

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



United Nations
Peacebuilding

PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

(Length : Max. 12 pages plus cover page and annexes)

Country: Liberia	
Project Title: Girls and Young Women Take Action for Peace Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project): 00140121	
PBF project modality: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts): <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund:
<p>List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed by type of organization (UN, CSO etc.): Plan International Liberia (PIL), CSO</p> <p>List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO):</p> <p>Three (3) local NGO's registered and operating within Liberia at national and sub-national levels; Women Solidarity Inc. (WOSI), Rural Women and Girls Promoters for Sustainable Development (RWGP), and Women Empowerment for Self Employment (We4Self).</p> <p>Strategic partners for advocacy and networking include: Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) program under the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), UN Women, UNFPA and the UN Resident Coordinators Office</p> <p>Government Partners: Ministry of Gender and Social Protection (MOGCSP), Ministry of Youth and Sport (MOYS), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)/ Liberia Peacebuilding Office (PBO), Liberia National Police (LNP), Liberian Immigration Service (LIS), Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency (LDEA), Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and the National Elections Commission (NEC).</p>	
<p>Expected project commencement date¹: 27 March 2023</p> <p>Project duration in months^{2,3}: 24 months + 5 months NCE = 29 months with new end date of August 31, 2025</p> <p>Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation: Montserrado, Bong, Nimba, and Lofa counties⁴</p>	
<p>Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative⁵</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative⁶</p>	

¹ Note: actual commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

² Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

³ The official project start date will be the date of the first project budget transfer by MPTFO to the recipient organization(s), as per the MPTFO Gateway page.

⁴ See Annex D for map of counties

⁵ Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Gender Promotion Initiative

⁶ Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Youth Promotion Initiative

<input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project		
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): TOTAL: \$ 1,300,000.00 <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account. For payment of second and subsequent tranches the Coordinating agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed.</i>		
Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):		
PBF 1st tranche (35%): Plan International: \$ 455,000.00 Total: \$ 455,000.00	PBF 2nd tranche* (35%): Plan International: \$ 455,000.00 Total: \$ 455,000.00	PBF 3rd tranche* (30%): Plan International: \$ 390,000.00 Total: \$ 390,000.00
Provide a brief project description. The overall goal is to increase Girls and Young Women's (GYW) agency and ability to meaningfully participate in peacebuilding processes. To achieve this, the initiative will work around strengthening girl and women-led groups, Peace Huts and women-led CSOs and creating stronger linkages between these groups and wider district and county peacebuilding processes and networks. The project will work with GYW (aged 18 to 35), Boys and Young Men (BYM) (aged 18 to 35) and members from 8 Peace Huts in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Lofa. The initiative will employ social behavior change modalities to support the deconstruction of unequal gender norms and biases for sustained gender transformative change.		
Summarize the in-country project consultation process prior to submission to PBSO, including with the PBF Steering Committee, civil society (including any women and youth organizations) and stakeholder communities (including women, youth and marginalized groups): Plan International Liberia (PIL) initially met with the UNPBF in-country secretariat for introduction and information on project design. Consultations were conducted in person, online and by phone with Liberian Civil Society Organizations and WANEP. These initial consultations provided insight on key gaps and priorities for programming. A joint review of the project design was also conducted with the selected implementing partners for feedback. PIL visited Peace Huts in Montserrado, Bong and Nimba counties to carry out consultative meetings with members (one visit of which was also attended by the PBF in-country focal point). These meetings allowed PIL to identify the key areas of work Peace Huts are currently engaged in, their key priorities, the support currently being received and the fundamental areas in need of support. County stakeholders in Nimba and Bong were consulted and provided valuable feedback regarding current peacebuilding processes at county level, specifically concerning women and youth's representation. Peace Huts and CSOs were consulted to identify the current needs on the ground for GYW, to identify key activities needed for their operational strengthening and support. UN Women provided insight on their current programming being undertaken with the Peace Hut's under the Women's Economic Empowerment and the Women, Peace and Security portfolios. This aided and supported clarification of identification of key gaps in current initiatives. Lessons learned in previous and ongoing initiatives by PIL in communities have provided insight, informing the design of the project.		
Project Gender Marker score⁷: 3		

⁷ Score 3 for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)
 Score 2 for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate between 30 and 79% of the total project budget to GEWE
 Score 1 for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 30% of the total budget for GEWE)

85%, \$1,108,434.72 of total project budget is allocated to activities in pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment

Briefly explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment ⁸:

PIL will work to deconstruct harmful gender norms and biases that hinder GYW's full participation in communities and wider society. To achieve this, PIL will support the promotion of GYW's agency through life and soft skills training, supporting the strengthening of women-led civil society organizations and women's Peace Huts to promote women's leadership and wider engagement in society. Through engaging BYM, duty bearers in communities and district and county stakeholders, the initiative will utilize a gender transformative approach to tackle existent power imbalances and ensuring that power is transferred to GYW. Community sensitizations and a public awareness campaign will be employed for social behaviour change for gender equality.

Project Risk Marker score⁹: 1

Select PBF Focus Areas which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*) ¹⁰: 2.1) National reconciliation.

If applicable, **UNSCDF outcome(s)** to which the project contributes:

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2020 - 2024) in Liberia is tailored on the national plan. The Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD) Pillar 3 Sustaining the Peace, Security and Rule of Law and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. This project will contribute to OUTCOME 3: Sustaining Peace and Security – Consolidated and sustainable peace; enhanced social cohesion, rule of law and human rights

If applicable, **Sustainable Development Goal** to which the project contributes:

Goal 5: Gender Equality

5.1- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

5.2- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

5.3- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

5.4- Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

5.5- Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life

SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities:

10.2 - Promote universal social, economic and political inclusion

⁸ Please consult the PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding

⁹ Risk marker 0 = low risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

¹⁰ PBF Focus Areas are:

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

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

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

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

SDG 16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions:**16.1** - Reduce violence everywhere**16.2** - Protect children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence**16.7** - Ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making**Type of submission:**☐ New project☒ **Project amendment**

If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:

Extension of duration: ☒ Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): 5 months August 31, 2025.

Change of project outcome/ scope: ☐

Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: ☒ Increases and decreases of above the 15% threshold can be seen in the revised budget excel document. This variances of over 15% is justified by the fact that the need for rehabilitation and construction at the peace huts was higher than originally anticipated. This is specifically the case with Todee Peace Hut. This increase will also allow for the development of agro-processing equipment shelters which were demonstrated as a need to advance the IGA of peace hut women and girls. Additional PBF budget: ☐ Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX

Brief justification for amendment:

Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or in

TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.

The project commenced on 27 March 2023 (date of first transfer) and is due to end on March 31, 2025 (24 months). Overall, the project has made very good progress, including:

- All inception activities are completed except for full recruitment of target beneficiaries. Out of 1,140 targeted peace hut women, 945 have been recruited across 8 peace huts.
- **Output 1.1: GYW Trained in Soft and Life Skills for Peace Huts.** The Soft and Life Skills Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop, completed for 16 Girls and Young Women (GYW) Peer Facilitators, has shown positive results. The participants' average scores improved from 87.1 (pre-test) to 96.8 (post-test), showing a 9.6-point knowledge gain. Mentorship for the first batch of 432 GYW (out of a targeted 1080 GYW ages 18-35) is currently ongoing.
- **Output 1.2: Alliances Between GYW Groups, Peace Huts, and Community Networks.** Small grants for advocacy have empowered GYW to engage in community initiatives, raising awareness on issues like violence against women, substance abuse, early marriage, and more. The initiative has fostered collaboration, empowering GYW to voice their concerns and build supportive networks. Advocacy and networking activities have increased community involvement from 27.85% to 72.15%.

	<p>including women from peace huts and Boys and Young Men (BYM) groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 2.1: Strengthened Collaboration Between Peace Huts and Peacebuilding Structures. The joint training on dispute mitigation and electoral early warning has significantly enhanced the knowledge of Peace Huts and County Peacebuilding Actors. Post-training assessments showed an increase from 20% to 81%, indicating a 61% knowledge gain. In addition, the project supported county-level peacebuilding meetings, increasing participation from women and youth. Regular participation among Peace Hut members, including girls and young women (GYW), rose from 13 to 41 representatives. • Output 2.2: Increased Community Engagement and Support for Peace Hut Initiatives. The “Engaging Men Through Accountable Practices (EMAP)” training for 16 community volunteer facilitators has been transformative, covering gender roles, household responsibilities, violence against women, and healthy relationships. Pre-test scores averaged 65%, while post-test scores rose to 87%, showing significant knowledge gain. To date, 56% (223) of the 400 targeted boys and young men (ages 18-35) have been trained over five months. These BYM are actively collaborating with the GYW’s group members to raise awareness on gender equality, violence against women and girls, and positive masculinity. • Output 3.2: Enhanced Capacity of Peace Huts and CSOs for Sustainability. Women in the Peace Huts initiative are engaged in income-generating activities (IGAs) essential for the financial sustainability of the peace huts. The Peace Huts have also been supported with Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) programming to support sustainable access to finance. This support equips peace hut members to effectively address violence-related cases, such as providing assistance to victims of gender-based violence, maintaining peace, and addressing the socio-economic needs identified within their communities. <p>Project activities that were previously delayed, such as the advocacy and conflict management training, are now on track to be completed between January and February 2025. They are facilitated by the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) and the Liberia Peacebuilding Office (LPBO) under the Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>Although there were notable achievements, challenges emerged before and during project implementation, hindering timely execution. Addressing all challenges holistically ensures the project's ongoing success, necessitating the three-month NCE.</p> <p>Challenges before project implementation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project began three months later than initially scheduled due to a delay in transferring the initial trench of funds. 2. Instead of hiring a consultant, Plan collaborated with relevant government partners in the development of a soft and life skills training module for activity 1.1.2, which significantly extended the timeline beyond expectations, thereby disrupting the planned implementation schedule. 3. Further delays occurred due to a poor market response in hiring a consultant to develop the integrated peacebuilding, literacy and numeracy skills training module for activity 3.1.1, which significantly extended the
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timeline beyond expectations, thereby disrupting the planned implementation schedule.

