RUNO ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT   **TEMPLATE 4.4**

PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)
ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: SIERRA LEONE
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2017

Programme Title & Project Number
Programme Title: To support efforts to consolidate key human rights activities in partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
Programme Number *(if applicable)* PBF/IRF-95 (ID 00092065)
MPTF Office Project Reference Number:[1] PBF/IRF-95 (ID 00092065)

Recipient UN Organizations	Implementing Partners
List the organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	List the national counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations: National Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone

Programme/Project Budget (US$)	Programme Duration
PBF contribution (by RUNO) **525000**	Overall Duration *(months)* 24 months
	Start Date[2] *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 01.01.2015
Government Contribution *(if applicable)* **N/A**	Original End Date[3] *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 31.12.2016
Other Contributions (donors) *(if applicable)* **N/A**	Current End date[4] *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 31.12.2017
TOTAL: 525000	

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	Report Submitted By

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Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*
☐ Yes ☒ No Date:
Mid-Term Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach*
☐ Yes ☒ No Date:

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Participating Organization (Lead): OHCHR
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PART 1 – RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1   Assessment of the current project implementation status and results

For PRF projects, please identify Priority Plan outcome and indicators to which this project is contributing:

Priority Plan Outcome to which the project is contributing. 2. Promote co-existence and peaceful resolution of conflicts
Priority Plan Outcome indicator(s) to which project is contributing.

For both IRF and PRF projects, please rate this project's overall achievement of results to date: on track

For both IRF and PRF projects, outline progress against each project outcome, using the format below. The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes.

<u>**Outcome Statement 1:**</u> HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international human rights standards in areas where the lack of compliance on Business and Human Rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peace building and consolidation

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Indicator 1: 1.0 No. of mining companies and land owning institutions with evidence of considering international HR standards in their business policies for land access with monitoring of the process by the HRCSL 1.1 No. of mining and land owning institutions using HRcsL training as an opportunity to review the compliance of their current business with HR principles	Baseline: 1.0 - 0 /1.1 - 0 Target: 1.0 - 5/1.1 - 5 Progress:1.0 - HRC has monitored 8 mining, construction and other companies in several regions of the country and noted partial compliance with certain international HR Standards/1.1 - HRCSL met with and conducted training for 8 mining, construction and other companies from several regions. HRCSL review
Indicator 2: 2.0 - # of SGBV cases successfully "fast-tracked" by law enforcement agencies (in % of total submitted) with judiciary assistance provided by HRCSL 2.1 # of regional police HQs where HRCSL provide advocacy and guidance on how to fast-track SGBV cases	Baseline: 2.0 - 0 out of 4 regional HQs/2.1 - 0 out of 4 regional HQs Target: 2.0 - 2 out of 4/2.1 - 2 out of 4 Progress:8 representatives of the Family Support Unit (FSU) of the Sierra Leone Police in 4 regions engaged on the need to expedite prosecution of SGBV cases (data from Jan-June 2017, to be updated in end-of-cycle report)
Indicator 3: 3.0 -# of complaints successfully handled by NCPD (in % out of the total submitted) with legal support provided by HRSCL 3.1 - # of meetings between HRCSL and the newly	Baseline: 3.0. - 0, 3.1 - 0 Target: 3.0 - positive trend of successfully treated complaints since project start/3.1. at least once per quarter

established NCPD and concrete decisions made on how to handle complaints and Treaty Body Reporting	Progress:3.0 - 4 complaints were received, and referred to SLP, 2 have been sent for legal advice (data from Jan-June 2017, to be updated in end of cycle report)/3.1 - 4 regional trainings held on the CRPD. the Disability Act 2011 and Complaints Handling with NCPD regional officers and DPOs.

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Output 1.1. BHR - As a result of quarterly monitoring of the human rights situation in business operations building on a baseline survey, 4 regional trainings for community members including CSOs on BHR, and a consultative national conference to develop a National Action Plan on BHR, relevant stakeholders have been enabled to identify key changes in current business practices.

Output 1.2 SGBV - Mechanisms, such as a monitoring checklist used to conduct 4 quarterly monitoring exercises on the status of implementation of the Sexual Offences Act, and a matrix for collation of cases fast-tracked by HRCSL, now in place to monitor women's awareness of rights. Engagements with communities and justice actors also undertaken

Output 1.3 PWD - As a result of four regional trainings for NCPD and DPOs on the CRPD and the Disability Act, the development of a MoU with the NCPD and a manual on complaints handling, the NCPD's capacities were developed to become more responsive to needs of PWDs.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

The HRC has now been trained on and conducted training itself for other national stakeholders, including national authorities, CSOs, communities, businesss and other relevant stakeholders on the three main focus areas - Business and Human Rights, SGBV and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Through the development of a baseline study and a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, the HRCSL is now in a position to mainstream human rights standards on business and human rights in the country. The monitoring of human rights standards with respect to specific businesses throughout the country and engagements with these businesses on BHR standards, has improved their conduct and compliance with human rights standards, thereby reducing tensions and conflict in host communities

With respect to SGBV, the staff and Commissioners of the HRCSL, as well as CSOs and communities have now gained knowledge on the implementation of the gender justice laws, and are in a better position to mainstream SGBV in all aspects of their work. The monitoring of the status of implementation of the gender justice laws in several districts has led to the identification of areas where improvements need to be made, and discussions on the

effectiveness of the Saturday courts on SGBV which were held with national judicial actors have led to recommendations for improvements in the effectiveness of these courts. As a result of community engagements, communities have also been committed to a reduction of incidents of SGBV through strategies such as non-interference with prosecutions, constinued sensitization and development of by-laws.

