

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND
PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT TEMPLATE



PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

COUNTRY: Sri Lanka

TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL Semi-Annual

DATE OF REPORT: 15 June 2018

Project Title: "Promoting the Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process"	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00105731	
PBF project modality: <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <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 type of organization (UN, CSO etc): UNFPA, UNV and UN WOMEN List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental: Women and Media Collective (for Outcome 2)	
Project commencement date¹: 26 May 2017 Project duration in months:² 30	
Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): UNFPA: \$ 410,000 UNV : \$ 300,000 UN WOMEN : \$ 500,000 : \$ Total: \$ 1,210,000 <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account</i>	
How many tranches have been received so far: 1	
Report preparation: Project report prepared by: UNFPA, UNV and UN WOMEN Project report approved by: Representatives, Resident Coordinator Did PBF Secretariat clear the report: Yes Any comments from PBF Secretariat on the report: Comments already incorporated. Has the project undertaken any evaluation exercises? Please specify and attach: N/A	

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

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

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general / common language.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*

PART 1: RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1 Overall project progress to date

Briefly explain the **status of the project** in terms of its implementation cycle, including whether all preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (1500 character limit): All recipient agencies have completed project staff recruitment. During the reporting period, the following activities were completed:

Under outcome 1:

- * the mapping of youth-led organizations;
- * the needs assessments of the 4 target provinces to develop the correspondent capacity building programs on youth and peace by young people;
- * identification of potential CSO (including youth led organizations) recipients of the grants to support mainstreaming of youth, peace & UNSCR2250;
- * the capacity assessment of 3 CSOs and institutions to host UN National Volunteers for a position on youth and peace coordination;
- * 4 out of 4 residential trainings of leaders on youth and peace, and 3 out of 4 provincial level multi-stakeholder dialogues;
- * 3 out of 4 provincial youth policies were drafted, and one remains to be discussed in the provincial council.

In addition to the above, the conceptualization of the research on youth and violent extremism has commenced.

Under outcome 2

- * the stakeholder validation exercises;
- * the contracting of an implementing CSO partner, Women and Media Collective;
- * established key partnerships with two local level organisations: Suriya Women's Development Centre -Batticaloa & Women's Resource Centre -Kurunegala.

In addition, the mapping of needs and capacity gaps of women officials and leaders; development of course contents for capacity building programmes and multi-party dialogues at the local level were initiated.

Given the recent/current political/peacebuilding/ transition situation/ needs in the country, has the project been/ does it continue to be **relevant** and well placed to address potential conflict factors/ sources of tensions/ risks to country's sustaining peace progress? Please illustrate. If project is still ongoing, are any adjustments required? (1500 character limit)

Some of the recent incidents of communal violence that took place in several areas of Sri Lanka was allegedly portrayed as an ethnic and religious clash instigated by youth.

Considering the negative narratives surrounding youth that was publicised, this project which promotes youth participation in peacebuilding processes remains most relevant.

Subsequent to a cabinet reshuffle in February, a new Ministry for Youth Affairs was established and this allows for renewed opportunities to engage with the Government.

However, the Ministry that was mandated the subject of volunteerism was divided. This will impact the implementation of the advocacy and outreach around volunteerism and peace.

Sri Lanka implemented its first-ever quota for women's representation via the Local Government elections of February 2018. The project continues to be relevant as it is focused mostly on the post-election period: strengthening the capacities of elected officials and mobilising further support from national/sub-national entities for greater women's role in governance and decision-making. Some adjustments are required in terms of project timeline as the delay in holding of the LG elections - initially scheduled for 2017 - significantly impacted implementation. In May the first Oversight Committee meeting was convened by the Government and the UN to discuss progress, achievements and challenges for this project - another progressive development in regard to Government support for this work.

In a few sentences, summarize **what is unique/ innovative/ interesting** about what this project is trying/ has tried to achieve or its approach (rather than listing activity progress) (1500 character limit).

