

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



United Nations
Peacebuilding

PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

Country(ies): CAMEROON	
Project Title: FOSTERING A PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT DURING THE 2005 – 2027 ELECTORAL CYCLE IN IN CAMEROON	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):	
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:
List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed by type of organization (UN, CSO etc.): UNDP UNESCO UNWOMEN List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO): Elections Cameroon (ELECAM), Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT), Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC), Ministry of Women and Family Affairs (MINPROFF)	
Project duration in months^{1 2}: 18 Months (July 2025 to January 2027) Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation: 10 regions with priority focus on identified violence hotspots (North-West, South-West, Far North, West, Littoral and Adamaoua regions)	
Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative ³ <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative ⁴ <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): UNDP: \$950,000 UNESCO: \$ 300,000 UNWOMEN: \$ 250,000 Total: \$ 1,500,000	

¹ Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 24 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

² 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.

³ Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Gender Promotion Initiative

⁴ Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Youth Promotion Initiative

**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.*

Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):

PBF 1st tranche (70%):	PBF 2nd tranche* (30%):	
UNDP: \$ 665,000	UNDP: \$ 285,000	XXX XXX
UNESCO: \$ 210,000	UNESCO: \$ 90,000	XXX: XXX
UN Women: \$ 175,000	UN Women: \$ 75,000	XXX: XXX
Total: \$ 1050,000	Total: \$ 450,000	

Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs):

Considering the specific context, the NAM's recommendations, and the strategic guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator in Cameroon, UNDP led a consultative approach among the different agencies potentially involved in the electoral process. A task force comprising focal points from UNDP, UN Women, IOM, OHCHR, UNESCO, and UNFPA was established to ensure better coordination and coherence of the United Nations System's (UNS) electoral assistance to Cameroon.

Furthermore, the project aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) 2022–2026 for Cameroon, which provides the overarching framework for UN development cooperation in line with national development priorities. It covers support for elections through institutional capacity building and the promotion of citizen participation (Strategic Priority 3).

Based on the findings and recommendations of the NAM and the decision of the system-wide UN focal point for elections, a broader "UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027" initiative has been established. Its objective is to contribute to a climate of trust among key electoral stakeholders, a peaceful environment, to strengthen the capacity of ELECAM staff and field agents in preparing and managing the elections, and to promote inclusive civic participation and voter education throughout the electoral process. Specifically, it aims at achieving the following objectives:

- Facilitate multi-stakeholder consultations to promote a peaceful electoral process, including through consultative platforms, joint commissions, and by targeting specific groups of stakeholders (such as political parties, law enforcement officers, religious leaders, civil society actors, the media, etc.).
- Support the strengthening of ELECAM's institutional capacity, including the training of ELECAM staff and officials for better preparation, alignment, and organization of election management.
- Promote inclusion, citizen participation, and civic education for all stakeholders in the electoral process, particularly women, youth, Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) the media, persons with disabilities, and socially vulnerable persons.

The PBF-funded project "Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon" will contribute to selected areas of intervention of the broader "UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027".

Under PBF funding, UN interventions will focus on areas of intervention (a) and (c), with the aim of contributing to fostering a peaceful and inclusive environment during the electoral process (more specifically addressing the risks of electoral violence), as well as promoting social cohesion through the promotion of inclusion and access to reliable information, while addressing hate speech and misinformation and disinformation.

More specifically, the following activities will be implemented with PBF funding:

- Strengthening social cohesion through the promotion of an inclusive environment that enhances the participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWD), IDPs, ethnic minorities, and indigenous populations in the electoral process.
- Establishing and Strengthening Early Warning and Mediation Mechanisms to identify and address potential election-related conflicts, focusing on identified hotspots and leveraging the roles of women, youth, and community organizations.
- Addressing Hate Speech, Disinformation, and Fake News to mitigate the impact of harmful information on the electoral process by promoting accurate information and critical media consumption.

The project will also generate an analysis of conflicts, stakeholders, as well as the geographic mapping of these existing conflicts to inform strategies to prevent election-related violence and diffuse potentials of conflict escalation in identified hotspots (North-West, South-West, Far North, West, Littoral, and Adamaoua regions).

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):

The project has undergone many stages of consultations. These started with the Needs Assessment Mission (NAM), which conducted consultations with institutional actors, political parties (government, parliamentary and non-parliamentary opposition), civil society organizations, traditional and religious leaders, bilateral and regional partners to evaluate the current electoral environment, the legal and institutional framework governing the electoral process and the capacity and needs of the various election stakeholders, with a view to make recommendations for UN electoral assistance, including the length of assistance, and modalities that govern such assistance.

After the NAM, other consultations were conducted between the UN and ELECAM and the same was extended to civil society organizations and Government ministries to explore areas of interventions and implementation strategies in alignment with the context in Cameroon. Furthermore, during his March 2025 visit, UNOCA SRSG engaged with political actors from across the Government and the opposition, civil society organizations (including women, youth, PWDs), traditional and religious leaders to garner feedback on the UN's technical assistance to the electoral process.

The broader "UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027" will capitalize on the gains of PBF-247 project, which supported the establishment of consultation platforms, which aimed at fostering continuous and peaceful dialogue among electoral stakeholders before, during, and after the elections around key issues related to the electoral process. It seeks to promote mutual understanding of stakeholders' roles, provide a neutral platform for exchanging concerns and solutions, and build trust through strengthened dialogue pathways. Additionally, it encourages joint efforts to address electoral integrity, mitigate risks, and boost civic participation, while also identifying and validating thematic priorities for sustained multi-stakeholder collaboration.

In terms of governance, the PBF-funded project "Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon" will fall under the coordination of the wider "UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027" intervention.

Its dedicated Steering Committee is co-chaired by the President of ELECAM and the UN Resident Coordinator, supported by the UNDP Resident representative. Members of the Steering Committee are ELECAM, Financing Partners and Implementing Agencies. Relevant non-financing partners and agencies can be invited as observers.

Project Gender Marker score⁵: GEN2

Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment: 40%

Briefly explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment ⁶:

The Project will specifically implement the following interventions:

- Support the participation of women in the electoral process either as voters or candidates.
- Capacity building of women and youth to prevent election-related conflicts and violence (Early Warning and Community/Insider Mediation; 50 - 50).
- Consideration of at least 35 per cent of women media professionals in activities involving information integrity during the electoral process.
- Mobilizing women for civic and political education (at least 30 %).

Project Risk Marker score⁷: 2

Is the project piloting new approaches: Yes ☒ No ☐

Does the project design incorporate climate, peace and security related considerations: Yes ☒ No ☐

Select PBF Focus Areas which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*) ⁸:

(2.3) Conflict prevention/management.

If applicable, SDCF/UNSDCF/UNDAF outcome(s) to which the project contributes:

- UN Cooperation Framework 2022 – 2026:
Outcome 3: By 2026, young people, women, the most vulnerable groups, people living with disabilities, including refugees and internally displaced populations (IDPs), actively contribute to the effectiveness of policies and the performance of public institutions at national, regional and communal level, and fully enjoy their rights (SDGs 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17).

Sustainable Development Goal(s) and Target(s) to which the project contributes:

- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

⁵ 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)

⁶ Please consult the **PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding**

⁷ Risk marker 0 = low risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

⁸ 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)

<p>Type of submission:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New project</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project amendment</p>	<p>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</p> <p>Extension of duration: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date):</p> <p>Change of project outcome/ scope: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Additional PBF budget: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX</p> <p>Brief justification for amendment:</p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
--	--

81 01 12/18

PROJECT SIGNATURES:

<p>Recipient Organization(s)⁹</p> <p>Mathieu Ciowela</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>UNDP Date & Seal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">05 AOUT 2025</p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities</p> <p>Dr. Eri Essoussse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Director-General of Elections (ELECAM) Date & Seal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">06 AOUT 2025</p>
<p>Hilaire Mputu P.O.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>UNESCO Date & Seal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">06/08/2025</p>	<p>ENOW Abrams Egbe</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Director-General of Elections (ELECAM) Date & Seal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">06 AOUT 2025</p>
<p>Marie-Pierre Raky Chuupin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>UN WOMEN Date & Seal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">05/08/2025</p>	<p>Head of UN Country Team</p> <p>Issa Sanogo</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">05-08-2025</p> <p>Resident Coordinator Date & Seal</p>
<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</p> <p>Elizabeth Spehar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Redacted Signature]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 August 2025</p> <p>Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support Date & Seal</p>	

⁹ Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

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

- a) A brief summary of gender-responsive **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.

Political Context

The political landscape has been dominated by the Cameroon People's Democratic Movement (CPDM), since its creation in 1985. CPDM controls key institutions of the Government in the executive, legislative, and judiciary branches at national, regional and local levels. For instance, the CPDM currently holds 149 of 180 seats in the National Assembly. The rest of the seats are held by the National Union for Democracy and Progress - NUDP (7), Social Democratic Front - SDF (6) led by Joshua Osih, Cameroon Party for National Reconciliation - CPNR (5) Cameroon Democratic Union - CDU (4) Front for the National Salvation of Cameroon (CNSF) led by Issa Tchiroma Bakary and affiliated with the ruling party (3) Movement for the Defense of the Republic - MDR (2) Union of Socialist Movements - USM (2). In the 100-seat senate, the CPDM holds 94 seats, while the remaining six seats are shared by NUDP (1), SDF (1), CNSF (1), MDR (1), the Alliance for Democracy and Development NADP (1), and UPC (1).

There are currently 369 legally registered political parties, 40 of which were authorized by the Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT) on 9 November 2023. Criteria for the authorization of the 40 political parties are unclear, causing political commentators and the opposition to label the move as a move to control the political arena in favor of the ruling majority. It is unclear, though, how many of the registered parties are from the opposition. They remain highly fragmented and attempts to federate the opposition have remained fruitless either because of the heavy hand of the Government or because of strong divergence among them. The notion of political opposition remains largely relative in Cameroon depending on how close the so-called opposition parties are with the ruling party or not.

The main political actors in Cameroon include President Paul Biya, who has been in power since 1982 and leads the CPDM; Maurice Kamto, the leader of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (MRC) and came second in the 2018 presidential election; Joshua Osih, the successor of John Frun Ndi at the help of the Social Democratic Front (SDF); Cabral Libii of the *Parti Camerounais pour la Réconciliation Nationale* (PCRN).

Other prominent figures in Cameroonian politics include Mr. Robert Kona, the founding father of the PCRN, who has been locked into legal battles against Cabral Libii over the leadership of the PCRN. Jean Michel Nintcheu, leader of the *Front for Change in Cameroon* (FCC) and Olivier Bile of *Alliance politique pour la transition* (APT), whose movements have been outlawed by the Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT) earlier this year. It is not clear how many political parties will be allowed to compete in the local, legislative and regional elections as well as the presidential elections.

It is against this background that the country is moving into the electoral process. According to the Electoral Code, the electoral calendar is as follows:

- a. Municipal and legislative elections:
 - i. Convocation of the electorate: no later than October 29, 2024.
 - ii. Election day: no later than February 09, 2025 (Postponed to February 2026).

- b. Presidential Elections:
 - i. Convocation of the electorate: from June 15 to July 17, 2025
 - ii. Election day: no later than October 16, 2025.
- c. Elections of regional councilors:
 - i. Convocation of the electorate: no later than September 2, 2025
 - ii. Election day: no later than December 2, 2025

Peacebuilding

Conflict and Armed Groups:

The Cameroon's 2018 presidential election unfolded in a context of mounting political tension and deep-seated grievances, particularly in the Anglophone Northwest and Southwest regions. President Paul Biya's ruling CPDM leveraged its longstanding control over state institutions, leading to accusations of an uneven playing field. The electoral body, ELECAM, faced criticism for lacking independence, while allegations of vote-buying, ballot stuffing, and biased administrative practices further undermined the process. These credibility issues deepened public distrust and heightened the risk of electoral disputes, especially in regions already feeling politically and economically marginalized.

In the Anglophone regions, separatist groups viewed the 2018 presidential election as illegitimate and sought to disrupt it through violence, including threats, kidnappings, and arson targeting civilians, politicians, and electoral officials. Government forces responded with heavy military presence, resulting in clashes, civilian deaths, and further displacement. Voter turnout in these areas was alarmingly low, with many polling stations deserted due to insecurity. The elections, rather than promoting democratic inclusion, exacerbated the Anglophone crisis, highlighting the dangers of conducting elections in volatile regions without addressing root causes of conflict and grievances.