With respect to PWDs, as a result of four regional trainings for NCPD and DPOs on the CRPD and the Disability Act, the development of a MoU with the NCPD and a manual on complaints handling, the HRCSL, the NCPD and other DPOs have developed their capacities to mainstream issues relating to disability. A roundtable on participation of PWDs in elections, as well as links to a UNDP project on supporting inclusion of PWDs in the electoral process contribute to preventing conflict and promoting cohesion in the lead-up to the elections.

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?
N/A

Outcome Statement 2: HR approaches in SL of the UN and other donor communities in SL aligned to international standards to support more effectively HRCSL operations

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Indicator 1: % of UN agencies and donors committed to support HRSCL with additional funding and/or project specific support . Indicator 2: # of UN agencies and donors committed to align HR projects at their level within the scope of the new HR guidelines	Baseline: 0 Target: Majority of UN agencies supportive to HRCSL Progress:UNDP and donors have consistently supported the HRCSL over the period of its existence to date. OHCHR has provided support to the HRCSL in capacity building/HRA. UNDP/OHCHR supporting the HRSCL through the PBF conflict mitigation and prevention during the electoral cycle project Baseline: 0 Target: 100% Progress:UNCT and donors are provided information by the RCO on human rights guidelines, including through Human Rights Working Group meetings co-chaired by HRA and HRCSL, and use this in planning their work on human rights

Indicator 3: # of UN agencies and donors acknowledge "RCO's lead role" in alignment processes	including to HRCSL Baseline: 0 Target: 100% Progress:RCO through HRA and UNDP Governance Unit coordinates assistance to HRCSL for UNCT and donors

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

As a result of the HRA's engagement with the UNCT and with donors, the UN and donor community have been provided with relevant information and human rights guidelines and have used this to plan their work on human rights including support to the HRSCL. In particular, UNDP/OHCHR supporting the HRSCL through the PBF conflict mitigation and prevention during the electoral cycle project.

As a result of the Human Rights Working Group, co-chaired by the HRA and the HRCSL, there has been alignment of processes for strengthening the HRCSL through the RCO.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

The UNCT has contributed towards the achievement of this outcome by engagement with the strategic workplan of the HRCSL, with the aim of building the capacity of the HRCSL in certain key areas. As a result of the suppport provided by the HRA to the UNCT on human rights issues, as well as the coordination between UNDP and OHCHR in providing support to the HRCSL in the context of the conflict prevention project, as well as the Human Rights Working Group, co-chaired by the HRA and the HRCSL, there has been alignment of processes from donors and the UNCT in providing support to the HRSCL in accordance with international human rights standards.

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

Outcome Statement 3:

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Indicator 1:	Baseline: Target: Progress:
Indicator 2:	Baseline:

	Target:
	Progress:
Indicator 3:	Baseline:
	Target:
	Progress:

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

Outcome Statement 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Indicator 1:	Baseline:
	Target:
	Progress:
Indicator 2:	Baseline:
	Target:
	Progress:
Indicator 3:	Baseline:
	Target:
	Progress:

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers (3000 character limit)?

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

1.2 Assessment of project evidence base, risk, catalytic effects, gender in the reporting period

Evidence base: What is the evidence base for this report and for project progress? What consultation/validation process has taken place on this report *(1000 character limit)?*	The evidence base for this report are progress reports provided by the Sierra Leone Human Rights Commission, as well as training materials, and other materials relating to the various activities implemented during the project. Until June 2017, the Human Rights Advisor also supported the HRC with the implementation of the project. However, there was a gap between June-November 2017 when the new HRC arrived. The report is based on extensive consultations with the HRC and other stakeholders
Funding gaps: Did the project fill critical funding gaps in peacebuilding in the country? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)*	The project fulfilled a critical funding gap for the HRC, which after prior funding from various other donors, lacked support, particularly in the key areas that are the focus of the project. The project therefore allowed for the consolidation of the HRC's development as a key institution for peacebuilding in the country, particularly in these critical areas. This is particularly important in the lead-up to the elections in the country in March 2018.
Catalytic effects: Did the project achieve any catalytic effects, either through attracting additional funding commitments or creating immediate conditions to unblock/ accelerate peace relevant processes? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)*	BHR - engagement with businesses has prompted the implementation of policies i.e. Equal Opportunity and Diversity, Community Complains Redress Mechanism SGBV - establishment of a committee of traditional leaders for sensitization on SGBV in local communities. PWD - Engagement by HRCSL and NCPD with stakeholders in the election on operationalization of policy on inclusion e.g. use of tactile ballot guide, which has fed into UNDP's project on support to the National Electoral Commission involving the inclusion of PWDs in the electoral process.
Risk taking/ innovation: Did the project support any innovative or risky activities to achieve peacebuilding results? What were they and what was the result? *(1500 character limit)*	N/A