Based on a youth-sensitive, gender-centric methodology, the project aims to break the stereotypes and barriers that exist among youth leaders and among key stakeholders engaged with women in politics. Firstly, young people, placed as key peacebuilders and implementers, are provided the space to lead and decide on the project and activities, ensuring that they are both the beneficiaries and equal partners of the project. For instance, the inclusion of hearing-impaired youth, especially girls, in the trainings and dialogues continuously helped a deeper understanding on language-based division amongst Sri Lankan youth. Further, the travels of the provincial youth platform leaders from their respective provinces to others has had a strong impact on their outlook and experiences giving them a more holistic understanding of challenges and opportunities for young people across the Provinces.

Secondly, the project is convening multi-party dialogues of elected officials to achieve cross-party consensus on facilitating peacebuilding and reconciliation at the local level. Despite national commitments on peacebuilding and women's political participation, there has been limited engagement of local officials. The dialogues aim to address conflict drivers and foster reconciliation locally by focusing on shared solutions that would benefit all. It includes capacity building in leadership and analysing conflict, whilst prioritising greater women's engagement in peacebuilding and governance.

Considering the project's implementation cycle, please **rate this project's overall progress towards results to date:**

on track

In a few sentences summarize **major project peacebuilding progress/results** (with evidence), which PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit):

The capacity of youth-led or youth-focused organizations on youth and peacebuilding processes has been strengthened. A number of youth-led or youth-focused organizations, represented by 339 youth, of which approximately 40% were female participants, have been trained in a non-formal learning methodology (experiential and holistic learning) to strengthen the knowledge, skills and values on youth and peace. All capacity building workshops and trainings are delivered in local languages by young peacebuilders. 350 young people received awareness on youth and peace at the Yowun Puraya 2018, the flagship event of the National Youth Services Council in March. The draft youth policy for the Northern Province was sent to the provincial council for approval. In addition, conflict and peace has been incorporated into entrepreneurship courses to youth delivered by NYSC/UNDP. In partnership with the project, Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University incorporated the theme 'Role of Youth in Peace' to be hosted in August 2018.

In a few sentences, explain how the project has made **real human impact**, that is, how did it affect the lives of any people in the country – where possible, use direct quotes that PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit):

“I learnt that many conflicts in our country occur due to lack of communication and due to lack of awareness. If Sri Lankan youth would realize the value of real peace, we could build a better Sri Lanka (23, female, Pujapitiya).” Youth leaders who participated in the capacity building programmes expressed that they could finally understand how they can contribute to peace and violence prevention. They felt through the training they got concrete tools on community-level engagement, within their families and friends to promote nonviolent communication, to manage conflict and prevent conflicts from escalating. They were also able to break down assumptions on other religions and ethnicities and respect each other.

"Irrespective of whether we are Sinhala, Tamil, Muslim or Burgher, peace is when we can all unite despite of race and religion (23, male, Matara)." Youth also learned that despite of differences youth can unite for peace. This impact was evident in the Southern provincial symposium where Tamil speaking youth from North and East, Sinhala speaking youth from South, Muslim youth, and hearing-impaired youth worked together.

“Inclusivity” is another important element that positively affected the youth. As one of the parents of a hearing-impaired participant (23, female, Hambantota) acknowledged, "This is a great opportunity for not only her, but for any disabled young person. The exposure and experience will enhance her knowledge."

If the project progress assessment is **on-track**, please explain what the key **challenges** (if any) have been and which measures were taken to address them (1500 character limit).

The volatile political climate was a key challenge for this project. There was a transition of the key officials in the national and provincial government counterparts. To address this, the local-level governments were engaged to ensure the continuity of the project. The delay in Local Government elections, which was held in February 2018 as opposed to 2017 was a major challenge under outcome 2. Additionally, there was uncertainty regarding the implementation of the 25% quota for women's representation both before and after the election. The final list of elected councillors was only gazetted a month later in March 2018. As a mitigating strategy, UN agencies and partners engaged with Government counterparts advocating for the continued provision of the 25% quota particularly in the pre-election period.

Other challenges include skepticism of young people towards the UN due to negative perceptions created by mainstream local media over the years. Whilst this space has improved in recent times, the YPS Coalition, which involves many CSOs working on youth and peace, is engaged with several youth media initiatives to support a progressive narrative, especially in local languages. The link between the global level and national/local levels on youth and peace agenda were strengthened so that young people and organizations can understand their contribution to the global level. Mentorship and monitoring mechanisms were also developed as follow-up methods to strengthen accountability.