The aftermath of the 2018 elections saw growing ethno-political polarization, particularly between supporters of President Biya and opposition candidate Maurice Kamto, who claimed victory and faced a government crackdown along with his supporters, many of whom were arrested. The arrest of Kamto and the suppression of his supporters ignited further unrest, while hate speech and online incitement deepened communal tensions. These developments exposed the fragility of Cameroon's democratic framework and the urgent need for electoral reforms, enhanced institutional independence, and the holding of a national dialogue. Without inclusive and credible electoral processes, elections risk aggravating instability rather than fostering legitimacy and cohesion.

By the 2020 legislative and municipal elections, the crisis had deepened. The Anglophone conflict intensified with separatists enforcing a boycott through violence, while government forces accused of reportedly committing widespread abuses. Simultaneously, insecurity in the Far North, due to Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), limited electoral participation in affected locations. Ballot fraud allegations, displacement, and military interference further marred the process. Despite promises of decentralization and reform, the elections failed to rebuild public trust, consolidate peace, or deliver democratic renewal, instead reinforcing the dominance of the ruling CPDM and the structural flaws in Cameroon's political system.

Cameroon's recent electoral cycles have highlighted the deep interconnection between perceived flaws in democratic processes and rising insecurity. The 2018 and 2020 elections revealed persistent challenges – ranging from institutional bias and political repression to electoral violence and armed conflict – that continue to undermine the legitimacy of the electoral process. In the absence of

consensual reforms, elections risk further entrenching division and instability rather than promoting national unity and democratic progress.

The MRC party leader Maurice Kamto has, on the occasion of the signature of the convention of partnerships between ELECAM and the UN on “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027”, strongly criticized ELECAM for its refusal to reform the Electoral Code, which ELECAM itself recognized as necessary following the 2018 presidential election, as well as for its refusal “to comply with the Electoral Code in force, whose provisions it blithely and obstinately violates, as illustrated emblematically by the non-publication of the national electoral list by the Director General of Elections, in clear and assumed violation of Article 80 of the electoral law”.

Intercommunal Tensions

It is important to note that elections have also been a significant catalyst for intercommunal violence in several regions. In the Far North, electoral competition has contributed to the resurgence of longstanding tensions between Arab Choa pastoralists and indigenous farming and fishing communities such as the Kotoko and Mosgoum. Electoral competition often serves as a dangerous accelerant for intercommunal violence, particularly in regions where socio-political grievances and identity-based divisions are deeply rooted. Far from being neutral democratic exercises, elections are widely perceived as high-stakes contests in which victory translates into privileged access to state power, development opportunities, and political appointments. In such an environment, political actors frequently resort to mobilizing ethnic, regional, or religious loyalties to build electoral support, thereby transforming political campaigns into arenas of communal rivalry. This phenomenon has been observed in the Far North region – particularly in Logone-Birni and Blangoua – where historical tensions between Arab Choa pastoralists and Musgum or Kotoko fishing and farming communities have been reignited during electoral seasons. Politicians, seeking to secure their base, often align with their ethnic constituencies, reinforcing narratives of exclusion and group victimhood. As elections approach, these alignments harden into polarization, turning longstanding disputes over land, grazing rights, or fishing zones into violent intercommunal clashes. This has contributed to a climate of suspicion and rivalry between communities, especially during contested or poorly managed elections. In conflict-affected regions such as the Northwest and Southwest, and in certain parts of the Far North and East, elections have been accompanied by incidents of hate speech, misinformation, and even targeted violence, exacerbating existing social fractures.

Recent politicians’ claim that foreigners were allegedly enrolled by ELECAM as voters introduces a dangerous narrative into an already fragile and polarized political landscape. Politicians’s words carry significant weight, and their statements could harden xenophobic sentiments among supporters and the broader public, potentially leading to violence against those perceived as foreigners. By framing the integrity of the voters’ registration process around the presence of “foreigners,” their rhetoric implicitly casts suspicion on communities from border regions, particularly those with strong cultural or linguistic ties to neighboring countries like Chad, Nigeria, and the Central African Republic. In a context where identity politics and intercommunal tensions are already pronounced, such statements could inflame resentment, stigmatize marginalized groups, and provoke targeted hate speech. Rather than reinforcing a civic vision of Cameroonian citizenship, their approach risks amplifying exclusionary narratives that portray certain populations as infiltrators or manipulators of national sovereignty. This not only undermines social cohesion but also sets a precedent for weaponizing nationality in future political contests, with potentially violent consequences.

In the West and Centre regions, especially in towns like Sangmélina and Monatéle, electoral rivalries have similarly sparked violence between indigenous populations and perceived “outsiders.” These tensions often manifest as economic resentments layered with ethnic rhetoric, stoked during political campaigns. For instance, electoral candidates have been known to exploit anti-migrant sentiments, portraying rival ethnic groups as threats to local interests, which has in turn triggered physical attacks on businesses and homes. In the East region, towns like Batouri have experienced violence linked to disputes over mining access, which are exacerbated during elections when political elites manipulate these conflicts for electoral gains. In the Anglophone North-West and South-West regions, electoral competition has further deepened mistrust between local communities and the central government, especially where electoral processes are viewed as illegitimate or exclusionary. Here, perceived marginalization has fueled both secessionist rhetoric and intercommunal resentment, particularly in mixed areas where loyalties are divided.

The perceived inability of institutions to manage electoral disputes and the perception of weak or partial security forces in many rural and conflict-prone areas make matters worse. In these settings, grievances related to political representation or development neglect often remain unresolved, simmering until an election provides the spark for confrontation. Moreover, in urban centers like Yaoundé and Douala, political discourse is increasingly shaped by tribal allegiances, which are amplified through traditional media and social networks. These platforms are routinely used to circulate inflammatory messages and calls for ethnic solidarity, further heightening the risk of violence. Electoral competition in Cameroon, therefore, acts as a mechanism that reproduces and intensifies those divisions, often with violent consequences.

Moreover, the politicization of traditional and local authorities, uneven development, and perceptions of exclusion have deepened mistrust between communities. For instance, in the South and West regions, localized disputes over land, chieftaincy, or resource control have occasionally flared up during election seasons when competition for influence intensifies.

Climate Security Risks

Cameroon’s October 2025 presidential elections are set to unfold during the peak of the rainy season, a period increasingly marked by extreme weather events, especially in the Far North and North, Adamawa, and East, which are endemic flood-prone regions. From 2021 to 2024, the country experienced severe and recurrent flooding, affecting over 448,000 people and damaging thousands of homes, schools, and vital infrastructure. These floods not only displaced entire communities but also disrupted access to services and mobility, key components for a smooth electoral process. With electoral activities such as voter registration, distribution of materials, and polling all relying heavily on infrastructure and accessibility, climate risks now pose a tangible threat to the logistical integrity of the 2025 elections.

The convergence of climate-related disruptions and electoral processes is especially critical in vulnerable regions like the Far North, where flooding peaks between June and October. The August 2024 floods, for instance, affected hundreds of thousands and crippled critical roads and transportation systems. This overlap between election timing and environmental volatility amplifies the risk of disenfranchisement, particularly for rural and displaced populations. If not properly addressed, these climate hazards could result in delayed voting, reduced turnout, and compromised credibility of the vote. It is therefore imperative for electoral authorities to integrate climate risk assessments and disaster preparedness into planning to ensure resilience, safeguard democratic participation, and protect the electoral process from natural disruptions.

Gender and Youth Dynamics and Inclusion of Minorities in Political and Peacebuilding Processes

Gender and Inclusion

Cameroon has taken steps to promote women's participation in political and electoral processes, particularly through legal commitments and minor institutional reforms. As of 2023, women hold 33.9% of seats in the National Assembly, compared to 31.1% in 2013. They also hold 26% of seats in municipal councils. As of the 2023 electoral update, women comprise approximately 49.8% of registered voters, suggesting near-parity engagement in registration. Furthermore, the national electoral management body, Elections Cameroon (ELECAM), employs women in senior technical and administrative roles; women account for about 28% of regional and departmental electoral officers.

However, these achievements are uneven and, in many cases, merely superficial. Women are largely excluded from strategic leadership positions, executive decision-making, and party nominations for competitive constituencies. A 2022 study by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung revealed that women hold only 16% of political party executive positions across Cameroon. Major political parties, including the ruling CPDM and leading opposition groups, rarely meet internal or voluntary quotas for female candidates, and electoral lists often relegate women to lower, less electable positions. Despite constitutional guarantees of gender equality under Article 1(2) and Cameroon's ratification of CEDAW, the enforcement of legal frameworks promoting gender parity is weak, and the implementation mechanisms are poorly resourced.

Deep-rooted sociocultural norms significantly impede women's effective participation in political life. In many rural communities, particularly in the Far-North, Adamawa, East, and South-West regions, customary practices primarily assign political engagement to men, relegating women to supportive or domestic roles. In the Far-North region, only 31.65% of new registrants as of August 2024 were women, contrasting starkly with the national average of 41.3%. This disparity is further exacerbated by low female literacy rates in these regions, which hover around 35%, compared to 70% for men. Women also have limited access to civic documentation.

Women often depend on male household heads or local authorities to obtain national identity cards, which are mandatory for voter registration. The high cost (up to 8,000–10,000 FCFA unofficially) and administrative hurdles disproportionately impact poor, uneducated, and displaced women. A 2023 UN Women assessment revealed that over 40% of rural women aged 20–49 in conflict-affected regions lacked valid national identity documents.

Economic dependency further constrains women's ability to meaningfully engage in politics. Female-headed households make up about 22% of the population, and women face significantly higher rates of unemployment and underemployment. More than 70% of women work in the informal sector, which offers no social protection. These financial limitations hinder their ability to fund campaigns, access training, or travel for voter registration and civic events.

The political space remains unsafe for many women due to widespread harassment, intimidation, and gender-based violence (GBV). During the 2018 electoral cycle, the Cameroon Women's Peace Movement (CAWOPEM) documented over 70 cases of threats, online abuse, and physical attacks against female candidates and activists. Reports from civil society in 2024 indicate that female political actors continue to face coercion and threats of reputational harm when expressing dissent or contesting positions. These risks are heightened in crisis-affected regions (Northwest, Southwest, and Far North), where insecurity, displacement, and violent extremism create additional layers of vulnerability.

While social media is a potential platform for political engagement, it has also become a battleground for hate speech and misogynistic attacks against female leaders. A 2023 UNESCO study found that

over 60% of female journalists and political commentators in Cameroon experienced online violence, including smear campaigns, doxxing, and threats of sexual assault.

National institutions have introduced several gender-responsive initiatives, including awareness campaigns, voter education drives, and gender budgeting frameworks. For example, in partnership with UN Women and MINPROFF, ELECAM launched campaigns in 2022 and 2023 to boost women's registration and participation. However, these efforts are often fragmented, donor-driven, and poorly coordinated. There is a lack of sustained political will and dedicated budget lines to institutionalize gender mainstreaming in electoral governance.

The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF) is chronically underfunded, and its influence on electoral policy is minimal. The absence of an enforceable national gender quota law or a binding code of conduct for political parties undermines the effectiveness of gender parity efforts. Electoral reform discussions have largely excluded women's voices, and there is no institutionalized consultation mechanism for women's rights organizations or gender experts.

Women with intersecting identities, including those living with disabilities, internally displaced women, indigenous Mbororo and Baka women, and adolescent girls, face compounded barriers to participation. According to OCHA (2023), over 60% of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Cameroon are women and girls. Many of these IDPs live in informal settlements or host communities with limited access to documentation, security, or public services. Their exclusion from civic life increases their risk of disenfranchisement, especially in regions with volatile security conditions and limited electoral infrastructure.

In conclusion, despite incremental progress, women's full and equal participation in Cameroon's electoral process is hindered by deep-seated sociocultural barriers, economic vulnerability, and persistent insecurity.

According to the August 2024 data, PWDs make up a mere 0.09% of new registrants nationwide, reflecting continued physical, informational, and attitudinal barriers that impede their participation. Accessibility of polling stations and electoral materials remains a critical issue.

The North-West and South-West regions, which are severely affected by conflict, recorded only 3.73% and 4.76% of national new registrations, respectively. This indicates that insecurity, displacement, and fear are severely limiting the participation of residents in these areas.