<u>Gender</u>: How have gender considerations been mainstreamed in the project to the extent possible? Is the original gender marker for the project still the right one? Briefly justify. *(1500 character limit)*	The results under output 1.2 are directly related to gender, as they focus on sensitization of communities on new gender justice laws. The original gender marker for the project (2) is therefore still correct. Gender has also been mainstreamed throughout the project, with attention paid to including women in training activities on BHR and on PWD.
<u>Other issues:</u> Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that should be shared with PBSO? This can include any cross-cutting issues or other issues which have not been included in the report so far. *(1500 character limit)*	The HRA left Sierra Leone in June 2017 to take up another position with OHCHR, and the new HRA only took up functions in late October 2017. This resulted in a lack of oversight of the project activities by a HRA for several months while activities were being implemented by the HRC. Although the project is coming to a close, several areas of the project can be linked to the ongoing PBF project on conflict prevention and mitigation in the electoral process as well as on ensuring inclusion in the elections, including by pursuing synergies with the SNEC project on inclusion of persons with disabilities in the electoral process.

PART 2: LESSONS LEARNED AND SUCCESS STORY

2.1 Lessons learned

Provide at least three key lessons learned from the implementation of the project. These can include lessons on the themes supported by the project or the project processes and management.

Lesson 1 *(1000 character limit)*	There is need for sustained public education on and monitoring of BHR, SGBV and the rights of PWDs.
Lesson 2 *(1000 character limit)*	Greater synergies should be built between this project and other ongoing peacebuilding projects, including the conflict prevention project and the UNDP project supporting the National Electoral Commission.
Lesson 3 *(1000 character limit)*	Importance of having continued HRA presence in the country to ensure effective implementation and quality control
Lesson 4 *(1000 character limit)*	Importance of rolling out activities in the provinces as well as in capital.
Lesson 5 *(1000 character limit)*	

2.2 Success story (OPTIONAL)

Provide one success story from the project implementation which can be shared on the PBSO website and Newsletter as well as the Annual Report on Fund performance. Please include key facts and figures and any citations (3000 character limit).

PART 3 – FINANCIAL PROGRESS AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

3.1   Comments on the overall state of financial expenditure

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, slightly delayed, or off track: on track

If expenditure is delayed or off track, please provide a brief explanation (500 characters maximum):

Please provide an overview of expensed project budget by outcome and output as per the table below.[5]

Outcome 1:					
Output number	Output name	RUNOs	Approved budget	Expensed budget	Any remarks on expenditure
Output 1.1					

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[5] Please note that financial information is preliminary pending submission of annual financial report to the Administrative Agent.

Output 1.2				
Output 1.3				
Outcome 2:				
Output 2.1				
Output 2.2				
Output 2.3				
Outcome 3:				
Output 3.1				
Output 3.2				
Output 3.3				
Etc				

3.2   Comments on management and implementation arrangements

Please comment on the management and implementation arrangements for the project, such as: the effectiveness of the implementation partnerships, coordination/coherence with other projects, any South-South cooperation, the modalities of support, any capacity building aspect, the use of partner country systems if any, the support by the PBF Secretariat and oversight by the Joint Steering Committee (for PRF only). Please also mention if there have been any changes to the project (what kind and when); or whether any changes are envisaged in the near future (2000 character maximum):

There was a strong collaboration and partnership between the national implementing partner (the SLHRC) and the HRA. However, the HRA left Sierra Leone in June 2017 to take up another position with OHCHR, and the new HRA only took up functions in late October 2017. This resulted in a lack of oversight of the project activities for several months while activities were being implemented by the HRC.

Summary of state of project financial expenditure as of 15 November 2017

Project name: /IRF-95 (ID 00092065)

Country: Sierra Leone

Preliminary expenditure break-down by outcome and output:

(Please note that financial information is preliminary pending submission of annual financial report to the Administrative Agent.)

Output number	Output name	Approved budget	Expensed budget	Any remarks on expenditure
Outcome 1:				
Output 1.1	Business and Human Rights	67,643	66,843	
Output 1.2	Gender (SGBV)	43,337	42,746	
Output 1.3	Persons with Disability	41,454	37,958	
Outcome 2:				
Output 2.1				
Output 2.2				
Output 2.3				
Outcome 3:				
Output 3.1				
Output 3.2				
Output 3.3				
Outcome 4:				
Output 4.1				
Output 4.2				
Output 4.3				
TOTAL:		152,434	147,547	Of 12,266 grant budget for bank charges and audit fee, there has been an expenditure of 6632, and a balance of 4,434. The balance of the grant (44,800) is withheld until the final report to Grants Committee.