If the assessment is **off-track**, please list main reasons/ **challenges** and explain what impact this has had/will have on project duration or strategy and what **measures** have been taken/ will be taken to address the challenges/ rectify project progress (1500 character limit):

N/A

Please attach as a separate document(s) any materials highlighting or providing more evidence for project progress (for example: publications, photos, videos, monitoring reports, evaluation reports etc.). List below what has been attached to the report, including purpose and audience.

Outcome 1:

1. Videos and pictures from 'Youth4Peace' capacity building trainings on youth and peace in Central, Eastern, Northern Provinces: The purpose of the photos and videos is to raise awareness of role of young people on social media and to provide visibility on what young people from Sri Lanka are doing towards peace. The targeted audience for the photos is the followers of UNV Social media and YPS Sri Lanka Coalition, and for the video is the audience who attended at the side event on UNSCR 2250 Progress Study presentation at UN Security Council in April 2018.

2. Article on 'Youth4Peace' capacity building trainings on youth and peace: The purpose of the article is to increase visibility of the activities done under the project and raise awareness on the positive role of Sri Lankan young people in peacebuilding. The targeted audience is the UNV website visitors.

3. Media coverage of the 'Youth4Youth' provincial symposia in Northern, Eastern, Southern Provinces: A report of the media coverage about the event on youth and participation captured on print media and online/social media targeting various audiences, including youth, followers of UNFPA Social media, partner organizations, general public (also includes the post-event brief report).

Outcome 2:

1. Media coverage of the 'Women for Change: National Campaign on Women's Political Participation': A report of the media coverage garnered on television, print media and online/social media.

2. Briefing Paper on the Senior Media Editors' Roundtable: The document includes suggestions and strategies for gender-responsive journalism and improve media coverage for female candidates; targeted at print, television and online media.

1.2 Result progress by project outcome

The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes. If your project has more approved outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.

Outcome 1: Youth are actively and positively engaged in the peacebuilding process so that their voices are reflected in key policy and decision making processes and outcomes at the national and sub-national levels.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: Describe main progress under this Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration), including major output progress (not all individual activities). If the project is starting to make/ has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context. Where possible, provide specific examples of change the project has supported/ contributed to as well as, where available and relevant, quotes from partners or beneficiaries about the project and their experience. (3000 character limit)?

The project supported the outcome by building the capacity of youth and youth-led or youth-focused organizations on UNSCR 2250, leadership, and community-level participation. Three phases for the capacity building trainings for youth leaders on peace has been developed and 4 out of 4 training were implemented in Eastern, Northern, Central, and Southern Provinces with support of Provincial Councils, CSO, International Youth-Led Network for Peace and UN Agencies. Follow-up projects are currently implemented by young people.

Two provincial-level symposia were conducted each in the Eastern and Southern province in partnership with UN agencies and other youth-related CSOs. A dialogue on Provincial Youth

Policies took place with the participation of key Government officials and the youth leaders. As one of the youth participants said, “regardless of race, gender or language, the symposium has enabled us to find solutions and drive social change by connecting with young people around Sri Lanka”. With a strong emphasis on “inclusivity”, youth participants representing all districts, gender, religion, communities, including hearing impaired youth, participated in the symposium. The symposium supported the outcome by building the capacity of youth on UNSCR 2250, leadership, and community-level participation.

2 UN National Volunteers have been placed at CSO and National Youth Services Council to strengthen their capacities in mainstreaming UNSCR 2250. Youth, Peace and Security Coalition in Sri Lanka was reactivated and implemented activities to raise awareness on youth and peace. Currently discussions on setting up infrastructures within multiple universities for ‘volunteering for peace’ are ongoing which includes University of Ruhuna, Trincomalee Campus of the Eastern University, University of Peradeniya and Sabaragamuwa University.

The project has contributed to increasing the capacity of government institutions to engage with youth. The trust between youth and the state was improved by providing an opportunity for the youth and provincial-level government to directly communicate and engage with each other through the provincial symposia. Currently two provincial-level youth policies are drafted in the Northern and Eastern province while the provincial youth policy draft is being reviewed by the Northern provincial council.