Challenges during project implementation:

4. The general and presidential run-off elections in October and November 2023 interfered with project activities, as participants were required to allocate time to fulfill their civic responsibilities.
5. Delays in the construction and renovation of Peace Huts due to the increased construction needs than initially anticipated, leading to delays in finalizing this activity (specifically for Todee Peace Hut).
6. The delay in land identification, acquisition, and liaising with the Ministry of Agriculture for regulations and guidelines for the construction of storage and agro-processing facilities was also a challenge. Hence, shelters are to be constructed for these equipment to ensure their proper utilization. Vendors have been selected through a competitive bidding process who may proceed with this recommendation.
7. Incomplete renovations and maintenance continue to cause issues at Peace Huts. With identified contractors for these renovations in place, Plan aims to tackle these challenges in the requested NCE.

Financial Expenditure Status of the Project up to November 2024.

Regarding financial expenditures, as reported in the November 2024 annual progress report, Plan International Liberia expended US\$679,644.89 out of the total US\$910,000.00 received from PBF (representing 74.68%).

Activities that will necessitate an extension include the following activities under Outcome 3 for Output 3.2 and other activities as per the project document:

Activity 3.2.1: Construction and Renovation of Peace Huts

The assessment done for constructing and renovating the eight (8) targeted peace huts in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba, and Lofa Counties has shown more need than originally budgeted. The cost of the Bill of Quantity (BOQ) drawn from the assessment was \$63,716.17 compared to the \$50,000.00 budgeted and approved for construction and renovation work. This was the result of the increase in market price. As such, one of the Peace Hut (Todee Peace Hut in Montserrado) construction works could not be done due to insufficient funds for construction and renovation. A budget revision was completed (submitted alongside this NCE), and savings identified from completed activities and unspent apportion costs left for year one were also considered as savings to ensure the full construction of the Todee Peace Hut.

Activity 3.2.2: IGA grants provided for Peace Huts for training, equipment etc.

The project has provided income generating materials and equipment to the 8 targeted peace huts, including IGA consumable materials, cassava, rice and palm oil processing machines. Initially, the project did not consider the construction of integrated agro-processing facilities (shelters). Considering the availability of remaining funds allocated for IGA support, tender bidding was published and three builders were selected after a competitive bidding process to construct the equipment shelters across 5 peace huts in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties. The 3 months (April – June 30, 2025) NCE will

	<p>enable Plan International Liberia to fully complete the construction of integrated agro-processing facilities.</p> <p>Activity 3.2.6: Institutional Capacity Strengthening of Partners for Sustainability: Training and Support:</p> <p>Provide necessary training to increase implementing partners' capacity to ensure implementation of the project deliverables, such as training on quality narrative and financial reporting, effective data collection and TOT to support project participants' capacity in VSLA and business management skills.</p> <p>Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>Activity 1.1.2: End of Project Evaluation (qual and quan) including Exit Strategy</p> <p>The consideration of the no-cost extension will enhance the qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the project, including exit strategy and its sustainability for a smooth transition and closure.</p> <p>Activity 1.1.3: Regular monitoring (including joint regular monitoring with the Liberia Ministry of Gender and the Liberia Ministry of Internal Affairs etc.)</p> <p>Though both ministries, county-level teams have been participating in the monitoring of the peace huts activities. There is still an increased need for effective collaboration with the two ministries at the national level at this juncture to ensure effective oversight and ownership as the project draws to a close. Each ministry plays crucial roles in peacebuilding monitoring, focusing on different aspects:</p> <p>Activity 1.1.4: Success stories</p> <p>Though the project has reported inspiring success stories and testimonies from girls and young women involved in peacebuilding initiatives through Peace Huts engagement activities, it anticipates documenting more success stories/testimonies to highlight the significant impact of peacebuilding initiatives and the importance of youth involvement in creating sustainable peace as the project draws to a close.</p> <p>Activity 1.1.5: Learning review meetings with partners Activity 1.1.6: Audit to be done by PIL Internal audit department</p> <p>During the No Cost Extension period, no significant changes will take place with the budget revisions remaining within the 15% outcome threshold for minor activity adjustments to increase reach. Funds available for the project, particularly the salary line due to delay in the full commencement of the project, will be utilized without any additional resources from PBF.</p>
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Recipient Organization(s)¹¹ Miriam Murray Signature  Title: Country Director - Plan International Country Director Date & Seal 11 th March 2025	Representative of National Authorities Hon. Gheme Horace-Kollie Signature  Title: Hon. Minister - Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection Date & Seal 11 th March 2025
Head of UN Country Team Ms. Christine Umutoni Signature  Title: UN Resident Coordinator Date & Seal	Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) Ms. Elizabeth Spehar  Signature  Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Support Office 15 April 2025 Date & Seal

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

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

a) A brief summary of **conflict analysis findings**

During 2022, Liberia will celebrate the 19th anniversary of the signing of the Accra Peace Accord, which brought an end to the 14-year long civil war. Despite the United Nations Mission in Liberia's (UNMIL) successful completion of its mandate and subsequent departure in 2018, Liberia still faces many challenges. According to the UNDP human development index, the country ranks **176 out of 189 countries**, with a HDI value of 0.465 for 2018. Liberia is also the 19th most fragile of 58 fragile countries (2018 OECD Fragile Framework), facing severe multidimensional fragilities with respect to the political, economic, environmental, societal and security dimensions.¹² Additionally, the rooted and systemic inequalities across ethnicity origin (Americo/Indigenous), gender, urban-rural, and class, continue to impede Liberians' access to political, economic, and social rights, leading to civil unrest and conflict. In 2021 more than **2.3 million** Liberians were unable to meet their basic food needs, of which almost **68%** resided in rural areas and **44%** were below the extreme international food-poverty line.¹³ An unprecedented humanitarian crisis (Ebola and COVID-19) exacerbated socio-economic tensions in the country, as well as gaps in access to basic services and limited economic opportunities for young people.

¹¹ Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

¹² Liberia Multi-Partner Trust Fund/Peace Building Fund (LMPTF/PBF), Evaluability Assessment Report (February 2020) <https://reliefweb.int/report/liberia/liberia-multi-partner-trust-fundpeace-building-fund-lmptfpbf-evaluability-assessment>

¹³ https://databankfiles.worldbank.org/data/download/poverty/987B9C90-CB9F-4D93-AE8C-750588BF00QA/AM2020/Global_POVEQ_LBR.pdf

Despite Liberia having the first female head of state in Africa, politics are still dominated by men, with female representation at only 11% in the House of Representatives¹⁵. Increasing polarization in Liberia's political and electoral processes has led to an increase in riots, mob violence and armed robberies, as well as intra- and inter-communal clashes over land disputes. An example of the country's growing instability was the violent attack on the 26th of July 2022 by the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC)-Collaboration of Opposition Parties (COP) against peaceful protesters from the University of Liberia campus-based Student Unification Party (SUP), which resulted in 14 severely injured students. Such events reflect the fragile nature of the country's peace.

Progress in peacebuilding and security over the last decades has not translated into actions to eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). According to the Gender Inequality Index, Liberia ranks 177th out of 188 countries. Women have significantly less access to education, a **lower level of literacy** (32% for women and 62% for men)¹⁶ and consume less information. Thus, they are less aware of opportunities for civic engagement, that could enhance their sense of security financially, politically, and physically. Hyper masculinities are pervasive and hold men in dominant societal positions. Violence perpetrated by men against women is commonly a result of harmful beliefs about gender and unequal power relations. Gendered norms follow a traditional and conservative pattern, connected to the larger structures of the economy, law and religion. Under the gender binary, men are considered the heads of households and the primary decision makers. Women are associated with submissiveness, taking care of the family and domestic duties.

Due to restrictive social norms and traditional attitudes, women have difficulty participating safely and meaningfully in peacebuilding. Women's involvement in peacebuilding activities is also hindered by poverty and economic inequality. The double burden of their domestic roles and income generation activities as well as a lack of control over household income further impedes their engagement. **Girls and young women** (aged 18 to 35) face additional challenges in engaging in peacebuilding efforts, as they are commonly relegated to caregiving, childbearing and domestic duties. The burden of unpaid domestic labor does not provide financial subsistence, further limiting their ability to participate in society. They are also particularly susceptible to **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)**, harmful practices, **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**, **child marriage** and **teenage pregnancy**, and have limited access to sexual and reproductive health rights.