Cameroon began the implementation of the Second National Action Plan (NAP II) for Women, Peace, and Security (2023–2027) which is based on the framework from the previous cycle (2018–2020) and emphasizes women's leadership and participation in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and post-conflict reconstruction. Aligned with national strategies such as Vision 2035, and the National Gender Policy, the NAP II features clear targets, including increased female representation in decision-making roles within security institutions and greater civil society involvement in implementation. A multisectoral coordination architecture anchored by MINPROFF and supported by technical and financial partners is central to operationalizing the plan. The NAP II emphasizes the importance of robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, funding allocations, and accountability frameworks to ensure progress across its four pillars: prevention, protection, participation, and relief/recovery.

Despite its ambition, the NAP II faces persistent implementation hurdles. Coordination remains weak, with overlapping mandates and limited institutional leadership undermining cohesive execution. Chronic underfunding and reliance on fragmented, donor-driven programming hinder the localization of key initiatives, such as gender-responsive budgeting and sustained civic engagement. Additionally, structural and cultural obstacles, such as patriarchal norms, insecurity in Anglophone regions, and the

limited integration of women-focused interventions into broader electoral and security frameworks, complicate efforts to translate NAP commitments into tangible outcomes. Overcoming these challenges and realizing the NAP's transformative potential requires robust political will, coherent resourcing, and strengthened coordination.

Youth Participation

Cameroon has a predominantly youthful demographic. Around 60% of the population is young, and 35% are above the legal voting age of 20, amounting to roughly 65% of the total population eligible to vote¹⁰. As of August 31, 2024, Cameroon's electoral register recorded a total of 8,116,960 registered voters, comprising 4,376,120 men (53.91%) and 3,740,840 women (46.09%). Between January 2 and August 31, 2024, 755,085 new voters were registered, including 443,270 men (58.7%) and 311,815 women (41.3%). Notably, 489,869 of these new registrants were youth aged 20 to 35, representing 64.88% of new voters, while 654 were people with disabilities, accounting for 0.09%¹¹.

With a population of around 30 million, and around 8 million people on the voters' registry, Cameroon suffers from a systemic voters' apathy. Voter apathy in Cameroon, particularly among youth, represents a significant issue concerning democratic participation and representation. While youth are considered future leaders, their widespread disengagement reflects systemic challenges, including lack of youth-friendly policies, limited political space, and socio-economic hardships like unemployment and poor access to education and healthcare, which create a sense of exclusion and disillusionment. This situation is exacerbated by a prevailing perception that elections are rigged, leading many young people to believe their votes do not matter. Civil society has been calling ELECAM to do more to understand and address these barriers by actively engaging youth and building trust in the electoral system. Rather than succumb to cynicism, young Cameroonians (particularly the digitally savvy "Gen Z") are to be encouraged to use technology and innovation to reshape the political landscape and advocate for change.

Despite their apathy to the electoral process, young people, including those aged 18 years and below, are increasingly being drawn into electoral processes in Cameroon. Politicians often use young people in rallies and young people also serve within their "digital armies" spreading their messages as well as fake news and hate speech. Youth are both key targets and active participants in the spread and consumption of electoral disinformation and hate speech, particularly through social media platforms. With high digital engagement among young people, especially in urban areas (Douala, Yaoundé, Bafoussam, and other regional metropolis), false narratives, manipulated content, and ethnically charged rhetoric are rapidly disseminated, influencing political perceptions and fueling mistrust in electoral institutions. The lack of media literacy, coupled with limited access to verified information and civic education, and the increasingly polarized media makes many young people in Cameroon vulnerable to online manipulation. This environment threatens the fragile national cohesion through the dissemination of hate speech with ethnic and xenophobic undertones, which has resulted in exacerbating ethnic divides by feeding into pre-existing intercommunal tensions and violence and/or creating new tensions and violence hotspots along ethnic lines during electoral processes. Youth are also often mobilized by politicians to in rallies, campaign trails, and protests, where violence and vandalism sometimes occur, exposing them to legal repercussions, injury, and even death in case of violent protests

¹⁰ <https://mddtcameroon.org/projects/engaging-youths-in-civic-participation-and-democratic-processes>

¹¹ Source : ELECAM Voters' data as of 31 August 2024.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC), and in the framework of the PBF project “Civic education”, national authorities held consultations for the finalization of the first YPS national plan in Cameroon. In June / July 2025 the National Plan should be submitted for official approval.

In this context, a national dialogue held in Yaoundé marked a significant step toward finalizing and implementing Cameroon’s National Action Plan on Youth, Peace, and Security. The event brought together over 300 stakeholders from the government, civil society, development partners, and youth organizations. It underscored the importance of youth ownership in shaping peace processes. The forum resulted in a consensus on strategic priorities, reinforced a coordination structure led by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and the National Youth Council, and emphasized alignment with global standards such as UNSCR 2250. Including data-driven strategies and youth networks in the monitoring framework signals growing momentum toward institutionalizing youth participation in peacebuilding and conflict prevention across the country.

- b) *A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**¹², 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. Elaborate on the catalytic nature of the project and how national ownership, including but not limited to, national and subnational entities are built in.*

The request of Elections Cameroon (ELECAM) to the United Nations for technical assistance in (i) strengthening its institutional capacities, (ii) promoting dialogue between electoral actors as a means of conflict prevention and peace consolidation, and (iii) supporting other actors such as political parties, civil society organizations and the media presented an opportunity for the United Nations to play an important role in contributing to fostering a peaceful environment before, during and after the election, while promoting inclusion of all segments of the populations in the process through outreach engagements and civic education, and strengthening ELECAM’s institutional capacities.

In response to ELECAM’s request and subsequent to an independent electoral Needs Assessment Mission deployed in July 2024, an electoral assistance project was formulated. The project is articulated around 3 key components: (1) **Promote multi-stakeholder dialogue** to help ensure a peaceful electoral process, particularly through consultative platforms and joint commissions, while also targeting specific groups of actors (such as religious leaders, media, civil society organizations, including women’s and youth organizations); (2) **Support the institutional capacity-building of ELECAM**, including training for ELECAM staff and officials to enhance their preparedness and ability to organize and manage the elections effectively; (3) **Promote inclusion, civic participation, and voter education** among all actors in the electoral process, particularly **women, youth, the media, persons with disabilities, and socially vulnerable groups**.

The interventions proposed in this project are predicated on the escalating political polarization that is currently being witnessed in the nation, a retrenchment toward identity-based politics that has given rise to the exacerbation of social divisions, the erosion of social cohesion, and an upsurge in hate speech. The heightened risks associated with the upcoming elections are attributable to the unique context of political competition, which is characterized by significant potential for election-related violence.

¹² Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan on 1325, a National Youth Policy etc.

The United Nations electoral assistance is guided by a number of key principles, including respect for human rights, national sovereignty and ownership, objectivity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence. Additional principles include broad national support, needs-based support, contextual sensitivity, and a broader and longer-term focus. The provision of assistance is predicated on international norms and standards, while being adapted to the particular political, social, and economic circumstances of the requesting Member State. The United Nations (UN) is committed to promoting inclusivity, including the participation of underrepresented and marginalized groups. It employs a gender-responsive approach throughout the electoral cycle.

The project will be implemented within the framework of the technical assistance provided by the UN to Cameroon, within a limited scope of achieving short-, medium- and long-term peacebuilding outcomes to the country throughout the stretched electoral cycle and is aligned with the Executive Committee-endorsed Engagement and Prevention Strategy. This strategy aims to support local, national, and regional efforts through a common United Nations approach, leveraging political, development, and human rights pillars. It is articulated around 4 engagement priorities:

- *Fostering Inclusive Dialogue*: Promote dialogue in conflict regions, especially the Anglophone areas, with a focus on empowering youth, women, and civil society.
- *Protection of Civilians*: Address cycles of violence by supporting disarmament, arms control, and justice initiatives to reduce impunity and protect vulnerable groups like women and children.
- *Alleviating Inequalities*: Improve access to basic services and durable solutions for displaced populations, while advocating for equitable resource distribution.
- *Strengthening National Capacities*: Enhance early warning systems, law enforcement capabilities, and the protection of civilians from human rights abuses.

The project also aligns with Outcome 3 of the UN Cooperation Framework, stating more specifically **“By 2026, young people, women, the most vulnerable groups, people living with disabilities, including refugees and internally displaced populations (IDPs), actively contribute to the effectiveness of policies and the performance of public institutions at national, regional and communal level, and fully enjoy their rights”**, which expect that youth, women, the most vulnerable groups, including refugees and IDPs and people living with disabilities, and decentralized entities evolve in an environment that promotes accountability and the exercise of rights. The project will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Goals 5, 16 and 17.

The United Nations Technical Assistance to the 2025-2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon is aligned with the National Development Strategy 20230 (NDS30), and more specifically with its measures to strengthen the rule of law, protect human rights and improve the overall governance framework in Cameroon. This includes the need to pursue reforms and improvements to the electoral system to enhance its reliability, transparency and inclusiveness, thereby promoting greater voter participation and confidence in the electoral process. The SND30 Governance Sector Strategy aims to: (i) increase the reliability of the electoral system by improving the quality assurance of electoral operations, guaranteeing the fairness of the electoral process and strengthening judicial regulation; (ii) identify specific actions, including extending biometrics to the entire electoral process, modernizing tools and operational modes, and guaranteeing the impartiality of the electoral body ; (iii) ensure citizen participation, including gender and minority representation; (iv) maintain the regularity and transparency of electoral operations; and (v) guarantee the freedom, fairness and transparency of the voting process.

In addition to institutional and legal frameworks, national authorities have engaged in efforts aimed at ‘derisking’, deconflicting’, protecting and securing elections through a series of coordinated actions starting with the strengthening the integrity of the electoral process, reducing the risks, which could affect the smooth running of electoral operations, ramping up security, more specifically in identified violence hotspots. The Government also engaged in civic education campaigns aimed at strengthening national cohesion and addressing important societal matters, including endemic gender-based violence, social divides, among many of the subjects promoted by the campaigns. Proposed interventions will complement these efforts by empowering relevant actors, including the Government, to own and continue them beyond the cycle of the UN project. They will particularly contribute to the goals of the 2nd edition of the Cameroon National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security, and the National Youth Strategy and the quasi-National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security, intersecting participation and prevention pillars would guide the engagement of women and youth.

Proposed interventions are part of a more focused [peacebuilding] component of the United Nations Technical Assistance to the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon, which was signed by the United Nations and ELECAM on 9 May 2025 and will complement other peacebuilding and non-peacebuilding initiatives implemented by the United Nations and partners in the country. The table below provides the connection between the UN electoral assistance and proposed interventions under PBF funding.

- 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 brief **summary of existing interventions** in the proposal’s sector by filling out the table below.

Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal
United Nations Technical Assistance to the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon	Total budget: \$5,918,014: - UN Agencies USD413,000/- - AECID EUR150,000	Promotion of Inclusive and Peaceful Elections	The present PBF project is a contribution to the broader “UN technical assistance to the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon”, tailored on its peacebuilding and violence prevention components.

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

- a) A brief **description of the project** focus and approach – describe the project’s overarching goal, the implementation strategy, and how it addresses the conflict causes or factors outlined in Section I (must be gender- and age- responsive).

The actual “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027” aims at achieving the following objectives:

- a. Facilitate multi-stakeholder consultations to promote a peaceful electoral process, including through consultative platforms, joint commissions, and by targeting specific

- groups of stakeholders (such as political parties, law enforcement officers, religious leaders, civil society actors, the media, etc.).
- b. Support the strengthening of ELECAM's institutional capacity, including the training of ELECAM staff and officials for better preparation, alignment, and organization of election management.
 - c. Promote inclusion, citizen participation, and civic education for all stakeholders in the electoral process, particularly women, youth, Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) the media, persons with disabilities, and socially vulnerable persons.

The PBF intervention “Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon” will contribute to the broader “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027” program, only focusing on above mentioned areas of intervention (a) and (c).

This intervention aims at contributing to fostering a peaceful and inclusive environment during the electoral process (more specifically addressing the risks of electoral violence), as well as promoting social cohesion through the promotion of inclusion and access to reliable information, while addressing hate speech and misinformation and disinformation.

