorities related to sexual orientation and/or gender identity and expression
☐ People living in and around border areas
☐ Persons affected by natural disasters
☒ Persons affected by armed conflicts
☐ Internally displaced persons, refugees or migrants

PART IV: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND COMPLIANCE

Monitoring: Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (*350 word limit)*	Do outcome indicators have baselines? yes If yes, please provide a brief description
Main monitoring has been aligned with the project document.	Baseline has been incorporated into the prodoc and the overall project design. Elaborate on what sources of evidence have been used to report on indicators (and are available upon request): Implementing partner's' reports and mission reports. Has the project launched outcome level data collection initiatives e.g. perception surveys no No. Has the project used or established community feedback mechanisms? no Yes – feedback by participants on capacity building sessions as cited in the outcome reports. If yes, please provide a brief description (350 word limit) Click or tap here to enter text.

	Already discussed in the outcome reports.
Evaluation: Is the project on track to conduct its evaluation? Yes / No / Not Relevant yes	Evaluation budget (response required): USD 70,000 If project will end in next six months, and the overall project budget is above 1.5 million, is your upcoming evaluation on track: preparations *(350 word limit)*: N/A Please mention the focal person accountable for sharing the final evaluation report with the PBF: *Name Email*
Catalytic effects (financial): Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project since it started.	Name of funder: Amount: Government of Japan 3,726,000
Catalytic Effect (non-financial): Has the project enabled or created a larger or longer-term peacebuilding change to occur? *Please select* ☐No catalytic effect ☐Some catalytic effect ☒Significant catalytic effect ☐Very Significant catalytic effect ☐Don't Know ☐Too early to tell	If relevant, please describe how the project has had a (non-financial) catalytic effect i.e. ways in which the project has supported the expansion or creation of programs and policies supporting peace, both within and outside the UN system (*Please limit your response to 350 words*) The project has worked collaboratively with other UN agencies, Government of PNG, Hela, Southern Highlands provinces and ABG in supporting the WPS agenda.

Sustainability: Does the project have an explicit exit strategy? Please describe any steps that have been taken to ensure the sustainability of peacebuilding gains beyond the duration of the project (350 word limit)

The project will continue to be fully engaged with other initiatives in the Bougainville programme including partnerships with agencies and others.

Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(350 word limit)*
Nothing further.