As a result of Liberia's 14-year civil war (1989-2003) **Peace Huts** were established to provide conflict resolution and mediation services to disputing community members. **Peace Huts** are modeled on the centuries old Palava Hut system used to address disputes, but the latter are largely run by men. The Palava Hut systems were a traditional community-based mechanism that served as a reconciliatory and conflict resolution mechanism convened by elders to settle disputes such as extramarital affairs, divorces, land disputes, debt, and occasionally theft and murder. Post-war, WANEP Liberia established the first Peace Huts, paralleled on the traditional Palava Hut system. This created a safe-space for women to convene to mediate disputes, serve as watchdogs, prevent gender-based violence and refer victims to services, raise community awareness of peacebuilding priorities, and mobilize on critical issues such as elections and the importance of women's political participation, and governance.

These groups have become well-established and recognized structures for conflict prevention and response at the community level. However, continued donor support remains a challenge to the Peace Huts stability and growth. Moreover, in discussions with Peace Hut members it was acknowledged that GYW (aged 18 to 35) have had limited opportunity to engage in the structures (further evidenced by PIL's Peace Hut member's directory in Montserrado, Nimba, Lofa, Grand Gedeh and Grand Cape Mount), with most members over the age of 30. With the 2023 elections approaching in Liberia, there is increased need for the Peace Huts to scale up their work in the counties; promoting peaceful coexistence, supporting electoral early warning and mitigating disputes. Lofa County has recently seen small scale violence, with political parties engaging youth in campaign related violence due to delays in county elections. In the northern regions and bordering counties of Lofa, Bong, Nimba illegal entry points and crossovers from neighboring countries continues to pose a threat for spillover of violence, particularly from Cote d'Ivoire. In these counties and rural Montserrado (Todee), land and property disputes, boundary disputes between communities, social marginalization and exclusion, tribal politics,

¹⁵ <https://www.idea.int/data-tools/data/gender-quotas/country-view/173/35>

¹⁶ Score Index 2018: Liberia, <https://www.scoreforpeace.org/en/liberia/2018-General%20population-0>

pre and post-election violence, trial by ordeal, forceful initiation and FGM by the Sande and Poro societies, SGBV and domestic violence are primary drivers of conflict. Unidentified killings (particularly in Todee (Montserrado) and Konia (Lofa) were also raised as significant. In urban Montserrado (Fishmarket) land and property disputes, drugs abuse, youth violence, pre and post-election violence, protests and SGBV and domestic violence were raised as key forces for violence. There is a significant gap regarding support for Peace Huts, with only UN Women currently providing any support. These groups offer a unique and well-established community-based approach to the prevention and response of violence. Recognizing that most conflicts begin at the local level, supporting Peace Huts and young women's integration can yield far-reaching, sustainable effects particularly in the run up to elections.

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

This action is aligned with the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) Women Peace and Security UNSCR 1325 and subsequent resolutions on women peace and security that specifically promote women's active and effective participation and peacebuilding. It is also strongly aligned with Liberia's National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security, which is reflective of the UNSCR 1325, and has the overall goal of "women and girls' safety, physical and mental health and security are assured, and are fully protected under legislation and policies that promote their empowerment and full participation at all levels, in building sustainable and inclusive peace and security in Liberia". More specifically it supports objective 2 – **Protection**: Women, young women and girls' safety, physical and mental health are assured, and their human rights respected and objective 3 – **Participation**: Participation of women, young women and girls in decision making processes related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, humanitarian action and countering terrorism.¹⁷

The project also aligns with the Liberian Government's Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity (PAPD) and Development. Specifically, it will contribute towards the 3rd pillar of **Sustaining the Peace** - Promoting a cohesive society for sustainable development. Actions under this pillar seek to contribute to building of a peaceful and united country pursuing a new vision of full integration into the African continent both in culture and vision. And the 1st pillar of **Power to the People** — To empower Liberians with the tools to gain control of their lives through more equitable provision of opportunities in education, health, youth development, and social protection¹⁸. This initiative will explicitly address the target of 'Empowering Women and Girls' through working to ensure appropriate responses to Gender-based violence, as major thrusts under human capacity development and reducing women inequality in political, social, and economic life.¹⁹ Through this intervention PIL and its partners will support existing governmental and UN strategic frameworks and in doing so contribute to a system where GYW have increased agency as well as the ability to meaningfully participate in peacebuilding processes in society. The project will ensure national ownership in several ways. First, stakeholders at all levels – national, county, district and community, will be consulted throughout the project lifecycle. National level Ministries, particularly the **Ministry for Gender, Children and Social Protection** and the **Ministry of Internal Affairs** will be consulted and engaged at all stages of the project. Their buy-in and support

¹⁷ NAP 2019-2023

¹⁸ PAPD (2018-2023)

¹⁹ PAPD (2018-2023)

in national level activities, will be key to maintaining support of the project. The concept is built around engaging and linking stakeholders at various levels. CSO's will also provide peer-to-peer support for GYW, girl-led groups, Peace Huts and community members, which will promote increased community ownership, in addition to ongoing support to strengthen their operational capacity. The project will also work with and through members of the community to foster a sense of project ownership, mobilizing all levels of the community to challenge existing stereotypes and social norms fueling violence against women and girls, and groups with intersecting disadvantages. Awareness raising initiatives and capacity development workshops will further these messages among target communities and beyond. Throughout consultations, ownership of the Peace Huts emerged as an issue in some locations. PIL will support the structuring and organization of these Peace Huts, to ensure that each group take responsibility and ownership for their initiatives and sustainability.

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

PIL has been working with Peace Huts in Liberia since 2019 with funding from the EU Spotlight Initiative through UNFPA on the 'Prevention and response to, sexual and gender-based violence harmful practices and promote the realization of sexual reproductive health rights', complementing the PAPD and ANP. Through this initiative, support has been provided by PIL to nine Peace Huts for running costs, staff incentives, and trainings including in the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and Community-Based Family Planning (CBFP) distribution. These trainings were also geared to enhance understanding of key roles in combating the prevalence of SGBV and other forms of violence and harmful practices against women and girls. PIL has provided alternative income generating activities as a sustainability strategy for Peace Huts up-keep through different categories of skills (including tie-dye and soap making). Hand pumps have also been constructed in Peace Huts in Konia, Lofa and Ganta, Nimba.

Through consultations with Peace Huts members and county stakeholders, a gap in coordination and communication between district and county level stakeholders was identified. Many groups exist without clear understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities. This is true at community, district and county level. The Peace Huts are largely considered 'women's centers', places for women to meet and discuss issues affecting them. **Their role in mitigating and mediating conflict is less prominent.** The Peace Hut leadership members are not represented in county-level peacebuilding structures (for example the Peacebuilding Technical Working Group, County Security Council, Traditional Council etc.).

UN Women are the largest supporters to Liberia's Peace Huts, providing support in collaboration with local partners under the Women's Political Participation and Women, Peace and Security programs, funded by the UNPBF, Irish Aid and SIDA. Activities under these initiatives include trainings on women's inclusion in decision making, building the capacity of members to **respond to electoral violence**, increase women's participation in political processes and governance and supporting Peace Huts to serve as an early warning and response mechanism. UN Women corroborated the need for **improved linking and networking** between the various groups and structures at all levels for clearer lines of communication from community to national levels. Moreover, these discussions validated the need for the representation of younger women and girls in Peace Hut's, particularly for enhanced sustainability of the structures.

Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal
Prevention and response to, sexual and gender-based violence harmful practices and promote the realization of sexual reproductive health rights at national and sub-	UNFPA (2,800,000 EUR)	The project is focused on advancing gender equality and the empowerment of GYW in exercising their reproductive rights, with a specific focus on the most marginalized and disadvantaged populations.	This intervention complements this project due to strategic complementarity in areas such as: Support and trainings for Peace Huts, deconstructing gender norms and biases through awareness raising, prevention of SGBV and Peace

national levels (Jan 2019 to Dec 2022)			Hut women's economic empowerment
She Leads (Jan 2021 – Dec 2025)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands (900,000 EUR)	This project works on the strengthening capacity of CSOs, with a specific focus on strengthening lobby capacity of GYW and the civic space wherein they operate. The goal of the program is to increase the sustained influence of GYW decision-making and the transformation of gender norms in formal and informal institutions.	This project complements efforts to strengthen CSOs on deconstructing gender norms and biases, woman and girl's empowerment and prevention of violence.
ZOA - Sustainable and inclusive peace in Liberia through promoting women leadership and participation in civic and political life and their strengthened role in conflict resolution (Start Date: Feb 2021- Aug 2022)	UNPBF (1,300,000 USD)	The project aims to enhance women's capacity and agency within the political, civic and mediation spaces by using the Women Situation Room (WSR) mechanism and basic Appreciative Inquiry (AI).	This project will end in August 2022, and so this proposal will continue to build on ZOA's work through encouraging women's participation in Bong and Montserrado. Coordination for electoral early warning response will complement this work.
Action Aid – Strengthening the agency of young women in peace-building processes and land tenure in Liberia (2022 – 2023)	UNPBF (1,200,000 USD)	Their project seeks to enhance the leadership and capacity of the young Women's Organizations Network to organize and lead Community actions to constructively assert their land rights and inclusive land and natural resources Governance to prevent conflicts and ensure peace is maintained.	This proposal will complement Action Aids work in terms of geographical coverage, with their implementation focused on Sinoe, Gbapolu, Margibi, and Bong counties.
Raising Community Voices (Feb 2022- Jan 2024)	Irish Aid (980,000 EUR)	This project works to strengthen local capacity, including CSOs and CBOs to lead on GBV prevention and response activities in different communities	This project would complement the proposal through: CSO strengthening, deconstructing gender norms and biases, prevention of SGBV and economic empowerment.