It is expected that project activities implemented with PBF funding will contribute to the following key outcomes:

1. *Enhanced Inclusion in the Electoral Process*
 - Increased participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWD), ethnic minorities, IDPs, and indigenous populations in voter registration, electoral campaigns, and political decision-making.
 - Women, youth and marginalized communities have access to relevant information on the electoral process and are able to engage and contribute to its dissemination as well as promoting peaceful coexistence through community engagement and mobilization.
2. *Functioning and Effective Early Warning and Mediation Mechanisms to prevent and address potential conflicts*
 - Established and functioning community-based early warning systems involving women and youth organizations in violence hotspots, facilitating timely identification and resolution of potential situations with the potential of escalating in election-related conflicts and violence.
 - Strengthened mediation frameworks (Community and Insider Mediation), leveraging women, youth, and community leaders to prevent and manage tensions before, during, and after elections.
 - Increased collaboration between security forces, civil society, media professionals, and electoral bodies to address emerging threats to electoral stability.
3. *Reduced Impact of Hate Speech and Disinformation*
 - Strengthened fact-checking platforms and public awareness campaigns to counter fake news and election-related misinformation in close collaboration with the Elections Cameroon (ELECAM), the Ministry of Communications (MINCOM) and the National Communication Commission (NCC).
 - Media professionals have enhanced skills in conflict-sensitive reporting and have signed a code of conduct in combating hate speech, mis/disinformation before, during and after elections.

- Capacities of the media watchdog (NCC) to develop and enforce guidelines for media and political parties to curb hate speech and disinformation in public discourse are strengthened.

Political actors have agreed to and signed the code of conduct aimed at adhering to human rights, promoting social cohesion and preventing hate speech in public discourse.

The project will also generate an analysis of conflicts, stakeholders, as well as the geographic mapping of these existing conflicts to inform strategies to prevent election-related violence and diffuse potentials of conflict escalation in identified hotspots.

- b) Provide a **project-level ‘theory of change’** – explain the assumptions about why you expect the project interventions to lead to changes in the conflict factors identified in the conflict analysis. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on? Note, this is not a summary statement of your project’s outcomes.

(Note: Change may happen through various and diverse approaches, i.e. social cohesion may be fostered through dialogue or employment opportunities or joint management of infrastructure. The selection of which approach should depend on context-specific factors. What basic assumptions about how change will occur have driven your choice of programming approach?)

The project is articulated around the following theory of change:

If an inclusive environment is promoted that actively engages women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), internally displaced persons (IDPs), ethnic minorities, and indigenous populations in political life and elections,

If early warning systems and community-based mediation platforms are established or reinforced, particularly in electoral hotspots, and if women, youth, and community leaders are empowered to act as peace agents during the electoral cycle,

If hate speech, disinformation, and fake news are systematically addressed through media monitoring, public sensitization, and capacity-building of media actors before, during and after the elections,

Then all segments of society, including marginalized groups, will participate more effectively and peacefully in the electoral process, election-related tensions will be anticipated and resolved constructively, and the public will be resilient to harmful narratives, leading to strengthened social cohesion, reduced risk of violence and manipulation, and an overall peaceful environment before, during and after the elections.

What are the assumptions?

The following are the key assumptions that the project considers:

- National and local authorities and key institutions, including ELECAM and security institutions, remain open and willing to collaborate with the UN and civil society actors throughout the electoral period.
- The overall security situation, particularly in target regions (Far North, North-West, South-West, and conflict-prone urban areas), remains sufficiently stable to allow project activities to take place safely.

- Communities, stakeholders, and government institutions will provide timely access to information, beneficiaries, and locations necessary for conflict analysis, early warning, and civic education activities.
- Civil society organizations, youth and women's groups, and community leaders are ready and able to actively participate in peacebuilding, early warning systems, and dialogue mechanisms.
- UN agencies and implementing partners will effectively coordinate through the inter-agency structures and taskforces to avoid duplication, ensure synergy, and deliver coherent interventions.
- Security actors involved in electoral security will cooperate with the project's human rights training and abide by standards outlined under the HRDDP, enabling safe civic space and peaceful political participation.
- The national electoral calendar and timeline remain largely intact, allowing the project to roll out its preventive and engagement activities as planned ahead of, during, and shortly after the 2025 elections.

Provide a narrative description of key project components (outcomes and outputs), ensuring sufficient attention to gender, age and other key differences that should influence the project approach. In describing the project elements, be sure to indicate important considerations related to sequencing of activities. Ensure that where relevant UN's [Community Engagement Guidelines](#) are adhered to.

The project will revolve around the following thematic areas:

- **Prevention of Electoral Violence:** Early Warning, Prevention and Dialogue, community and electoral mediation.
- **Promoting Inclusive Political and Peacebuilding Processes:** Women and Youth's participation in political and peacebuilding processes.
- **Information Integrity:** Addressing hate speech, dis/misinformation.

a) **Prevention of Electoral Violence**

Under this component, the UN will support national actors in efforts to establish and/or strengthen mechanisms to establish and prevent violence and conflict before, during and after elections. The project will specifically aim at strengthening early warning and response mechanisms, more specifically in identified violence hotspots and locations at risk of electoral violence or other type of violence, which may be catalyzed by electoral competition. Proposed activities under this component will include:

- ***Strengthening Early Warning and Early Response:*** UN initiatives will specifically support, strengthen and amplify national conflict prevention efforts. This will revolve around strengthening early warning efforts, community-based/electoral mediation, and the revitalization of community-based peace ambassadors. The UN will particularly work with women and youth organizations to implement early warning and early response mechanisms.
 - **Early Warning Mechanisms:** The UN will leverage existing peace networks of women and youth operating in violence hotspots and at-risk locations, empowering them and providing them with the ability to network with each other in their respective locations for effective monitoring of tensions and risks of violence and providing them with the possibility to alert authorities and trigger appropriate response.

Leveraging the increasing digital penetration in Cameroon, particularly among the younger generations (millennials and Gen Z), the United Nations will facilitate the creation of a digital application with geo-localization properties downloadable free of charge under iOS and Android smartphones and devices for ease of reporting. The UN

will specifically work with the Ministry of Territorial Administration to integrate this initiative in the overall strategy for peace and law enforcement in hotspots and at-risk locations around key electoral dispensations.

The project will specifically target hotspots in 32 out of 58 communities, following the following criteria:

- (a) *Communities already affected by violence* existing conflict and violence in North-West, South-West and Far North regions
 - (b) *Communities with history of conflict and violence* such as in North, Adamawa and East Regions.
 - (c) *Communities at-risk of conflict and violence* due to political tensions like in Mfoundi (Yaoundé), Littoral (Wouri, and Moungo), and West (Mifi).
- **Community-Based/Electoral Mediation:** The project will promote local, community-based mediation as part of early response to tensions. The UN intends to build capacities of, equip and establish community-based mediators, whose role will be to help facilitate peaceful resolution of differences, reduce tensions, and foster dialogue to reduce the risks of escalation. Community-based mediators will also contribute to fostering a peaceful environment during elections by liaising with relevant authorities to report issues. They will also be equipped to provide basic information to voters on issues to reduce confusion and reduce tensions around polling locations within their communities.
- **Community-Based Peace Ambassadors:** Women and youth community-based peace ambassadors, are community volunteers whose role will be to promote peace within their communities and with other coexisting communities. Their role will include, addressing rumors, act as relays for peace and go-between within their communities. They will also contribute to community engagement and the spread of the messages of relevant information on the electoral process, peace and social cohesion in their community.
- **Promoting High Level and community-based Dialogues:** The project will work with promote dialogue among key stakeholders through the consultation platforms established by ELECAM to provide space for consultation and dialogue around key electoral issues. It is expected that through this engagement, the project will connect with the good offices role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for the United Nations Office in central Africa (UNOCA). The project will enhance the role of traditional and religious leaders in fostering peace and social cohesion during the electoral process.
- **Support to Consultation Platforms:** The dialogue platforms envisaged and mentioned for the first time by ELECAM as part of the support of United Nations agencies through the Peacebuilding Fund Project (PBF) during the 2019-2020 electoral cycle. By Resolution N0 031/R/ELECAM/CE of December 22, 2022, these consultation platforms at national and local level became formal and effective to perpetuate good practices of dialogue and multi-actor exchanges in the electoral process. The consultation platforms provide an ideal framework for exchange and sharing to monitor the electoral process and promote inclusive and peaceful elections. ELECAM's recommendations and considerations on these platforms could help strengthen the way they operate. In view of limited resources, it will be strategic to restrict this support to

the national level) and in the country's 10 regions, although the departmental and local levels are also important during regional, parliamentary and local elections.

- **Support to Good Offices:** Electoral competition is often a source of tension, and sometimes of speculation or wrong perceptions about the electoral process, which can result in political stalemate and, even. When and where appropriate and in consultation with ELECAM and the Government, the project could support UNOCA SRSG's good offices mandate in Cameroon. SRSG UNOCA will be able to carry out a number of good initiatives to promote peace and peaceful elections in Cameroon.
- **Support to Community-Based Dialogue and Social Cohesion:** The preservation of peace and social cohesion must be sought and preserved during this electoral process. The socio-cultural reality of Cameroon places great importance on traditional leaders. In the same way, the State of Cameroon, while secular, places a moral value on religious leaders. The interaction and commitment of these two categories of leaders, alongside other electoral players and the general public, can contribute to the consolidation of peace and national cohesion, especially during the electoral period, when divisions and divergent interests are openly apparent among the national population. The project will also enlist traditional and religious leaders as well as known insider mediators in target locations to promote and strengthen intercommunal and inter-faith dialogue to ensure pre-existing intercommunal tensions and religious/faith-related mistrust are not reignited or triggered by elections.

The electoral process requires the sharing of reliable information to contribute to transparency, credibility and peace of mind. It is good practice for Elecam and other senior officials in the country, such as MINREX, MINAT and MINEPAT, in close collaboration with the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in the country, to invite bilateral and multilateral partners, even those who do not contribute to the basket-fund, to exchange information and even express needs or concerns in the context of the smooth running of the electoral process. In addition, the UN Resident Coordinator, following the guidelines of the UNOCA SRSG, may also organize meetings for interaction, coordination, consultation and information exchange with the technical and financial partners involved in the electoral process, in order to ensure its peaceful conduct.

Finally, coordination and exchange of information with development partners, including international organizations and bilateral donors, promotes coherence and mobilization in support of the electoral process. Consideration should also be given to concrete efforts to amplify the voice of local peace actors, such as religious groups or civil society.

b) Promoting Inclusive Political and Peacebuilding Processes

Promoting gender equality throughout the electoral cycle: Given the persistent socio-economic and cultural challenges faced by women, both as voters and as candidates, due to the number of interrelated obstacles, the project intends to reinforce and build on the work being done to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. Raising awareness, including among political parties, remains a priority on the agenda to highlight the need for women's inclusion in the electoral process and to combat all forms of sexual and gender-based violence or discrimination against women.

Above all, civil society must play an important role in promoting the inclusion of women in the electoral process as part of a multi-stakeholder approach to gender equality. The project will therefore support a number of actions and stakeholders and work closely with the United Nations to promote the inclusion and representativeness of women, including among others:

- a. Raise awareness among women and girls about the need to register *en masse* to vote and support them in obtaining a national identity card.
- b. Support the women's mediation network and support a national campaign on inclusion and women's participation, with positive messages about women's leadership, social cohesion, conflict prevention and success stories.
- c. Encourage women to enter the political arena and stand for election through dedicated women's media programs (radio, TV and social networks).
- d. Train women candidates in techniques for effective participation in elections, using modules developed by UN Women, OHCHR and UNESCO.

Increase youth participation in electoral processes: The project aims to promote the participation of young people in electoral processes, with a view to building confidence in the country's democratic and political processes. Disseminating information and raising awareness among young voters to promote leadership and their commitment to non-incitement to division or discrimination, as well as to the non-instruction of electoral violence will be central to the project's support. In a complementary and coordinated approach to avoid redundancy and duplication of effort, the project also intends to support youth organizations and actors involved in mobilization, with a view to increasing youth participation in future elections.

In view of young people's access to social networks, the project will strive to invest in social media for the dissemination and dissemination of sound information in favor of civic participation and the promotion of the values of peace and social cohesion. Engaging young people through social networks can prove invaluable, as they tend to be more connected and tech-savvy. To this end, the project will also place particular emphasis on Media and Information Education (MIE) for young people, to enable them in particular to resist and combat the phenomenon of misinformation, mainly online. It will also work to build the capacity of ELECAM and other stakeholders to engage young people at all levels of electoral processes with communications and products specifically dedicated to them.

People with disabilities and socially vulnerable groups are fully involved in the electoral process: The project's ambition is to carry out actions and take measures specific to each type of disability (sign language interpreter, production of awareness-raising documents in Braille, manufacture of ramps for accessibility in pre-identified polling stations) to enable their better involvement in the electoral process.