Outcome 2: State decision-making processes are more equitable and inclusive to enable women’s meaningful participation and leadership in governance and peacebuilding.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

The Local Government (LG) elections of 2018 has resulted in increasing women's representation at the local level from 1.9% to an estimated 25% due to the operationalisation of the local quota (though not all local authorities have met this target). 535 women were elected for LG bodies and an additional 1,991 women are appointed by the quota's separate list. The number of women who contested and were elected alone account for approx 6.2% of all seats available, which is significant in itself. Though there were hurdles in ensuring the quota was finally implemented, there is considerable evidence of high-level commitment towards increased women's representation/participation in the political sphere. This includes commitments by President Sirisena and key Parliamentarians from various political parties at the launch of a national campaign titled 'Women for Change' to promote women's active and meaningful political participation. President Sirisena noted, "In order to establish a better country, better society, and to establish a society with love, compassion and moral values, it is important to focus on the representation of women to take the lead in such a society." The project contributed significantly to the multi-stakeholder coalition of actors (the Action Collective for Women in Politics) which supported the national campaign in the development of themes, key messages and additional resources for the campaign as well as in the conceptualization and organisation of different aspects of the campaign. These include the media/social media component and the Senior Media Editors' Roundtable to promote gender-responsive journalism and identify strategies to ensure greater coverage for women candidates.

Following the gazetting of the list of elected councillors in March 2018, the mapping of needs and capacity gaps of elected officials and women community leaders in all project locations was initiated, with guidelines for the interviews and focus group discussions being

completed. Additionally, the course contents for both the residential trainings for elected officials, as well as the the certification course on women's leadership in relation to peacebuilding and governance are being developed.

Furthermore, the project is currently initiating a series of multi-party dialogues convening elected male and female officials to build cross-party consensus on facilitating peacebuilding at the local level. The dialogues will strive to address conflict drivers and foster reconciliation at the local level, by focusing on shared solutions that would benefit all. Additionally, it will also include a component of capacity building in leadership and analysing/understanding conflict, whilst prioritising greater women's engagement in both peacebuilding and governance.

Additionally, the project has initiated discussions with the Government (Ministry of Finance, Finance Commission of SL) on strengthening and institutionalising gender-responsive planning and budgeting.

Outcome 3:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

Outcome 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

1.3 Cross-cutting issues

<p><u>National ownership:</u> How has the national government demonstrated ownership/ commitment to the project results and activities? Give specific examples. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>On Outcome 1 - Both Provincial Level Government and the National level counterparts have participated and supported the project activities. In early May, the first Oversight Committee (OC) meeting was convened by the UN RCO and the Secretariat for the Coordination of Reconciliation Mechanism (SCRM), one of the key Government partners in coordinating this project. Whilst the OC comprised senior Ministry officials from several Ministries and Department they were presented with the progress, achievement and challenges of the delivery of this project. They are now engaged in ensuring further support for this work and is expected to undertake a field visit in August 2018.</p> <p>All capacity building programmes have included a session lead by the respective provincial council.</p> <p>On Outcome 2, the Government has demonstrated its commitment towards increased women's political participation by implementing a local level quota for women in 2018 LG elections. Further, commitments have been made by the highest level - President,</p>
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	<p>Parliamentarians across political parties - as seen at the national campaign in November 2017, launched together by the President, the MWCA and the MPCLG.</p> <p>Overall, the existing mechanisms such as the PBF Board, comprising key Government officials, donors, civil society and the UN, and the PBF Project Oversight Committees are further evidence of the Government's commitment towards project activities and results.</p>
<p>Monitoring: Is the project M&E plan on track? What monitoring methods and sources of evidence are being/ have been used? Please attach any monitoring-related reports for the reporting period. (1500 character limit)?</p>	<p>For Outcome 1, monitoring and evaluation formats for pre- and post- capacity building programmes have been developed (attached). A mentorship and monitoring mechanism embedded into activities to ensure accountability, follow-up and sustainability has been developed.</p> <p>For Outcome 2, monitoring and evaluation tools have been developed to measure impact of different activities. Tools include process analysis survey, pre- and post-training evaluation forms, questionnaire surveys, reflection sheet with mood metre methodology, group thought survey, scoring method survey, pre- and post- questionnaire survey, amongst others.</p>
<p>Evaluation: Provide an update on the preparations for the external evaluation for the project, especially if within last 6 months of implementation or final report. Confirm available budget for evaluation. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>All agencies have budgeted for the final evaluation, which will be cost-shared.</p>
<p>Catalytic effects (financial): Did the project lead to any specific non-PBF funding commitments? If yes, from whom and how much? If not, have any specific attempts been made to attract additional financial contributions to the project and beyond? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Catalytic effects (non-financial): Did the project create favourable conditions for additional peacebuilding activities by Government/ other donors? If yes, please specify. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Exit strategy/ sustainability: What steps have been taken to prepare for end of project and help ensure sustainability of the project results beyond PBF support for this project? (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>YPS Coalition had been reactivated and meaningfully engaged in the project ensuring ownership and sustainability. All activities under output 1.1. involved the YPS Coalition in Sri Lanka and gathered their feedbacks. Global level engagement strengthened with the Global youth and peace agenda: in particular providing support in the Global Progress Study Report on UNSCR 2250. For each provincial symposium, the youth element is connected to the Government, private sectors and civil society organizations operating in each target province. A Provincial Youth Platform was established for each of the</p>