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

a) A brief description of the project focus and approach

Growing evidence suggests that investing in women-led bottom-up peacebuilding can yield significant results for sustainable peace. Young women may not be widely observable in government structures and political parties, but they are visible at the community level, mediating between families and communities, negotiating community disputes and providing reconciliation for conflict resolution. They build trust and social cohesion and conduct community violence reduction initiatives, yet they are often constrained by lack of funds and their work goes largely unrecognized. Through supporting local women-led peacebuilding efforts, it is possible to forge lasting peace.

The overall project goal is to increase girls and young women's agency and ability to meaningfully participate in peacebuilding processes in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Lofa. This will be achieved by PIL working alongside We4Self (Montserrado), RWGP (Nimba and Bong) and WOSI (Lofa) as women-led CSOs partners to strengthen the capacity of Peace Huts, GYW's groups and other community structures in peacebuilding. The project will tackle the unequal gender dynamics that hinders GYW participation in peacebuilding by working with community structures, including BYM, to promote an enabling environment that allows GYW to become active participants in peacebuilding. The project will also work to improve networking between Peace Huts and peacebuilding structures at the community, district and county level through enhanced communication and collaboration.

The project approach is aligned with Plan International's globally strategic priorities of Thrive which aims for girls to grow up equally valued and cared for – free from discrimination, violence, and fear; and Lead which aims to see girls, boys and youth as active drivers of change.

The **implementation strategy** will be guided by the principles of Plan International's **gender transformative approach** which tackles the root causes of gender inequality and reshapes unequal

power relations. The project will adopt the following elements: (i) to understand and address how gender norms influence children throughout their life-course; (ii) to strengthen GYW's agency over the decisions that affect them, as well as to build their knowledge, confidence and skills; (iii) to work with and support boys, young men and men to embrace positive masculinities and to promote gender equality, while also achieving meaningful results for them; (iv) to consider girls, boys, young women and young men in all their diversity when identifying and responding to their needs and interests; (v) to improve the conditions and the social position of GYW; (vi) to foster an enabling environment where all stakeholders work together to support GYW on their journey towards gender equality.

Plan International's '**Champions of Change**' (CoC) methodology²⁰, a comprehensive global model for promoting gender equality and girls' rights based on girls' empowerment and boys' engagement, will be integrated throughout the project. It includes curricula for girls/young women, boys/young men and duty bearers. This project will adapt the global approach to the local context, building on previous experience. Trainings, group organization, peer-to-peer dialogues, engagement of boys/men, and intergenerational dialogue will be used as components of the CoC curriculum. It will build the capacities of the partners to support girls' and women's groups, to facilitate gender transformative action, to deconstruct the inequality that exists for GYW, that impedes their engagement in peacebuilding processes.

b) Theory of change

The project's theory of change is centered on three interlinked components that, when approached in a holistic manner, will contribute to realizing the overall goal of increasing young women's agency and ability to meaningfully participate in peacebuilding processes: 1) Strengthening the institutional capacity of women's organizations and peace huts to **empower them** to carry out peacebuilding programming and influencing. 2) Deconstructing gender social norms and biases and **fostering an enabling environment** at community and wider societal level. 3) Targeting young women and girls through **economic empowerment** initiatives to challenge the unequal power dynamics and reduce dependency.

The overarching change hypothesis is that should the harmonization of these three components occur, young women will have increased agency and will be considered active contributors to society. Thus, moving away from the common notion of the 'dependent' and 'vulnerable' victim. Young women and women's groups will be able to meaningfully participate in peacebuilding processes through the prevention and response to violence at the community level. Young women will have increased visibility and capacity to shape decision-making processes and will be better able to organize and mobilize for sustainable and transformative peace. The integration of young women into the Peace Huts, as preexisting structures is key to this approach. Working with men and boys, and traditional and religious leadership structures is critical to tackling these inequalities and contributing to systemic change in the long term.

Assumptions: Participation of GYW is not inhibited by cultural/economic constraints. Men and boys are willing to engage in and support the intervention. Young women and girls are willing to become members of Peace Huts and Peace Huts accommodate GYW and support their engagement. Commitment and willingness of Peace Huts to engage in capacity building and learning activities. County level peace building structures are willing to engage with Peace Hut's for enhanced community peacebuilding. No outbreak of disease or emergencies. Political stability remains.

c) Narrative of key project components (outcomes and outputs) **Activities to continue throughout the NCE are highlighted in red.**

Inception phase: Project set up- the project will be launched at national and county level for information dissemination and formal initiation of the project. An orientation and planning meeting will be held with key actors to assign responsibilities and strengthen coordination. Communities will be sensitized on the project and activities.

²⁰ PI CoC <https://plan-international.org/youth-activism/champions-change>

Activities: 0.1 Project launch with key national stakeholders; 0.2 Project launch with key county stakeholders; 0.3 Orientation/start-up planning meeting with key actors; 0.4 Community level awareness on project activities.

Outcome 1: Girls and young women are actively participating in peacebuilding and leadership- under this outcome the project will support GYW with mentorship, trainings and peer-to-peer support, for increased participation of GYW in peacebuilding. Peace Hut members will also support the GYW-led groups transferring knowledge to girls and young women and expanding their reach for peacebuilding at the community level. Peace Hut members will be sensitized on the need to promote inclusion and participation of GYW into the structures and members will be supported to recruit individual GYW into the Peace Hut membership. At an average of 180 members per peace hut, the project will support the addition of 320 GYW (aged 18 to 35) across the 8 Peace Huts.

To support **GYW to take on leadership roles** within Peace Huts, GYW will complete a life skills and soft skills module through a Training of Trainers (ToT) program facilitated by girls' mentors. This will include training in, but not limited to: confidence building, peer mobilization, resilience building, public speaking, leadership, organizational skills, intra-personal skills etc. PIL and partners will feed into the development and review of the ToT. Community-based trainers from the Peace Hut membership will be recruited and trained for the rollout of the ToT and trainers will act as mentors to the GYW, providing ongoing skills training and support. The project will focus on intersectionality and bring on board the voices of GYW in marginalized positions in a safe space to ensure their meaningful participation.

Peace Hut women and GYW's groups will be linked to provide **experience sharing and mutual learnings** for increased networking at the community and district level. Each Peace Hut will work with one girl's group (aged 18 to 24) and one women's group (aged 25 to 35). Peace Hut women will share experience in conflict resolution, community processes and leadership while GYW's will share innovation and knowledge on social media, providing mutual benefits for sustained relationships. Training on advocacy, influencing and conflict management skills will be provided to the 16 GYW's groups for engagement at the community, district and county levels. Partners will support the groups to develop an action plan to lead their own initiatives, and small grants will be provided for advocacy and networking activities. GYW's groups will be linked to community peacebuilding mechanisms meetings and activities for them to be engaged as active participants in community conflict resolution processes.

Output 1.1 GYW are trained in soft and life skills for participation in Peace Huts

Activities: 1.1.1 Support peace hut members to integrate girls and young women into Peace Hut membership; 1.1.2 Conduct ToT on soft and life skills for girl's mentors; 1.1.3 Rollout of mentorship program to GYW

Output 1.2 Fostered alliances between girls/young women's groups, peace huts and community peacebuilding networks

Activities: 1.2.1 Conduct training on advocacy, influencing and community mobilization for GYW's groups; 1.2.2 Conduct training on conflict management for GYW's groups; 1.2.3 Provide small grants for GYW groups to engage in advocacy and networking activities

Outcome 2: Active participation of peace hut and community members to promote an enabling environment that encourages social cohesion – this action will contribute to the strengthened collaboration and representation of Peace Hut leadership in community, district and county level peacebuilding structures.

A mapping exercise will be conducted to identify existing peacebuilding structures at the district and county levels to build collaboration between these structures and the Peace Huts. The project will foster the inclusion of Peace Hut representation in district and county level peacebuilding structures (for example the peacebuilding technical working group, county security council, traditional council, county steering committee). Actors will be supported to increase their networking as an **early warning and risk mitigation mechanism** for reporting of disputes between the community, district and county levels. The project will consider the upcoming general elections and integrate **electoral early warning** in this mechanism through strengthened reporting pathways.

Joint training on organization, negotiation and conflict/disputes (farm and property, land, boundary and religious disputes) mitigation and resolution will be provided for 35 participants from the Peace Hut's leadership and members of peacebuilding mechanisms from district and county levels. This will further

provide space for relationship building and shared learnings between actors and support peacebuilding structures to be more effective. Community members including local chiefs, traditional and religious leaders, men, women and youth, will be engaged in sensitizations on the roles of Peace Huts and their value within communities. Awareness raising will be conducted on the women's rights, and the need for GYW's inclusion in decision making in the household and community levels, to promote an enabling environment for GYW to thrive at all levels of society. Peace Hut members will engage community leaders in intergenerational dialogue, mediation and sensitization on GYW and youth leadership, participation and empowerment for GYW.