Full enjoyment of the right to vote for all can only be ensured if accessibility is guaranteed, including for people with disabilities. ELECAM's experience of voting for people with disabilities has earned it three Awards for its exemplary model. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was signed by Cameroon and ratified on September 28, 2023. With the support of the project, ELECAM will further strengthen the inclusion of this category of voters, capitalizing on its experience of working with the OHCHR and CSOs of people living with disabilities, through tailored civic and electoral education and awareness sessions for their members of voting age.

Support other socially vulnerable groups in their participation in the electoral process: It is a question of taking into account the specificity of the national context, which includes many internally displaced people and the return of migrants following the violence in the English-speaking areas, but also the populations of the far north who are under attack from terrorists and the violent extremism of Boko Haram. The region's so-called indigenous peoples also face difficulties, including access to education in general and civic education in particular. The main aim is to make these socially vulnerable groups aware of their rights to register on electoral rolls,

to stand as candidates and to exercise their right to vote. Specific and adapted activities will be organized for this category of people, including:

- *Civic education workshops for their community leaders:* Organize information sessions to raise awareness among vulnerable groups about their electoral rights, how the electoral system works, and the importance of voting. Leaders will be equipped to carry out these activities in their respective communities.
- *Tailored awareness campaigns:* Design specifically targeted campaigns to inform vulnerable groups about the elections, using accessible formats such as brochures, videos or social networks.

These activities aim to reduce barriers to electoral participation for socially vulnerable groups, promote their rights and help ensure they have a voice in the democratic process. By working to include these populations, we help strengthen democracy and ensure that all voices are heard and respected.

c) Information Integrity:

The use of the media, including social networks, is essential in electoral competition. However, they have also become the preferred forum for the expression of tension between political protagonists, and the place par excellence for disinformation, misinformation and hate speech.

In Cameroon, media plurality and freedom of expression are guaranteed by the constitution and legal texts. According to the mapping of the media in Cameroon published by the CNC, *as of November 30, 2024 Cameroon had "760 declared media, including 93 television channels, 129 commercial radio stations, 169 community radio stations, 232 print media outlets, 72 online media outlets and 65 cable TV operators"*¹³. However, the number of functioning media in Cameroon is far greater, with many unregistered media operating under a kind of administrative tolerance. The media are generally polarized between support for the ruling party and opposition; a reality that became more pronounced in the aftermath of the 2018 presidential election, as reported by interlocutors.

This project aims to strengthen the skills of media professionals in the handling of electoral information, while respecting journalistic ethics and deontology, and integrating human rights and gender perspectives. The training courses will also address the role of the media in combating misinformation and hate speech, which are the seeds and vectors that can create and accentuate tensions during electoral processes.

A special section will be devoted to the safety of journalists, with sessions on the relationship between media professionals and law enforcement agencies during election periods. The role of the latter is crucial in guaranteeing a peaceful and secure environment, encouraging citizen participation and ensuring the safety of journalists.

To enable law enforcement forces to prevent and manage electoral tensions while respecting the principles of neutrality, impartiality and proportionality, refresher sessions on international human rights standards applicable to elections are planned. These sessions will include crowd management, the use of force and the protection of journalists' civil rights. Contacts with journalists will also be facilitated to encourage peaceful cooperation during the electoral process.

In the pursuit of information integrity, the project will be committed to the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). The project will particularly undertake a series of measures to ensure that its support to national security actors during the electoral period upholds international human

¹³ Cartographie des médias au Cameroun, Conseil National de la Communication, December 2024, P20

rights standards. Before engaging with police, gendarmerie, or mixed electoral commissions, the project will conduct a structured risk assessment to evaluate potential human rights concerns. It will integrate mandatory human rights and humanitarian law modules into all training sessions targeting security actors. Partnership agreements will include conditionality clauses requiring compliance with human rights norms, and a monitoring mechanism will be established to detect and address any violations. The project will also promote transparency and accountability by involving civil society, women, and youth representatives in oversight and reporting structures. In cases where credible allegations of abuse arise and are not addressed through remedial actions, the project will be prepared to suspend support in line with HRDDP protocols.

Expected Peacebuilding Outcomes

It is expected that project activities implemented with PBF funding will contribute to the following key outcomes:

a) Enhanced Inclusion in the Electoral Process

- Increased participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWD), ethnic minorities, IDPs, and indigenous populations in voter registration, electoral campaigns, and political decision-making.
- Women, youth and marginalized communities have access to relevant information on the electoral process and are able to engage and contribute to its dissemination as well as promoting peaceful coexistence through community engagement and mobilization.

b) Functioning and Effective Early Warning and Mediation Mechanisms

- Established and functioning community-based early warning systems involving women and youth organizations in violence hotspots, facilitating timely identification and resolution of potential situations with the potential of escalating in election-related conflicts and violence.
- Strengthened mediation frameworks (Community and Insider Mediation), leveraging women, youth, and community leaders to prevent and manage tensions before, during, and after elections.
- Increased collaboration between security forces, civil society, media professionals, and electoral bodies to address emerging threats to electoral stability.

c) Reduced Impact of Hate Speech and Disinformation

- Strengthened fact-checking platforms and public awareness campaigns to counter fake news and election-related misinformation in close collaboration with the Elections Cameroon (ELECAM), the Ministry of Communications (MINCOM) and the National Communication Commission (NCC).
- Media professionals have enhanced skills in conflict-sensitive reporting and have signed a code of conduct in combating hate speech, mis/disinformation before, during and after elections.
- Capacities of the media watchdog (NCC) to develop and enforce guidelines for media and political parties to curb hate speech and disinformation in public discourse are strengthened.
- Political actors have agreed to and signed the code of conduct aimed at adhering to human rights, promoting social cohesion and preventing hate speech in public discourse.

Use Annex C to list all outcomes, outputs, and indicators.

- c) **Project targeting** – provide a justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, expected number and type of stakeholders/beneficiaries (must be disaggregated by sex and age). Indicate whether stakeholders have been consulted in the design of this proposal. Do not repeat all outputs and activities from the Results Framework.

The project will target the following key institutions and stakeholders:

- Direct Beneficiaries
 - i. *The Election Management Body (EMB)*: ELECAM is the primary institution targeted by the project. The project will target members board of elections, senior officials of the directorate-general of election, regional delegates of the 10 regions, the representatives of departmental commissions, and 360 mix-commissions.
 - ii. *Traditional and Religious Leaders*: There are around 79 first degree, 875 second-degree, and 12,582 traditional leaders in Cameroon. The project will attempt to target the 79 first-degree traditional leaders and around 20 per cent of the 2nd-degree chiefs, representing the chiefdoms in localities at risk of violence or experiencing inter-communal fracture and tensions. The project will also target religious leaders in hotspots and at-risk locations, as well as national level religious leaders, whose voices could contribute to reducing tensions. The project will particularly target those who have been part of insider-mediation programs and those who have played a role in resolving conflicts in the country.
 - iii. *Civil Society Organizations*: the project will target the civil society organizations, particularly youth and women organizations, organizations representing the rights of people with disability, minorities and other socially vulnerable communities. The project will draw upon the existing partnerships between RUNOs and civil society organizations in areas of governance, peacebuilding, human rights and other relevant areas of intervention to build its partnership base. The project will also involve new CSO partners in locations not covered by existing partners.
 - iv. *Media Professionals*: Media professionals will be part of the project through information integrity initiatives.
 - v. *Other Key Administrations Participating in Electoral Processes*: Government and other administrations taking part in the electoral process will also be targeted in capacity building initiatives. These include the MINAT, Constitutional Council, MINJEC, MINPROFF, MINCOM, CNC, etc.
- Indirect Beneficiaries
 - vi. *Political Parties*: Although the project will not directly political parties, they will indirectly be targeted through consultation platforms and mix-commissions.
 - vii. *Law Enforcement*: Law enforcement agencies will indirectly be part of the project through information integrity, where they will participate in dialogue with the media professionals and early warning and early response initiatives.

The table below provides the breakdown of direct targets of the project:

Category	Specific Target	Number of people
ELECAM	Senior Officials (HQ)	100
	Regional Delegations	50
	Divisional Representations	232
	Mix Commissions	1200
Other Key Electoral Administrations	MINAT, Constitutional Council, MINJEC, MINPROFF, MINCOM, CNC, etc.	300
Civil Society Organizations	Women Groups	450
	Youth Organizations	450
	PWD Organizations	360
	Representations of Minorities and other Socially Vulnerable Groups	500
Political Parties (representatives of various political parties)		500
Law Enforcement		360
Medias Professionals		360
Traditional and Religious Leaders		1533
Communities in Hot spots (indirect)		
Total		5,445

The criteria for the identification of beneficiaries are the following:

- Beneficiaries of the project are selected through existing networks, partnerships and beneficiary base developed by RUNOs in the course of their work and in consultation with ELECAM and relevant ministries and institutions (MINAT, MINPROFF, MINJEC, CNC).
- Political parties are selected in consultation with ELECAM using the list of approved political parties, more specifically, active political parties recognized by the Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT) participating or not in mix-commissions, regional and national dialogue platforms or not will be targeted by the project.

Geographic Focus

The project will be implemented nationwide, across the 10 regions. Its implementation will attempt to cover all the 58 divisions. The following is an indicative table of list of target municipalities and justification for selection:

#	Region	Municipalities	Selection
1	Adamawa	Toburo Mbaiboum, Rey Bouba, Mandingring, Belel, Ngahoui Djohong, Meiganga, Dir, Ngaoundal, Tibati, Banyo, and Mayo Darle	Municipalities identified in the project are existing and potential violence hotspots. They experience intercommunal fractures and/or violence.
2	Center	Monatéle, Bankim, Mfoundi (Yaoundé)	Intercommunal tensions (Bankim), and convergence of political actors.
3	East	Batouri	Intercommunal tensions
4	Far-North	Dollé, Goulfey, Kousseri Kousseri, Logone-Birni Maltam, Mbeung, Waza, Zina	Intercommunal tensions and violence as well as terrorism hotspots.
5	Littoral	Wouri (Douala), Moungo	Intercommunal tensions (Bankim), and convergence of political actors.
6	North	Garoua	Political and intercommunal tensions
7	North-West	Bafut Bali Belo Bilikum- bat Fundong Jakiri Menchum- Valley Misaje Ndop Ndu Nkambe Noni Nwa Oku Tubah Tubah/ Boyo Tugid (Mbengwi) Wum	Intercommunal conflicts and activities of separatists
8	South	Meyo,	Intercommunal violence
9	South-West	Akwaya, Buea	Intercommunal violence, separatist activities
10	West	Mangba, Noon (Foumban), Mifi (Bafoussam)	Intercommunal violence and presence of opposing forces.

Implementation Strategy

While the broader “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027” involves all the six (6) funds, programmes and specialized agencies involved in the electoral assistance (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA and UN Women), the PBF project “Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon” will build on the comparative advantage of UNDP, UNESCO and UN Women to lead thematic areas identified in the present proposal. Each

agency is bringing its comparative advantage to the in thematic areas covered under the project. Throughout the implementation of the project, the United Nations will support ELECAM in prioritizing women's empowerment and youth inclusion by ensuring that at least 30 per cent of all participants in project interventions are women, with a similar minimum threshold set for youth.

Beyond participation, the project will actively promote women's leadership across the peacebuilding and prevention of violence pillars of electoral assistance, creating spaces for meaningful engagement and influence. Specific skills-building initiatives and exposure opportunities will be integrated to enhance youth capacity and involvement.

Furthermore, activities such as early warning systems, community-based and insider mediation, outreach for social cohesion, and civic education will deliberately rely on women's and youth organizations as key implementing partners and actors. This approach ensures that gender and age inclusivity are central to the project's impact and sustainability.