A national level, a public awareness media campaign will be conducted at the county and national level (on rights promotions, violence prevention and response, and women in leadership and elections). Aired on national radio (ELBC and ECOWAS) to target the general population, this will include messaging on **women's participation in politics, leadership and decision making** in the run up to elections informed by key messages from Plan International's 'Equal Power Now' campaign along with messaging on pre and post-electoral violence.

Duty bearers will be engaged on the need for gender-transformative action to support the deconstruction of gender norms and biases at local levels. Partners will routinely meet and consult with traditional and religious leaders, parents and caregivers through meetings, community forums and sensitizations discussing the need for the promotion of GYW's involvement in society and decision making. Discussions on the need to challenge gendered norms that hinder GYW participation and practical measures on how to support their participation will be integrated across these activities.

The partners will work with Peace Huts and GYW's groups. Support will be provided to Peace Hut members for community-level initiatives such as peace talks, dramas, songs and jingles, which will be recorded and aired in local vernaculars on local (district and county) radio stations for awareness raising. The initiatives will be based on emerging issues and disputes within specific project locations, and encourage Peace Hut members to take on their own initiatives. Local radio stations will be engaged to record and air initiatives on local media. IEC and BCC materials will be printed and distributed by the Peace Huts within communities.

BYM groups will be trained to work as **Peace Ambassadors** and **GYW's rights advocates** within their communities. PIL's adapted manual *Engaging men and boys in accountable practices (EMAP)* will be rolled out to 8 boy's groups (aged 18 to 24) and young men's groups (aged 25 to 35). EMAP is a prevention intervention, informed by women's voices and priorities, for engaging men and boys in transformative individual behavior change, offering an innovative model for working constructively with males to examine the gendered impact of conflict and how they have been socialized, a crucial step in creating a world where women and girls are valued, equal and free from violence. EMAP includes a 15-day ToT for facilitators. Male and female facilitators are recruited from the community and act as mentors for the BYM groups, running sessions over 27 weeks, with one session per week.

Output 2.1 Strengthened collaboration between peace huts and district and county-level peacebuilding structures

Activities: 2.1.1 Conduct mapping of county peacebuilding structures at community, district and county level; 2.1.2 Conduct joint training for Peace Huts and peacebuilding structures on mitigating disputes and electoral early warning Provide support to meetings by county level peacebuilding structures; 2.1.3 Support monthly coordination meetings (feeding, transportation, stationary etc.) of county-level peacebuilding structures; 2.1.4 Build a network of local level peacebuilders (Peace Hut members, peacebuilding technical working group, county security council, GYW's and BYM's groups etc.) an early warning and risk mitigation mechanism for reporting.

Output 2.2 Increased community engagement and support for Peace Hut initiatives

Activities: 2.2.1 Peace Huts conduct awareness and campaign activities on peacebuilding within the community; 2.2.2 Peace Hut women and GYW engage community leaders in dialogue, mediation and sensitization; 2.1.3 Train men and boys as Peace Ambassadors and girls and women's rights advocates; 2.2.4 Conduct radio program (talk shows, jingles etc.) at the county and national level.

Outcome 3 Capacity and sustainability of Peace Huts and CSO's strengthened to mediate, mitigate and manage conflicts to sustain peace in their groups and communities.

This action will support capacity strengthening of Peace Huts for sustainability. Partners will provide ongoing support to ensure members understand the vital role and contribution Peace Huts offer to communities. Through the provision of Income Generating Activities (IGA) and skills training, Peace Huts will have a more sustainable structure, providing incentive for continuous participation.

A consultant will be on boarded to develop a ToT manual on peacebuilding (conflict prevention and resolution, peaceful coexistence, mediation, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), psychosocial and counselling skills and lobby and influencing). Peace Hut women facilitators will then be recruited and trained as facilitators to roll-out the manual and support adult literacy and numeracy skills training.

The National Elections Commission (NEC) will be engaged as a strategic partner, to ensure that Peace Huts are recognized as key partners and are recruited for training in civic education. Peace Huts can play a key role in **promoting peace and women's political participation** through civic education in communities, and raise awareness of pre and post-election violence.

Annual learning exchanges and experience sharing events will be held among the peace huts across the 4 counties, with 40 persons (5 per peace hut). This event will provide opportunity for peace Huts to demonstrate good practices and share learnings on community mobilization, member retention and participation in Peace Huts, successful advocacy initiatives etc.

Grants will be provided on a case by case basis per year per Peace hut, for identification of materials in need of support. This may include construction or renovation, and/or the installation of solar units. A needs assessment and market survey will be conducted to inform **livelihood options for sustainability** of the Peace Hut's. In addition, grants will also be provided per Peace Hut for the identification of IGA to support the running of the Peace Hut and activities beyond the project duration. This may include material support (sewing machines, rice mill, cassava mill purchases etc.) based on need by the Peace Hut and or/trainings in livelihoods (soap making, tie dye, baking etc.). The implementing partners will provide ongoing business mentorship for the partners to ensure sustainability of efforts. Capacity strengthening will be provided to the implementing CSO's based on identification of need by the CSO and partner assessments.

Output 3.1 Increased capacity of Peace Hut members to carry out peacebuilding work at community levels

Activities: **3.1.1** Conduct TOT for Peace Hut facilitators; **3.1.2** Rollout of mentorship program by facilitators to Peace Hut members; **3.1.3** Annual joint learning exchanges and experience sharing event between 8 Peace Huts

Output 3.2 Enhanced capacity of Peace Hut's and CSO's for sustainability

Activities: **3.2.1** Provide small grants for construction and renovation needs as identified by Peace Huts; **3.2.2** IGA grants provided for Peace Huts for training, equipment etc.; **3.2.3** Ongoing business mentorship provided to Peace Huts by partners; **3.2.4** Trainings and institutional capacity strengthening provided to implementing CSO partners.

d) Project targeting - The geographic locations (Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Lofa) have been selected due to their heightened propensity for violence. Lofa and Nimba being border counties, are at an increased risk of spill-over of violence from neighboring Guinea and Cote D'Ivoire and have a history of religious and tribal tensions, land disputes and electoral violence. Peace Hut headquarters are located in Totota in Bong and considered key for sustainability of actions, given their role in coordinating Peace Hut efforts and potential for scaling up the initiative to other counties. Montserrado is the only county in which UN Women do not support Peace Huts. In line with UNPBF's recommendations, two Peace Huts in Montserrado (Todee and Fishmarket) have been selected as they have not previously received support and are not integrated into the CBO Peace Hut structure. The Fishmarket Peace Hut is also strategically placed in the capital, Monrovia. This will be key to the growth of these Peace Huts and to sustained coordination between Peace Huts in the counties to national level advocacy efforts by the Peace Hut's in the capital and will be important leading up to the 2023 General Election.

Participant selection: This project aims to reach a total of **2,620 direct participants (2,220 F; 400M)** including: 1,140 (F) existing peace hut members; 680 GYW (aged 18 to 35) of these an estimated 360 GYW are current Peace Hut members, and 320 will be recruited as new members; a further 200 girls group members (aged 18-24), 200 women's group members (aged 25-35), 200 boy's group members (aged 18-25) and 200 men's group members (aged 25-35) will be engaged through the program. All

groups have been separated by age to ensure meaningful participation. Each group will be encouraged to reach out to additional individuals of their respective age group through advocacy and peer-to-peer engagements, with a view to targeting **and 2,560 in-direct participants (1,280 M and 1280 F)** over the 2 years. The approach will focus on intersectionality and bring on board the voices of GYW in marginalized positions in a safe space. Participants will be identified through the implementing partners' networks and drawn from the communities across the target counties.

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

Recipient organizations and implementing partners PIL will act as the recipient and convening organization for coordination of the project. Implementing partners include local CSO's: WOSI, RWGP and We4Self. All three CSO's are women-led with a female executive director and their mandates are women and girl focused. Their strategies are well aligned to this proposed initiative, with a strong focus on women and girl's empowerment, response to SGBV, economic empowerment through IGAs and peacebuilding. The three implementing partners are strategically placed within the counties of operation for decentralization of partners outside the capital and stronger linkages with the project locations. This will enhance sustainability of project actions. Selected implementing partners have knowledge of the local context, specifically within the target locations as they are based on the ground in the communities. While the partners have strong community presence and expertise in local programming for girls and young women, they are in need of strengthened operational capacity. PIL will support these implementing partners with ongoing skills and capacity strengthening throughout the life of the project, linking the partners with other ongoing skills trainings provided by PIL for implementing partners on other current projects. WANEP will be engaged as a strategic partner due to their strong expertise in peacebuilding, particularly at national level and their connections to Peace Huts and women-led organizations across the country through their Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) program. WANEP will undertake specific activities particularly trainings in advocacy and lobbying.