The project will pursue the following implementation strategy:

- *Strengthening Dialogue Among Key Stakeholders to the Electoral Process*
The project will support dialogue among key stakeholders to the elections to promote peaceful resolution of differences and issues specific to the electoral process. The facilitation of dialogue with stakeholders will be conducted through existing platforms established at national and regional levels by ELECAM. Other dialogue platforms will be established where and when required, i.e. to strengthen information integrity, a platform bringing together ELECAM, the elections management body, the National Communications Council (NCC), law enforcement agencies, media professional associations or representatives, and civil society organizations to reduce tensions related to the work of the media within the electoral process.
- *Institutional Capacity Strengthening*
The project will support peacebuilding and prevention of violence capacity development for civil society, political parties, ELECAM, youth groups, and other project stakeholders. Local councils will serve as the primary implementing structures given their proximity to communities and their role as decentralized governance entities. In line with ongoing decentralization reforms, this approach is expected to promote the sustainability of actions and long-term results. The project will integrate targeted training programs within existing institutions, such as Women's Empowerment Centers and Multifunctional Youth Centers. These programs aim to reinforce existing structures rather than replace them.
- *Training and Capacity Building of Stakeholders to the Elections*
Training activities will be a core component of the project. A coaching-based approach will be employed to develop skills, favoring participatory, action-learning techniques. Participating groups will receive ongoing follow-up and support throughout the project cycle. The primary goal is to equip young women with sustainable skills and knowledge that will enable them to be self-reliant beyond the project's completion.
- *Awareness and Communication*
Awareness-raising efforts will aim to foster behavioral change, particularly regarding how gender relations are perceived. A central action will be to mobilize women and youth to actively contribute to and engage in project implementation. Campaigns will focus on key issues, such as gender equality, combating discrimination, accessing social services, and participating in electoral processes. State institutions will play a crucial role in these initiatives, and partnerships will be established with community radio stations. Advocacy efforts targeting municipalities and public-private sector stakeholders will promote gender mainstreaming in municipal development plans and budgets to support equitable local development.

Additionally, communication campaigns will highlight the importance of protecting women's rights in electoral contexts and preventing gender-based violence (GBV). These campaigns will emphasize the various forms of violence that occur during elections and the importance of reporting them. Messages will be developed collaboratively with community leaders, influencers, religious figures, men, boys, women, and other targeted groups.

- *Advocacy*

To secure broader support from policymakers and decision-makers at all levels, the project will implement targeted advocacy actions focused on prevention of violence, peacebuilding and tackling hate speech. These actions will take place at national institutions, such as Parliament and the Senate, as well as at the decentralized level, particularly among traditional authorities, religious leaders, community actors, and locally elected officials.

- *Research and documentation will be integral to project implementation.*

Research and documentation are integral to project implementation. This includes capturing and disseminating best practices and success stories from across the country. This information will establish a baseline for the program and inform the overall communication strategy, ensuring the project's impact is evidence-based and well-documented.

III. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

- a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list all direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local knowledge and existing capacity.

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
Convening Organization: UNDP Implementing partners:	28 696 888	The Government of Cameroon, Japan, Germany, FCDO, Netherlands, European Union, UN Peacebuilding Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), The Global Environment Facility (GEF), African Development Bank (ADB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Arab Bank for Economic	Yaoundé, Maroua, Bamenda, Buea	All the 10 regions	The project will rely on partnership established under existing projects and programs

		Development in Africa (BADEA)			
Recipient Organization: UNESCO	\$ 26 693 537	Government of Cameroon GPE ECW WB GPE INDIA UN PBF UN PRPD UN PBF UE OIF	Yaoundé	All the 10 regions	The PBF project will benefit from the knowledge, experience and contact established across the country, more specifically
Implementing partners:					
Recipient Organization: UNWOMEN	4 155 366.36	-BHP BILLITON FOUNDATION -Ebase Africa - GVT OF JAPAN -AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK - GOV OF CAMEROON - BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION - PEACEBUILDING FUND -SWEDISH INT'L DEVELOPMENT COOPRATION -UNAIDS		All the 10 regions	Resources, partnerships, networks and knowledge generated through other projects will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the PBF project
Implementing partners:					

- b) ***Project management and coordination*** – Indicate the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explicitly indicate how the project implementation team will ensure sufficient gender or youth expertise. Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements and ensure link with PBF Secretariat if it exists. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in **Annex A.1** and attach key staff TORs.

The PBF-funded project “Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon” governance mechanism will fall under the coordination of the wider “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027” intervention, under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and the technical leadership of UNDP Resident Representative:

- ***Steering Committee:*** jointly chaired by the Chair of ELECAM’s Electoral Board and the UN Resident Coordinator (assisted by UNDP’s Resident Representative), the Steering Committee will be comprised of ELECAM, participating UN agencies, donors at Head of Mission level.

The Steering Committee will review the agenda and documents prepared by the Technical Committee.

- *Technical Committee:* Jointly chaired by ELECAM Director-General and UNDP Resident Representative, the Technical Committee will oversee the delivery, providing guidance, ensuring technical quality, and advising the project implementation work plan. Members of the Technical Committee include the technical level representatives of UN agencies, and donor organizations (and relevant institutions). The Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) in his capacity of Project Coordinator / Chief Technical Advisor of the overall UN Technical Assistance project, will serve as secretary of the steering and technical committee structures and ensure the implementation of the recommendations. He will consolidate the results of all participating agencies and will work in close coordination with focal points to the UN Task Force with ELECAM.
- *Information-Sharing:* As recommended by the NAM, the Resident Coordinator will lead coordination and information-sharing, along with the Chair of the Electoral Board. The format and the set-up will be defined in consultation with all relevant institutions and partners.

The PBF secretariat embedded with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) – active, for the time-being, until 30 November 2025, pending extension – will coordinate and supervise the administrative duties and reporting to PBSO of the PBF project “Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon” contributing to the “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027” initiative.

Each participating UN agency will bring its comparative advantage:

- a) **The UNDP** is the UN's main technical UN agency for electoral assistance outside the context of peace or post-conflict missions.

UNDP also plays a supporting role in the electoral assistance mandate undertaken by field missions. Every year, hundreds of countries hold elections to choose their representatives at national, regional and local level. UNDP supports many of them in organizing credible, inclusive and peaceful elections, and is the largest provider of electoral assistance in the UN system - helping an average of 60 countries each year. Through this support, the organization emphasizes respect for human rights and gender equality and pays particular attention to threats to electoral integrity and credibility, such as information pollution.

UNDP does not see support for the electoral cycle as a goal in itself but integrates it into broader efforts to strengthen inclusive political processes for progressive societal change. With its broad mandate and global experience in electoral support on the ground, UNDP is well placed to lead UN efforts in electoral assistance.

- b) **UNESCO** is the specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to building peace through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

Its mission is to promote intercultural dialogue and sustainable development by facilitating the free flow of ideas through a multidisciplinary and inclusive approach, collaborating with international actors to develop actions adapted to local needs, thus ensuring a global and results-oriented approach. UNESCO helps member states to respect and implement treaties, international agreements and standards relating to universal access to information, thus contributing to the advent of knowledge societies (MDG 16). To this end, its mission is to defend and promote freedom of expression and the independence and pluralism of the media. Recognizing that professional news media act as guardians of the public interest, and that citizens cannot exercise and enjoy their citizenship in the absence of the

crucial information and knowledge that well-trained journalists are best able to provide, UNESCO designs educational policies and resources, and capacity-building programs for journalists and media managers.

Similarly, UNESCO cooperates with the judiciary and security forces to support their essential role in strengthening the "three Ps" (Prevention, Protection and Prosecution) to guarantee the safety of journalists and put an end to impunity for crimes and attacks against them. In addition to producing training guidelines, toolkits and guidelines, UNESCO produces open online courses (MOOCs), organizes training and workshops in the field to build the capacity of journalists and media managers, online content producers (Influencers), judicial actors and law enforcement officers in relation to international, regional and national standards on freedom of expression, access to information and the safety of journalists.

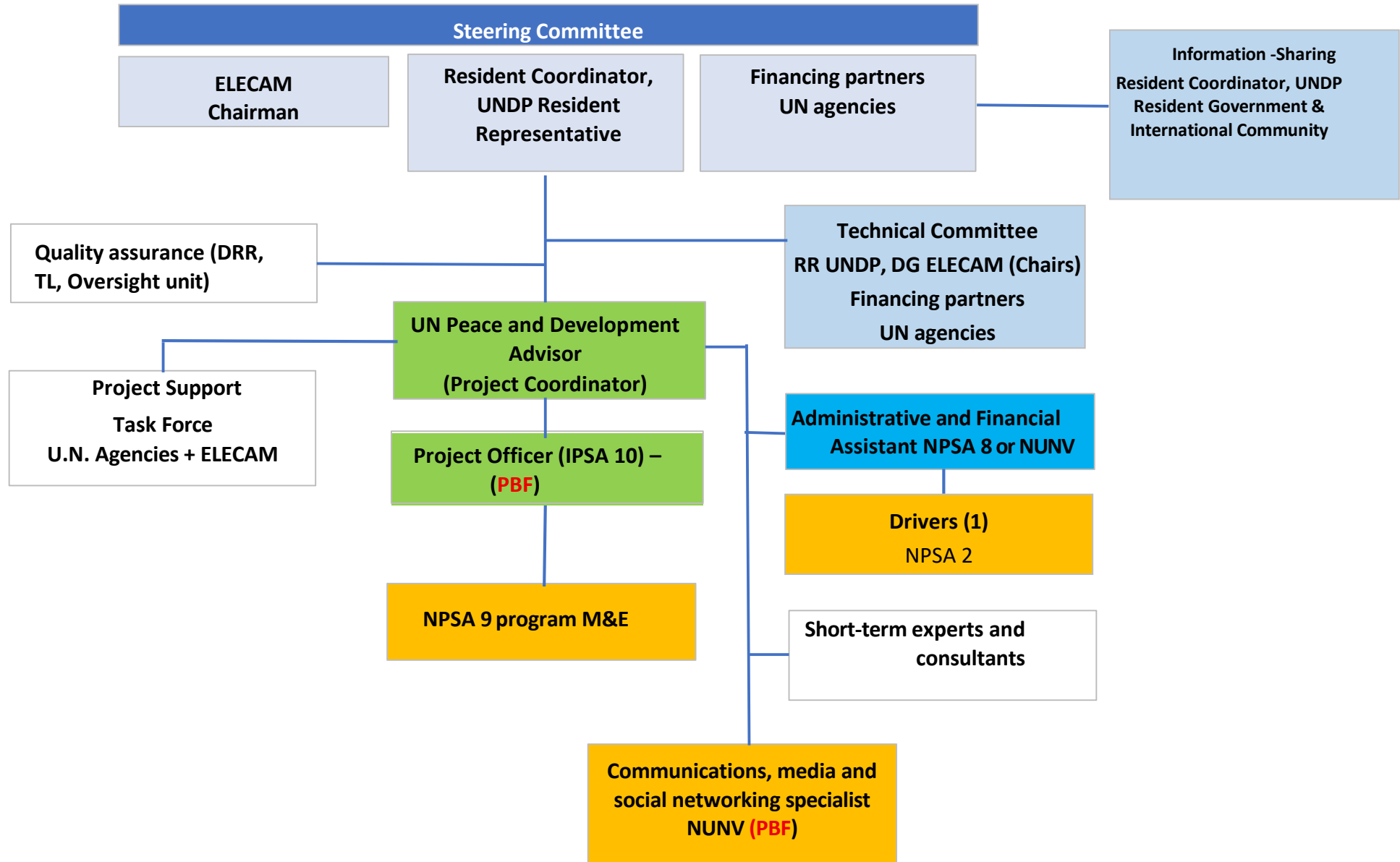
- c) **UN Women**, the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment, has as its main missions the promotion of gender equality worldwide and the defense of women's rights.

Its priorities include: - **Political participation and leadership**: UN Women works to increase women's representation in decision-making and political spheres. This involves legislative reforms and initiatives to ensure greater equality in governance - **Empowerment of women**: through economic initiatives and improved access to social services - **Combating violence against women**: UN Women engages in the prevention of gender-based violence, supports civil society organizations that come to the aid of survivors, and advocates for laws and policies against gender-based violence - **Supporting the international normative framework** by helping governments implement international conventions and UN resolutions on gender equality, such as CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) and UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

UN Women also plays a key role in ensuring that women have equitable access to electoral processes. In Cameroon, where women's participation in politics and decision-making processes is still limited, the entity collaborates with ELECAM and MINPROFF within the framework of strategic partnerships, as well as with political parties, CSOs, traditional and religious leaders. These partnerships aim to promote the inclusion of women on electoral lists, organize awareness campaigns to encourage their participation, not only as voters, but also as candidates, and support civil society in the identification, prevention and treatment of cases of gender-based and sexual violence during the electoral process. The focus is on the training of women political leaders and their participation in political parties. Together with the media and the Conseil national de la communication, it implements strategies to increase the visibility and influence of women in the electoral and political arena, based on partnerships with

In addition, UN Women is working to strengthen ELECAM's capacity to integrate a gender perspective into its operations. This includes training on gender mainstreaming in electoral management, such as inclusiveness in the composition of polling stations, egalitarian management of electoral results, and the collection of sex-disaggregated data to better identify the obstacles faced by women in electoral processes.

Governance of the wider initiative “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027”



- The above organigram above represents the governance structure of the wider “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027”.
- The PBF project “Preventing Conflicts and Violence During the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle in Cameroon” will only fund the Project Officer (IPSA 10), and the Communications, media and social networking specialist (NUNV) positions.
- The Project Officer (IPSA 10) will support the PDA on the coordination and implementation of PBF-funded activities only.
- The Communications, media and social networking specialist (NUNV) will cover the wider initiative “UN technical assistance to the electoral cycle 2025 – 2027”.
- All other positions and contracts will be funded by remaining financial partners of the wider initiative.

c) **Risk management** – Identify project-specific risks and how they will be managed, including the approach to updating risks and making project adjustments. Include a Do No Harm approach and risk mitigation strategy.

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
Security	<p>The electoral process in Cameroon is happening in a very particular context with ongoing violent extremist attacks in the Far North region, separatist insurgency in the North-West and South-West regions and intercommunal violence in various parts of the country.</p> <p>In general, the security risk associated with electoral assistance to ELECAM remains very limited across the country. However, UN's association with ELECAM at central level can bring risks to UN personnel and assets in anglophone regions, where symbols of the State are being systematically targeted.</p>	Very likely	<p>Very high:</p> <p>Loss of lives, kidnapping of personnel, damage to premises and assets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased communication with stakeholders to assert the UN's work and neutrality, particularly in the regions affected by separatism. - Where possible, create a firewall between the electoral assistance and humanitarian work being undertaken in the North-West and South-West. - Limiting movements, especially for UN personnel and associates, as well as electoral staff. - Develop a map of red zones - Identify beneficiaries from their own communities to ensure community acceptance. 	UN RC with the support from UNDSS and Relevant UN agencies
	<p>Direct beneficiaries of the project (peace ambassadors, community mediators, youth, and women participating in the project)</p>	Very likely	<p>Very high</p> <p>Kidnapping, loss of lives, injury</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish and maintain coordination with administrative and law enforcement authorities. - Ensure transparency and proactive communication about the UN's engagement and the role of the beneficiaries in contributing to fostering and preserving peace. 	Project Manager/Coordinator

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
Political and Reputational	<p>Supporting the electoral process in Cameroon presents several political risks, including potential perceptions of bias, due to accusations that ELECAM favors the ruling CPDM party, which may lead to accusations of UN's and international endorsement of a partial electoral process.</p> <p>Additionally, if elections are perceived as flawed, the UN could be held complicit, damaging its credibility and sparking reputational concerns. The fact that the Electoral Code is perceived as non-consensual, could create the perception that this assistance could be perceived as a disregard on the part of the UN to the opposition's calls for electoral reforms and could lead to a perceived partiality on the part of the UN and an erosion of its political capital in the country.</p>	Likely	High: Increased perception of partiality on the part of the UN, erosion of the institutional credibility	<p>To mitigate political and reputational risks when providing electoral assistance to ELECAM in Cameroon, the following measures could be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that assistance is provided transparently, involving opposition parties, civil society, and local communities to avoid perceptions of bias. It is also important to mention the scope of assistance to foster a peaceful and inclusive environment in the process. - Ensure that UN assistance to the electoral process focuses on strengthening institutional capabilities within the scope of the NAM recommendations rather than direct involvement in electoral outcomes, to ensure neutrality. - Clearly communicate UN's role in the electoral process and the scope of assistance as technical support, not an endorsement of any political party or group. - Align assistance with efforts to safeguard human rights and 	UN RC, UNDP Res. Rep. Relevant UN agencies

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
	Journalists participating in participating in the project can face public attacks by politicians and sympathizers	Likely	<u>Moderately High</u> Public backlash, harassment	political freedoms, emphasizing transparency and fairness. - Regular interactions with professional media associations to ensure transparency on the project and UN's engagement in the electoral project. - Ensure a more inclusive approach to the selection of journalists participating in the project.	Project Manager, Thematic Lead Agency, and Participating Agencies
Operational	There are many operational challenges and risks associated with providing electoral assistance in Cameroon. The following are the operational risks the UN can run in while providing assistance to the 2025 – 2027 Electoral Cycle: - <i>Financial Risks:</i> There are very limited opportunities to finance electoral assistance. Most of the electoral programs are funded by countries on their own. One of the biggest risks that UN's engagement in electoral assistance in Cameroon may run into is the lack of needed resources. Elections in Cameroon have been controversial, most of the donors may not wish to provide	Likely	<u>High:</u> Delays, and limitations on the institutional ability to deliver on commitments, which may	Mitigating operational risks for a UN electoral assistance project in Cameroon can involve several key measures: - <i>Financial risks:</i> The UN needs to explore alternative opportunities for the financing the assistance, such as the Africa Elections Fund, which has Germany and Japan as main donors for the moment, the Canadian Election Fund, both funds will be available early 2025. Another way of mitigating the financial risk is to define assistance as a more realistically achievable within the means of agencies involved and the Government as	Project Manager/Coordinator

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
	<p>funding to the project. The fact that Cameroon provides funding to other countries to run their elections may dampen the enthusiasm of partners who may wish to contribute.</p> <p>- <i>Logistical and security challenges:</i> Road conditions and frequent delays in the air transportation sector in Cameroon, implementing activities outside Yaoundé and, at best Douala would be extremely difficult. In addition to logistical issues, security challenges are likely to cause delays in the implementation of actions with ELECAM and partners.</p> <p>- <i>Complex Coordination Challenges:</i> While ELECAM is the election management body (EMB) in Cameroon, the electoral system includes other key institutions, i.e. the Ministry of Territorial Administration (MINAT) and Courts (for local and regional elections) and the Constitutional Council. In addition to coordinating with institutions,</p>	<p>Likely</p> <p>Likely</p>	<p>affect organizational credibility</p> <p><u>High:</u> Delays in the delivery or cancelation of project activities in identified hotspots.</p> <p><u>Moderately High:</u> Possible delays in the implementation of project activities and cancelations due to weak coordination.</p>	<p>recommended by NAM. Since the UN is not handing funds to ELECAM, fiduciary risks are not envisioned.</p> <p>- <i>Logistical and security challenges:</i> A careful operational plan taking into consideration the security and logistical challenges as well as bottlenecks is the best way to address mitigate delays and other logistical and security risks.</p> <p>- <i>Complex coordination:</i> It would be important for the UN to engage institutions involved in the electoral process, preferably through ELECAM to explain the UN's involvement and the scope of assistance. Identifying entry points and areas where they can be engaged in the assistance would help build trust. Building institutional capacities of</p>	

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
	<p>there are many NGOs involved in elections related activities, and activities connected to those envisioned by the UN in support to the electoral process, some are already working with ELECAM.</p> <p>- <i>Diversion and Data Protection related to the Use of Digital Platforms:</i> The use of digital platforms for Early Warning, fact-checking, and social media monitoring may be diverted from their initial intended use.</p>	Moderately Likely	<p>High:</p> <p>Loss of trust by Government and law enforcement agencies, suspension or cancelation of project activities. Political fallout and loss of credibility</p>	<p>ELECAM to coordinate with institutions, CSOs, international partners would help reduce coordination bottlenecks.</p> <p>- <i>Diversion and Data Protection related to the Use of Digital Platforms:</i> Digital platforms will be designed in a way they would not be diverted from their intended use. Fact-Checking and Social Media Monitoring platforms pose less risks than the Early Warning. Close coordination with the MINAT and ELECAM has provided recommendations in ensuring that the functionalities of digital platforms are locked. Provision of backend to MINAT and ELECAM to monitor the use of the Early Warning tool will help monitor its use and report any anomaly.</p> <p>- <i>Data Protection Protocols and Safeguards:</i> Cameroon's data protection framework is primarily governed by Law No.</p>	

Risk Category	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Responsible Party
				2024/17 of December 23, 2024 and by Law No. 2010/012 of December 21, 2010, relating to cybersecurity and cybercrime. Specific dispositions (SoPs, Protocols, internal regulations) will be taken to guarantee platform data safeguards and protection.	

- d) **Monitoring and evaluation** – Describe the M&E approach for the project, including M&E expertise in the project team and main means and timing of collecting data? Include: a budget break-down for both monitoring and evaluation activities, including collection of baseline and end line data and an independent evaluation, and an approximate M&E timeline. To ensure alignment, as relevant, indicators from existing Strategic Results Frameworks or UN Cooperation Frameworks should be included. Fund recipients are obligated to reserve at least 5-7% of the project budget for M&E activities, including sufficient funds for a quality, independent evaluation. Projects are recommended to invest in community-feedback loops (including with women), Community-based monitoring systems or output and/or outcome data collection mechanisms.

Monitoring activity	Object	Frequency	Planned action	Partners Possible	Cost Possible
Tracking progress towards results	Collect and analyze data on progress against SRR outcome indicators to determine project progress towards agreed outputs.	Quarterly or as required for each indicator.	Project management intervention in the event of slower-than-expected progress.	UNDP and other UN agencies involved	
Monitoring and managing risks	Identify specific risks that could threaten the achievement of planned results. Identify and monitor risk management measures through a risk register. This includes measures and monitoring plans that may have been required by UNDP social and environmental standards. Audits will be carried out in accordance with UNDP audit policy to manage financial risks.	Quarterly	Project management identifies risks and takes steps to manage them. It ensures that a risk register is kept and updated to monitor identified risks and the measures taken.	UNDP, Members of the steering committee and technical committee	
Learn	Knowledge, good practice and lessons learned will be periodically drawn from project activities, actively sought out from other projects and partners, and fed back into the project.	At least once a year	The project team identifies appropriate lessons and takes them into account to inform management decisions.	UNDP, UN agencies involved and responsible parties	
Project quality assurance	Project quality will be assessed against UNDP quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses, and to inform management decisions to improve the project.	Annual	Project management examines the project's strengths and weaknesses and takes them into account to inform its decisions and improve project performance.	UNDP	
Review and take corrective action	Internal review of data and evidence from all follow-up actions to inform decision-making.	At least once a year	Data on performance, risks, lessons learned and quality are reviewed by the steering and technical committees and used to take corrective action.	UNDP, Members of the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee, as well as the Task Force	
Project report	A progress report will be presented to the project's Steering and Technical Committees, as well as to	Annually and at the		UNDP, other UN agencies	

	key stakeholders, including data on results achieved against predefined annual output targets, the annual project quality assessment summary, an updated risk register with mitigation measures, and all evaluation and review reports produced during the period under review.	end of the project (final report)	involved and responsible parties
Project review (steering committee and technical committee)	The project governance mechanism (Steering Committee and Technical Committee) will carry out periodic reviews of the project to assess performance and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure that budgets are realistic for the duration of the project. In the final year of the project, the Steering and Technical Committees will conduct a project review to identify lessons learned, examine opportunities for scaling up, and disseminate project results and lessons learned to relevant audiences.	To be specified (at least annually)	The steering and technical committees should examine any concerns about the quality and slow progress of the project, and management measures should be taken to deal with any problems identified.
			Project Steering and Technical Committees

Lessons learned: The monitoring and evaluation plan of the project will be made in a way to capture best practices and lessons learned during the implementation. In addition, periodic summative evaluations in a form of lessons learned exercise will be conducted as to help reassess the direction the project is taking and , or draw lessons to help in current and future projects.

Project exit strategy/ sustainability – Briefly explain the project’s exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do concretely and proactively to try to ensure this support from the start. Consider possible partnerships with other donors or IFIs.

From the beginning, the project was designed with a built-in exit strategy based on the principles of sustainability, national ownership, and institutional strengthening. Instead of creating parallel structures, the project aimed to reinforce and revitalize existing national mechanisms, such as ELECAM’s consultation platforms, community-based mediation frameworks, and networks of women and youth peace actors. By leveraging local knowledge and capacity – including the strategic roles of traditional and religious leader – the project fosters resilience and continuity well beyond its operational timeline. The project emphasizes empowering local actors, particularly through early warning systems, digital innovation, and inclusive dialogue processes. This ensures that the developed tools and skills remain embedded within national and community-level frameworks.

The project's inclusive focus on youth, women, persons with disabilities, and other socially vulnerable groups reinforces long-term impact by embedding participation and equity into the democratic fabric. Efforts to build the capacity of civil society, the media, law enforcement, and electoral stakeholders, coupled with the integration of civic education and gender-sensitive outreach, are designed to promote durable behavioral and institutional change. Through a deliberate strategy of aligning with national policies, partnering with existing institutions, and facilitating structured coordination with regional and international actors, the project establishes a sustainable foundation for peaceful, inclusive electoral processes in Cameroon even after external support ends.