Agency	Total budget in previous calendar year	Key sources of budget (which donors etc.)	Location of in-country offices	No. of existing staff, of which in project zones	Highlight any existing expert staff of relevance to project
Plan International	11,727,464 USD	Global Fund, USAID, Irish Aid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands, UNFPA, Plan International Sponsorship funding	Monrovia, Bomi, Nimba, Lofa and Margibi.	CO: 79 Bomi: 14 Nimba: 22 Lofa: 9	Gender Equality & Social Inclusion Advisor; Child Protection, Safeguarding & Youth Engagement Advisor; Economic Empowerment Advisor Disaster Risk Management Advisor; Partnerships Advisor
Implementing partners: WOSI	104,000 USD	IRC, Oxfam	Montserrado, Lofa, and Sinoe	Montserrado: 7 Lofa: 4 Sinoe: 3	Finance, M&E Officer, Program Officer.
RWGP	44,000 USD	Irish Aid, through IRC	Nimba	Nimba: 7	Youth, Gender Based Violence and Gender equality expertise
We4Self	344,467 USD	Kvinna till Kvinna (KtK), International Foundation for Electoral System (IFES), UNDP, FAO, Mercy Corps	Montserrado, Sinoe, Lofa, Grand Gedeh and Grand Cape Mount and River Cess Counties	Montserrado: 20	We4self has four (4) senior-level staff and seven (7) field staff who are experts and advocates in women's economic empowerment, peace building and human rights.

a) **Project management and coordination** - PIL has strong capacity for program intervention, with a staff force of 124 employees. PIL has longstanding presence in 5 counties and operations nationwide through direct implementation and partners. The organizational structure is composed of two layers. The Country Director and senior management team including programs, finance, operations

and compliance, operate from the Country Office (CO) in Monrovia and oversee the execution of programs and advocacy. Program Units (PU) operate in core project locations and support program implementation. The program quality and technical advisors (gender inclusion, safeguarding, protection and youth engagement, economic empowerment, disaster risk management and partnerships) team are experienced in community-based programming, especially for young women.

A comprehensive group of stakeholders will be used to implement and manage this project. Implementation will be managed by a Project Manager (100%) based in the PIL CO, who will have ultimate responsibility for coordinating activities and liaising with PIL's PU staff and the three implementing partners. An M&E coordinator (100%) will oversee all M&E elements of the project. Each partner will have a Project Officer (100%), Project Account Officer (100%), M&E Officer (100%) to work on the project, while each partner's Executive Director (10%) will support the team, providing oversight and supporting engagements. Project Officers of the implementing partners will coordinate local activities and report to the Project Manager through the support of the PIL Program Implementation and Influencing Areas Managers (PIIAM) in Nimba and Lofa. The M&E Coordinator will be responsible for developing M&E tools and ensuring partner staff are equipped to use tools to monitor activities. The Project Accountant (100%) will support the partners for financial reporting and liquidation. Frequent coordination meetings between PIL and the implementing partners will take place throughout all stages of the action to enable full participation, mainstreaming of activities and facilitate lessons learned. PIL's Gender and Inclusion Technical Advisor (5%) will work with the project staff to ensure that additional measures are taken to ensure the inclusion of girls and young women, people with disabilities and those with intersecting vulnerabilities. The Child and Youth Safeguarding Technical Advisor (5%) will support the safeguarding assessment of partners and act alongside the PU manager as the safeguarding and child protection focal points.

For financial oversight the Project Manager will be supported by PIL's Project Accountant, partners' Finance Officers, as well as PIL's Grants Compliance, Monitoring & Planning Coordinator. PIL CO staff will be responsible for grant management; the business development and compliance team will ensure the timely submission of reports and liaise with the PBF National Coordinator; the Program Quality and Delivery Manager (5%) will ensure quality implementation and targets are met; the finance team will support liquidation and financial reporting; the Partnerships Advisor will support onboarding and due diligence assessments of partners; the Media and Communications Coordinator will support with the donor's communications requirements; and the People and Culture Manager will work with the CO leadership team on recruitment. The economic empowerment advisor will provide technical assistance on the economic empowerment components. Plan International Ireland (PII) will provide oversight for grant management, technical assistance in the result-based management, monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

b) **Risk management** – The identified risks will be monitored and managed on a regular basis by PIL and implementing partners to ensure that the project is on track to achieve its desired long-term and short-term objectives. The risk review will be included in the project monitoring plans.

Project specific risk	Risk level	Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)
Political instability and social unrest.	Medium	- Ongoing monitoring of changing in external context including conflict sensitive assessment. Adoption of adapting programming to allowed prompt development of adjusted activity plans and budget. Timely, information, communication with relevant Ministries.
Unfavorable climate impacting on accessibility	Low	- Timely planning of activities - Partners have presence in the county and will be responsible for carrying out activities in these locations
Security threats affect mobility and impede implementation	Low	- Plan will continue to closely monitor the security situation with local authorities and partners, and adjust implementation plans to short and medium-term security advisories.
Fraud or financial misappropriation at partner level	Low	- Plan's Risk and Compliance management system, supported by the regular financial monitoring system, will be alerted to early signals, and implement remedial measures. - Due diligence assessment will be conducted - Finance management systems that create vigorous supervision on funding

Community apathy or disengagement	Medium	- The action will provide opportunities for women, men, girls and boys to come together, plan and take ownership of their own initiatives.
Safeguarding incidents	Medium	- All PIL staff and partner's organizations will have to sign Plan Safeguarding policy, will have to nominate a safeguarding focal point, and will be mutual accountable for ensuring compliance with safeguarding standards. Safeguarding will be integrated in all initiatives. Program participants and stakeholders will be informed on safeguarding mechanisms and reporting system.
Lack of coordinated collaboration among partners	Medium	- Invest in capacity support and partnership building, face to face and remote opportunities for peer exchange and learning. Strengthen capacities to work in partnership with collaboration at different levels (local, national, regional).
Cultural beliefs and traditions (practices and restrictions)	Medium	- Work with Peace Hut members to gather information on acceptable and unacceptable norms, cultures and traditions to incorporate in project plans. - Engage traditional and religious leaders on some of the harmful effects of traditional norms and practices.
Tribalism in project participation	Low	- Work with pre-existing structures in communities and districts, and employ strategies for increased communication and collaboration.
Increased domestic violence against women and girls related to their increased empowerment	Medium	- Girls, boys, women and men will be engaged in the action to re-frame femininity and masculinity. Partners will also inquire about changes in households' attitudes as a result of the project activity and in case problems are identified, persons concerned will be referred to recognized support services.
Spread of diseases in the area of intervention delays implementation	Medium	- Implement a business continuity strategy to identify health measures to be taken, including programmatic adaptations (physical distancing, etc.). - Equip staff to work remotely and on a rotational basis. - Enforce hygiene measures (regular hand washing, wearing a mask, etc.) and physical distancing have been put in place within the organization - Disseminate Plan's COVID SOP and field visit protocol during field trips

Monitoring and evaluation - Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (PMERL) underpins Plan International's delivery of effective and accountable gender transformative programming and influencing. A PMERL framework will be developed for this action based on the results framework which depicts the causal relationship between results, outcomes, and impact and identifies the qualitative and quantitative indicators with realistic targets disaggregated as appropriate. Indicators are aligned as much as possible with the standard quality indicators applied across Plan International. This ensures that the indicators are tested, and staff are experienced with methodologies. The PMERL framework will be developed by the M&E Coordinator at the onset of the Action, establishing a common approach to monitoring and evaluating the project's indicators to ensure consistency and comparability of data. The Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat in the Office of the Resident Coordinator will review and clear all annual work and M&E plans of Plan International in accordance with its oversight responsibilities to ensure value for money of all PBF funded projects in Liberia. PIL will account for the project's direct participants through its PMERL system. Project activities will define the total number of persons to be counted. PMERL will implement a system that will account for individuals who have experienced a change in knowledge, attitudes and behaviors. Additional guidance on data collection methodologies, including gender sensitive and inclusive approaches, will also be provided by the M&E Coordinator. All data collection methodologies will be reviewed considering COVID-19 to minimize risk of transmission and remote or virtual data collection methods will be used when necessary. All monitoring and evaluation activities will respect ethical principles of data collection, including transparency with communities, do no harm, maintaining confidentiality, and collecting informed consent.

Mechanisms for M&E include:

- Baseline study to capture key data on indicators. The baseline will be composed of both qualitative and quantitative information on women and girls' safety and participation. The baseline will map hot spots for violence and vulnerable populations, existing girl and women-led groups, and identify communities that are already using approaches that mitigate GBV and their impact on communities' behavioral changes.