IV. Project budget

*Provide brief additional information on projects costs, highlighting any specific choices that have underpinned the budget preparation, especially for personnel, travel or other indirect project support, to demonstrate value for money for the project. Proposed budget for all projects must include sufficient funds for an independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit. Fill out **Annex A.2** on project value for money.*

Please note that in nearly all cases, the Peacebuilding Fund transfers project funds in a series of performance-based tranches. PBF’s standard approach is to transfer project funds in two tranches for UN recipients and three tranches for non-UN recipients, releasing second and third tranches upon demonstration that performance benchmarks have been met. All projects include the following two standard performance benchmarks: 1) at least 75% of funds from the first tranche have been committed, and 2) all project reporting obligations have been met. In addition to these standard benchmarks and depending on the risk rating or other context-specific factors, additional benchmarks may be indicated for the release of second and third tranches.

Please specify below any context-specific factors that may be relevant for the release of second and third tranches. These may include the successful conduct of elections, passage of key legislation, the standing up of key counterpart units or offices, or other performance indicators that are necessary before project implementation may advance. Within your response, please reflect how performance-based tranches affect project sequencing considerations.

Fill out two tables in the Excel budget **Annex D**.

In the first Excel budget table in Annex D, please include the percentage towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) for every activity. Also provide a clear justification for every GEWE allocation (e.g. training will have a session on gender equality, specific efforts will be made to ensure equal representation of women etc.).

The total project budget is USD1.5 for the 18 months of execution. The funds mobilized will be transferred to each agency recipient and managed according to the procedures of these organizations. Funds concerning management will be transferred to UNDP. As a result, a specific projects codes will be created in Quantum for better monitoring of this funding.

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		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission		X	
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	X		
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		
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		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	X		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?	X		
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?	X		
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		
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	X		
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	X		

past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.			
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		
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		
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.			
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.			
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		

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 closed 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.¹⁴
- 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.

¹⁴ 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
Outcome 1: Increased participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and indigenous populations in all stages of the electoral process through targeted civic education, inclusive voter registration, and community engagement initiatives.		Outcome Indicator 1a: Percentage increase in the voter registration rate among women, youth (18-35 years), persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and indigenous populations in the current electoral cycle compared to the previous electoral cycle. Baseline: TBC Target: TBC	Registration data (ELECAM)	
		Outcome Indicator 1b: Percentage of eligible voters from women, youth (18-35 years), persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and indigenous populations who cast a ballot in the general election. Baseline: Target:	Post-election voters' data (polling data)	
		Outcome Indicator 1c Baseline: Target:		
	Output 1.1 Increased participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWD), ethnic minorities, IDPs, and indigenous populations in voter registration, electoral campaigns, and political decision-making.	Output Indicator 1.1.1 Percentage of satisfaction of the population disaggregated by sex and age on the inclusiveness and effectiveness of elections Baseline: 2024 Cumulated Voters' Registration - Women: 46.1 % - Youth: 36.33% - PWDs: 0.41% - IDPs: No data in 2025 - Ethnic Minorities: No Data Target: by 2027 (Women 50% Men 50%, Youth 50% PWDs 30 % of voting age)	- Voters' Registration Data - Voters Turnout Data - List of candidates at all levels	47% 31 Dec 2025 49% 31 December 2026 50% 28 Feb 2027
		Output Indicator 1.1.2 Proportion of youth and women standing for elective positions in their constituencies		20% in 2026 30% by 2027

		Baseline: TBD % in 2025 Target: 35% in 2027		
		Output Indicator 1.1.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 1.2 Women, youth and marginalized communities have access to relevant information on the electoral process and are able to engage and contribute to its dissemination as well as promoting peaceful coexistence through community engagement and mobilization. :	Output Indicator 1.2.1 . Number of campaigns targeting women, youth, IDPs, PWDs, and ethnic minorities or involving them: Baseline: No in 2025 Target: Yes by 2027	- Activity Reports - Civic Education Documents	100 in 2025 250 by 2026 50 by 28 Feb 2027
		Output Indicator 1.2.2 Baseline: Target:		
		Output Indicator 1.2.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 1.3	Output Indicator 1.3.1 Baseline: Target:		
		Output Indicator 1.3.2 Baseline: Target:		
		Output Indicator 1.3.3 Baseline: Target:		
Outcome 2: Early warning and mediation mechanisms are effectively functioning in identified violence and conflict hotspots with heightened risks of political tensions and violence (32 out of 58 Divisions) are included with focus on communities already experiencing violence (North-West , South-West and Far North regions), those with past history of violence (Adamawa, North,		Outcome Indicator 2a: Percentage of early warning alerts issued by established mechanisms that resulted in successful mediation or prevention of escalation of political tensions and violence in identified hotspots. Baseline: Target:		
		Outcome Indicator 2b: Percentage reduction in reported incidents of political violence or conflict-related fatalities in the 32 targeted Divisions		

and East), and those at risk of violence (Center – Yaounde, Littoral – Douala, West – Bafoussam).		(North-West, South-West, Far North, Adamawa, North, East, Centre-Yaounde, Littoral-Douala, West-Bafoussam) where early warning and mediation mechanisms are functioning, compared to a defined baseline period. Baseline: Target:		
		Outcome Indicator 2c Baseline: Target:		
	Output 2.1 Established and functioning community-based early warning systems involving women and youth organizations in violence hotspots, facilitating timely identification and resolution of potential situations with the potential of escalating in election-related conflicts and violence in identified violence hotspots.	Output Indicator 2.1.1 Number of women and youth groups involved in community-based early warning mechanisms Baseline: No data in 2025 Target: - At least 2 groups in identified hotspots by 2027 - At least 2000 people have downloaded and use the EW Application in identified hotspots (Women 50%, Youth 50%)	- Activity reports - Early Warning Data - Reports	100 in 2025 250 by 2026 300 by 2027
		Output Indicator 2.1.2 Number of Early Warning Incidents alarms raised using the application Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target:2000 by 2027		250 in 2025 750 by 2026 1000 by 2027
		Output Indicator 2.1.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 2.2 Strengthened mediation frameworks (Community and Insider Mediation), leveraging women, youth, and community leaders to prevent and manage tensions before, during, and after elections.	Output Indicator 2.2.1 Number of trained and active women and youth mediators in identified violence hotspots Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: At least 500 by 2027	- Activity reports	150 in 2025 300 in 2026 50 in 2027
		Output Indicator 2.2.2 Number of incidents successfully mediated by community-based/electoral mediators in the program Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 50% of alerts by 2027		30% in 2025 50% by 2027
		Output Indicator 2.2.3		

		Baseline: Target:		
	Output 2.3 Community ambassadors are mobilized to reduce intercommunal tensions by building trust, countering rumors, and sharing accurate electoral information in identified conflict and violence hotspots.	Output Indicator 2.3.1 Number of volunteer community ambassadors mobilized in identified conflict and violence hotspots Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 300 in 2027	- Activity reports - News reports	200 in 2025 300 by 2027
		Output Indicator 2.3.2 Number of community engagements events through community ambassadors Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 300 by 2027		150 in 2025 300 by 2027
		Output Indicator 2.3.3 Number of incidents monitored, addressed or, referred by community ambassadors Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 300 by 2027		150 in 2025 300 by 2027
	Output 2.4. A comprehensive conflict analysis is generated to inform programming, policies and advocac This was never mentioned above!	Output Indicator 2.3.3 A completed conflict analysis covering all the hotspot locations and potential conflict and violence risks, which could be triggered by elections, or which could trigger election-related violence Baseline: 0 Target: 1 by 2025	- Comprehensive conflict analysis reports	1 in 2025 Updated in 2027
Outcome 3: The spread and influence of hate speech and disinformation in Cameroon's electoral process are significantly curtailed through strengthened regulatory frameworks, enhanced media accountability, improved fact-checking mechanisms, and increased public awareness, contributing to a more informed and peaceful electoral environment.		Outcome Indicator 3a: Percentage reduction in the volume and reach of identified hate speech and disinformation content disseminated across traditional and digital media platforms during the electoral process, compared to a defined baseline electoral period. Baseline: Target:		
		Outcome Indicator 3b: Increase in the proportion of the electorate demonstrating enhanced media literacy and critical thinking skills in identifying and discrediting false narratives related to the electoral process, as measured by pre- and post-intervention public opinion surveys.		

		Baseline: Target:		
		Outcome Indicator 3c Baseline: Target:		
	Output 3.1 Strengthened fact-checking platforms and public awareness campaigns to counter fake news and election-related misinformation in close collaboration with the Elections Cameroon (ELECAM), the Ministry of Communications (MINCOM), the National Communication Commission (NCC), and civil society organizations	Output Indicator 3.1.1 Number of verified misinformation cases addressed through fact-checking platforms and disseminated via public awareness campaigns in coordination with ELECAM, MINCOM, NCC and CSOs. Baseline: TBD in 2025 Target: 1500 by 2027	- Activities reports - Monitoring and fact-checking reports	1500 by 2019
		Output Indicator 3.1.2 Baseline: Target:		
		Output Indicator 1.1.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 3.2 Targeted capacity building programs are delivered to media professionals (Editors-in-Chief, journalists, and Media Houses Owners), fact-checkers, and civil society organizations, equipping them with the skills and tools to identify, verify, and counter disinformation and hate speech in the electoral context..	Output Indicator 3.2.1 Number of media professionals having been trained on information integrity Baseline: TBD in 2025 Target: 360 by 2020	- Activity reports - Signed Code of Conduct	260 in 2025 360 by 2026
		Output Indicator 3.2.2 Number of media professionals, editors-in-chief, and media house owners having signed a code of conduct in combating hate speech, mis/disinformation before, during and after elections. Baseline: TBD in 2025 Target: 360 by 2027		260 in 2025 360 by 2026
		Output Indicator 3.2.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 3.3	Output Indicator 3.3.1	- Analysis report	1 in 2025

	Studies and assessments on the impact of information pollution on electoral integrity are conducted and disseminated to inform data-driven interventions and policy responses.	Completed evidence-based analysis on information pollution and electoral integrity conducted, published, and disseminated to relevant stakeholders. Baseline: None in 2025 Target: 1 in 2025		
		Output Indicator 3.3.2 Baseline: Target:		
		Output Indicator 3.3.3 Baseline: Target:		
	Output 3.4: Dialogue between security forces, ELECAM, the CNC and media professionals is enhanced to reduce tensions and violence against the latter through established formal and informal dialogue pathways/mechanisms.	Output Indicator 3.4.1 Number Formal and Informal Dialogue Pathways/Mechanisms Established Between Law Enforcement and Media Professionals Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 10 (1 per region) in 2027	- Activity reports - News reports	5 in 2025 10 by 2027
		Output Indicator 3.4.2 Number of Meetings held through formal and informal dialogue pathways/mechanisms between law enforcement and media Baseline: 0 in 2027 Target: 10 by 2021		5 in 2025 10 by 2027
	Output 3.5: Public awareness and media literacy campaigns are implemented, enabling citizens to recognize and resist disinformation and promoting the use of trusted sources of electoral information.	Output Indicator 3.5.1 Number of public awareness and campaigns implemented to enhance media literacy and the ability to spot and debunk dis/misinformation Baseline: TBD in 2025 Target: 58 by 2027	- Activity reports - Campaign material (jingles, posters, flyers, spots, etc.).	58 in 2025 58 in 2026 58 in 2027
	Output 3.6: Advocacy and technical support are provided to relevant government institutions and the CNC to promote and implement legal and policy frameworks that ensure transparency, accountability, and responsible communication in the electoral information space.	Output Indicator 3.6.1 Number of advocacy campaigns for information integrity. Baseline: TBD Target: 30 per year until 2027	- Activity reports - Monitoring reports - Signed commitment by political actors.	30 in 2025 30 in 2026 30 in 2027
		Output Indicator 3.6.2		50 in 2025

		<p>Number of political leaders having signed a commitment to support and uphold information integrity.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 in 2025 Target: 50 political leaders</p>		
		<p>Output Indicator 3.6.3</p> <p>Functional monitoring cell within the CNC involving civil society and media associations, with the ability to monitor airtime, and counter mis/disinformation</p> <p>Baseline: TBD in 2025 Target: Functional monitoring cell at CNC</p>		Fully functional cell by 2025