- The Project Manager will be responsible for overall monitoring of activities as per the work plan, using reports and regular visits, and will make modifications to the work plan to ensure attainment of results in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.
- The day-to-day monitoring will use existing PIL systems and standardized reporting formats and tools, allowing the teams to capture information in a systematic way. Data and results collected through these robust monitoring systems will not only facilitate quality reporting but also enable effective advocacy towards governments and other key actors and decision makers.
- Review/reflection meetings with participation of partners and involved stakeholders to assess overall progress, identify actual and potential challenges, re-assess risks, and identify good practices and learning. During annual M&E reflection meetings the M&E framework will be reviewed and updated along with progress towards the project indicators and targets. A monthly project review will also be conducted to monitor project progress and ensure that the project is on track and lessons learned will be documented.
- The Project Accountant will monitor the project budget expenditure compiling periodic financial reports and support relevant parties to monitor sub-granting compliance requirements. Financial monitoring will be ensured through Plan's accounting system, annual internal audits and expenditure will be subject to verification by PII Finance and Compliance Officer.
- Partner assessments will be conducted prior to implementation and will be provided with ongoing capacity strengthening, staff upskilling and monitoring throughout the project.
- An external evaluation will be carried out that will assess project effectiveness, efficiency, accountability, sustainability and impact and will describe accomplishments in achieving results and significance of project activities. Evaluation findings will be disseminated to all stakeholders to ensure visibility of project results and sharing of lessons learned.
- PIL will ensure that partners and external consultants will be sufficiently skilled to manage all project data ethically and confidentially

Project exit strategy/ sustainability - PIL has been working with peace huts in Liberia since 2019, this project will build on and strengthened the outcomes from both previous and current work. The project is aligned with PIL country strategy and Plan's gender transformative approach which tackles the root causes of gender inequality and aims to reshape unequal gender and power relations to achieve the full realization of girls' rights and equality between all children, young people and adults regardless of their gender. It aims to improve the condition of girls and women while advancing their position and value in society, supporting girls and women to be able to make informed choices and decisions and to act upon these free from fear or threat of punishment. PIL and local partners are strongly positioned to deliver maximum impact under this project. All partners have a long-term presence in country including strong and long-term engagement with the national and local authorities, relevant civil society organizations and a large number of local communities. Capacity strengthening for women-led partners will support institutional growth for continued interventions. The project is designed to collaborate with existing peace huts, groups and networks, helping them to act with greater impact and coordination on their own priorities. The project will foster linkages between project participants, relevant stakeholders, existing women's networks and mechanisms at all levels to ensure local ownership. The inclusion of the relevant State Ministries, Departments and Agencies in the entire process will enhance sustainability. The strengthening of collaboration between peace huts and district and county level peacebuilding mechanisms will ensure efforts are sustained after the intervention phases out. The viability of the peace huts will be ensured through practical actions including the introduction of girls and young women into the structures who will be supported to take on active roles and leadership positions. Furthermore, through supporting income generating activities and enhancing the livelihoods of peace hut members the project will further strengthen their viability and contribute to sustained outcomes. At the end of project close out meetings will be held with all relevant stakeholders facilitated by the implementing partners with oversight from PIL.

Annex A.1 : Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question	Yes	No	Comment
Planning			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	X		All partners have been identified. There was a change in partner selection from the concept note, as based on Plan International standards, some of the partners did not meet some of the necessary criteria. During our initial due diligence assessments, it was observed that the partners did not have a strong presence in the counties, a key consideration for project sustainability. Hence, there was a reselection of partners with presence in close proximity to project locations. Partners are in the process of PIL's full due diligence assessment before final partnership selection.
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission	X		TOR were developed and position advertise before the start of the project
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	X		Project location have been identified
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence of the project? Please state when this was done or when it will be done.	X		This is partially complete. Peace Hut members in three counties were consulted on the process and proposal development, as have county government stakeholders in Nimba and Bong. This was completed during a visit to these counties on the 8 th to the 10 th of August. National ministries have been formally informed of the project development. The MOGCCSP was also

			consulted. Local communities will be jointly sensitized on the projects on the project should the proposal be accepted.
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done? If not, what analysis remains to be done to enable implementation and proposed timeline?	X		Initial analyses were conducted through consultative meetings with the Peace Huts and discussions with partners. Existing activities with peace Huts were discussed with UN Women. PIL's previous experience and lessons learned from working with Peace Huts also informed project design/
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	X		Beneficiaries have been identified. However final beneficiaries and targeted numbers will be finalized in collaboration with partners and upon completion of the baseline.
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation site approaches, Government contribution?		X	No agreements have been finalized with Government counterparts. This will be part of the set up and start-up phase. Ministries will participate in some joint monitoring of implementation.
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?		X	No clear arrangements have been finalized with the implementing partners However, all partners have been consulted and have reviewed the project design and approach.
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?		N/A	
Gender			
10. Did UN gender expertise inform the design of the project (e.g. has a gender adviser/expert/focal point or UN Women colleague provided input)?	X		Yes, two colleagues at UN Women provide input into the design of the project. UN Women is the primary supporter to Peace Huts in Liberia. UN Women colleagues provided details on their current portfolio and clarified that the gaps identified in this proposal design concurred with

11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?		X		the gaps identified in their programming. Consultations were held with Peace Hut women and girls to inform the project design. Consultations with women-led CSO's also informed the project design.
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?		X		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?		X		

Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question	Yes	No	Project Comment
1. Does the project have a budget narrative justification, which provides additional project specific information on any major budget choices or higher than usual staffing, operational or travel costs, so as to explain how the project ensures value for money?	X		
2. Are unit costs (e.g. for travel, consultancies, procurement of materials etc.) comparable with those used in similar interventions (either in similar country contexts, within regions, or in past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.	X		Unit costs are standardized informed by PIL's programming and are comparable within the country context.
3. Is the proposed budget proportionate to the expected project outcomes and to the scope of the project (e.g. number, size and remoteness of geographic zones and number of proposed direct and indirect beneficiaries)? Provide any comments.	X		Yes, the budget is proportionate, to the project outcomes
4. Is the percentage of staffing and operational costs by the Receiving UN Agency and by any implementing partners clearly visible and reasonable for the context (i.e. no more than 20% for staffing, reasonable operational costs, including travel and direct operational costs) unless well justified in narrative section?	X		
5. Are staff costs proportionate to the amount of work required for the activity? And is the project using local rather than international staff/expertise wherever possible? What is the justification for use of international staff, if applicable?	X		The project staff is comprised of mostly CSO staff of whom are nationals, and all recruited direct project staff from PIL will be Liberian.

6. Does the project propose purchase of materials, equipment and infrastructure for more than 15% of the budget? If yes, please state what measures are being taken to ensure value for money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.		X	
7. Does the project propose purchase of a vehicle(s) for the project? If yes, please provide justification as to why existing vehicles/ hire vehicles cannot be used.	X		Motorbikes will be procured to facilitate movement by both PIL and partner staff. This is more cost effective than using a vehicle and driver due to increasing fuel and maintenance costs and lack of road infrastructure in Liberia.
8. Do the implementing agencies or the UN Mission bring any additional non-PBF source of funding/ in-kind support to the project? Please explain what is provided. And if not, why not.		X	PIL will provide additional staff expertise and labor for implementation of the project.

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

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

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

AA Functions

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

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

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

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

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

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

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Semi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist

Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

Financial reporting and timeline

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

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

31 July	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

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

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

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

Public Disclosure

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

Annex B.2: Project Administrative arrangements for Non-UN Recipient Organizations

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

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient Non-United Nations Organization:

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be

administered by each recipient in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will have full responsibility for ensuring that the Activity is implemented in accordance with the signed Project Document;

In the event of a financial review, audit or evaluation recommended by PBSO, the cost of such activity should be included in the project budget;

Ensure professional management of the Activity, including performance monitoring and reporting activities in accordance with PBSO guidelines.

Ensure compliance with the Financing Agreement and relevant applicable clauses in the Fund MOU.

Reporting:

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

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Bi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

Financial reports and timeline

Timeline	Event
28 February	Annual reporting – Report Q4 expenses (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
30 April	Report Q1 expenses (January to March)
31 July	Report Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Report Q3 expenses (January to September)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</i>	

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the Administrative Agent, no later than three months (31 March) of the year following the completion of the activities.

Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the Recipient Non-UN Recipient Organization will be determined in accordance with applicable policies and procedures defined by the PBSO.

Public Disclosure

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

Final Project Audit for non-UN recipient organization projects

An independent project audit will be requested by the end of the project. The audit report needs to be attached to the final narrative project report. The cost of such activity must be included in the project budget.

Special Provisions regarding Financing of Terrorism

Consistent with UN Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism, including UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and 1267 (1999) and related resolutions, the Participants are firmly committed to the international fight against terrorism, and in particular, against the financing of terrorism. Similarly, all Recipient Organizations recognize their obligation to comply with any applicable sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council. Each of the Recipient Organizations will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement are not used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime. If, during the term of this agreement, a Recipient Organization determines that there are credible allegations that funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement have been used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime it will as soon as it becomes aware of it inform the head of PBSO, the Administrative Agent and the donor(s) and, in consultation with the donors as appropriate, determine an appropriate response.

Non-UN recipient organization (NUNO) eligibility:

In order to be declared eligible to receive PBF funds directly, NUNOs must be assessed as technically, financially and legally sound by the PBF and its agent, the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO). Prior to submitting a finalized project document, it is the responsibility of each NUNO to liaise with PBSO and MPTFO and provide all the necessary documents (see below) to demonstrate that all the criteria have been fulfilled and to be declared as eligible for direct PBF funds.

The NUNO must provide (in a timely fashion, ensuring PBSO and MPTFO have sufficient time to review the package) the documentation demonstrating that the NUNO:

- Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation.
- Has a current valid registration as a non-profit, tax exempt organization with a social based mission in both the country where headquarter is located and in country of project implementation for the duration of the proposed grant. (NOTE: If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project, in order to receive subsequent funding tranches).
- Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant.
- Commissions audited financial statements, available for the last two years, including the auditor opinion letter. The financial statements should include the legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the country of implementation, if applicable) as well as the

activities of the country of implementation. (**NOTE:** If these are not available for the country of proposed project implementation, the CSO will also need to provide the latest two audit reports for a program or project-based audit in country.) The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is part of the nationally qualified audit firms.

- Demonstrates an annual budget in the country of proposed project implementation for the previous two calendar years, which is at least twice the annualized budget sought from PBF for the project.²¹
- Demonstrates at least 3 years of experience in the country where grant is sought.
- Provides a clear explanation of the CSO's legal structure, including the specific entity which will enter into the legal agreement with the MPTF-O for the PBF grant.

²¹ Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of project duration months and multiplying by 12.

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

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<p>Outcome 1: Girls and young women are actively participating in peacebuilding processes</p> <p>(SDG 5 and 16)</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>		<p>Outcome Indicator 1a % of targeted girls and young women (age 18-35) engaged in peacebuilding initiatives</p> <p>Baseline: 62%</p> <p>Target: 80% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p>	Baseline and endline reports, progress reports (Biannually)	Validated bi-annual project progress report, annual project progress report and end of project report
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1b # of GYW groups are active and carrying out own advocacy initiatives</p> <p>Baseline: 11 GYW Groups Ages 18-35yrs</p> <p>Target: 16 groups</p>	Participant's listings, monthly activity plans, number of actions activity report (Annually)	Project annual and monitoring visit report submitted and after action reports.
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1c # of GYW groups that collaborate effectively with relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Baseline: 6 GYW Groups Ages 18-35yrs</p> <p>Target: 16 groups</p>	Monthly activity plans, after action activity reports (Annually)	Project annual and monitoring visit report submitted and after action reports.
		<p>Output 1.1 GYW are trained in soft and life skills for participation in Peace Huts</p> <p>Output Indicator 1.1.1 % of GYW (18 to 35) who participate in at least 75% of peace huts meetings</p> <p>Baseline: 21% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p> <p>Target: 50% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p>	Peace Hut meeting attendants listing, membership directory, monitoring visit report (Quarterly)	Quarterly monitoring visit report submitted, approved Peace Huts membership directory submitted.
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2 # of GYW who report enhanced skills and confidence to engage as active members in peace huts</p> <p>Baseline: 59% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p> <p>Target: 80% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p>	Training reports, results of participant's pre and post-test, participant survey (Quarterly)	Copy of training reports submitted, participant survey submitted.
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3 % of GYW identified as deputies for leadership positions</p> <p>Baseline: 33% GYW ages 18-35yrs</p>	Peace Hut membership directory, disaggregated by age and responsibility (Biannually)	Approved Peace Hut directory submitted.

Outcome 2: Active participation of peace hut and community members to promote an enabling environment that encourages social cohesion (SDG 5, 10 and 16) (Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)	Output 1.2 Fostered alliances between girls/young women's groups, peace huts and community peacebuilding networks	Target: 40% GYW ages 18-35yrs	Training report, participants listing (Biannually)	Approved training report submitted
		Output Indicator 1.2.1 # of GYW groups' members (18-24) (25-35) with increased capacity in advocacy, influencing and community mobilization skills Baseline: 28 (GYW age 18-24) 27 (GYW age 25-35) Target: 216 (20% OF 1080 GYW MEMBERS)		
		Output Indicator 1.2.2 # of GYW groups' members (18-24) (25-35) with improved skills in conflict resolution Baseline: 14 (GYW age 18-24) 25 (GYW age 25-35)" Target: 216 (20% OF 1080 GYW MEMBERS)	Training report and participants listing (Biannually)	Approved training report submitted
		Output Indicator 1.2.3 # of advocacy and networking initiatives carried out by GYW groups Baseline: 0 Target: 1 initiative per group, per quarter	Grant application, copy of MOU for small grant award and initiative activity report (Quarterly)	Approved training report submitted, copy of approved
		Outcome Indicator 2a # of joint peacebuilding initiatives conducted by the county peacebuilding structures in collaboration with Peace Hut members Baseline: 7 Target: 8	Copy of report on local level conflict resolution (Biannually)	Validated biannual project progress report, annual project progress report and end of project report
		Outcome Indicator 2b # of county stakeholders report's reflecting Peace Hut's activities and joint collaborations Baseline: 3 Target: 6	County stakeholder's reports (Biannually)	Validated biannual project progress report, annual project progress report and end of project report

	Outcome Indicator 2c # of community level initiatives undertaken and supported in respective communities Baseline: 0 Target: 2	Copy of County Peacebuilding Council Committee Membership listing/directory (Biannually)	Project report submitted
		Focus Groups Discussion meeting with peace hut members and county council security members (Biannually)	Project report and key FGD meetings minutes submitted
		Project report and monitoring report (Annually)	Project report submitted
Output 2.1 Strengthened collaboration between peace huts district and county level peacebuilding structures	Output Indicator 2.1.1 # of Peace Hut representatives and county peacebuilding members have increased knowledge and skills in mitigating disputes and electoral early warning Baseline: 26 Target: 48	Output Indicator 2.1.2 # of electoral early warning and risk mitigation mechanisms strengthened/established for referrals from Peace Huts to district and county level structures Baseline: 2 Target: 4	Minutes and attendance submitted and validated
Output 2.2 Increased community engagement and support for Peace Hut initiatives	Output Indicator 2.2.1 # of Peace Hut representatives actively engage in county peacebuilding structure's meetings Baseline: 24 Target: 32	Meeting minutes and attendance (Quarterly)	Project report submitted
	Output Indicator 2.2.1 # of jointly organized activities between Peace Huts and communities Baseline: 6 Target: 16	Copy of community leader report and Key Informant Interview with community leaders (Quarterly)	Data collection developed, validated and submitted for annually data collection
	Output Indicator 2.2.2 # of BYM's groups' members (18-35) with increased knowledge and skills in Engaging Men in Accountable Practices (EIMAP) Baseline: 0 Target: 400 BYM ages 18-35	Meetings minutes, reports attendant listing (Annually)	

<p>Outcome 3: Peace hut members have skills and capacity to mediate, mitigate and manage conflicts to sustain peace in their groups and their communities (SDG 5 and 16)</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>		<p>Outcome Indicator 3a # of Peace Hut members engaged in dispute resolution at community level</p> <p>Baseline: 643</p> <p>Target: 912</p>	<p>KII interview with relevant local peace building actors (Biannually)</p>	<p>Project report submitted</p>
	<p>Output 3.1 Increased capacity of peace hut members to carry out peacebuilding work at community levels</p>	<p>Outcome Indicator 3b # of Peace Huts with improved financial viability</p> <p>Baseline: 1</p> <p>Target: 8</p>	<p>Increase in income/revenue through annual accounts (Biannually)</p>	<p>Project report submitted</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 3.1.1 # of peace huts members (F aged 18+) with increased capacity and skills for peacebuilding and dispute resolution</p> <p>Baseline: 77</p> <p>Target: 228</p>	<p>Training pre and post test results and attendance listing (Quarterly)</p>	<p>Pre and post test results, attendants and training report submitted</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2 # of Peace Hut annual reflection meetings</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 2</p>	<p>Meeting minutes, attendance sheets (Annually)</p>	<p>Activity report validated and submitted</p>
	<p>Output 3.2 Enhanced sustainability of peace huts and CSOs</p>	<p>Output Indicator 3.2.1 # of peace hut's supported with renovations/construction</p> <p>Baseline: 1</p> <p>Target: 8</p>	<p>Renovation/construction report and pictures (Annually)</p>	<p>Activity reports validated and submitted</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 3.2.2 # of Peace Huts supported with IGA activities</p> <p>Baseline: 3</p> <p>Target: 8</p>	<p>Funding application, activity report, pre and post-tests, training reports (Annually)</p>	<p>Activity reports submitted and validated</p>
		<p>Output Indicator 3.2.3 # implementing partners supported with capacity strengthening activities</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 3</p>	<p>Training report, participants listings, pre and post-tests (Annually)</p>	<p>Training report submitted and validated</p>

For MPTFO Use

Budget Category Description	Original Budget (USD)	Movement of savings (USD)	Revised Budget (USD)	% Budget change per outcome + output
1. Staff and other personnel	153,815.62	(7,409.43)	146,406.19	95%
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	187,170.00	(3,635.40)	183,534.60	98%
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	35,800.00	(8,834.87)	26,965.13	75%
4. Contractual services	55,827.02	78,812.54	134,639.56	241%
5. Travel	122,570.00	(4,334.45)	118,235.55	96%
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	594,461.00	(37,826.11)	556,634.89	94%
7. General Operating and other Costs	65,309.63	(16,772.28)	48,537.35	74%
Subtotal	1,214,953.27	0.00	1,214,953.27	
7% Indirect Costs	85,046.73		85,046.73	
TOTAL	1,300,000.00		1,300,000.00	100%

Performance-Based Tranche Breakdown		
Plan International Liberia	Trench Amount	Trench %
First Tranche:	455,000.00	35%
Second Tranche:	455,000.00	35%
Third Tranche:	390,000.00	30%
TOTAL	1,300,000.00	