	<p>Provinces. This is a mechanism to involve private sectors and civil society organizations with respective Government counterparts to ensure the sustainability of the project. Additionally, the multi-party dialogues are set up to be participatory processes which are expected to continue beyond the lifespan of the project. Strengthening their capacities to work together on issues related to their communities is one such sustainability strategy.</p>
<p>Risk taking: Describe how the project has responded to risks that threatened the achievement of results. Identify any new risks that have emerged since the last report. <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	<p>The recent communal violence in several cities which spread also owing to negative use of social media received specific attention by trainers during the symposia and dialogue on the same to be included in future sessions facilitated by experts.</p> <p>The frequent transition of the government officials responsible for youth affairs were one of the risks that affected the performance of Outcome 1. In order to address this an early meeting with the new Minister and his officials are sought.</p> <p>The skepticism of young people towards UN due to lack of coordination among different agencies and limited follow-ups was another risk Outcome 1 had to face. To address this, the YPS Coalition, which involves many CSOs working on youth and peace, was reactivated and engaged in the project to ensure ownership and sustainability. The link between the global level and national/local levels on youth and peace agenda were strengthened so that young people and organizations can understand their contribution to the global level. Mentorship and monitoring mechanisms were also developed as follow-up methods to strengthen accountability.</p> <p>Delays in LG elections were identified as a potential risk which did impact the project in terms of its timeline for Outcome 2. In accordance with the proposed mitigating strategy, UN agencies and other development partners engaged with relevant Government counterparts, advocating for the continued provision of the 25% quota, particularly in the pre-election period.</p>
<p>Gender equality: In the reporting period, which activities have taken place with a specific focus on addressing issues of gender equality or women's empowerment? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	<p>The Outcome 1 related activities specifically focused on women's participation in the capacity building programs. Priorities were given to female participants. All capacity building programmes incorporated a session on gender and women's participation and empowerment delivered by UN Women. The gender balance and representation of all trainers and experts were also thoroughly considered. Outcome 2 of the project is fully focused on women's active and meaningful participation in governance and peacebuilding processes. Towards this end, subsequent to the LG elections, the project has undertaken a mapping of the needs and capacity gaps of elected officials as well as women community leaders; commenced development of</p>

	<p>course contents/modules for residential training programmes for elected officials as well as a certification course on women's leadership focused on governance and peacebuilding; and initiated work towards convening multi-party dialogues at the local level to identify strategies and build consensus across political parties to promote women's political participation and representation.</p>
<p>Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	<p>The political climate, including postponement of the local government elections and multiple Cabinet reshuffles, have impacted the project adversely.</p>

1.3 INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: *Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)*

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 1 Youth are actively and positively engaged in the peacebuilding process so that their voices are reflected in key policy and decision making processes and outcomes at the national and sub-national levels.	Indicator 1.1 % of youth engaged in peacebuilding process who feel that they have been able to positively contribute	0	40%	Survey to be conducted in 2018	Team for delivering survey were not recruited in 2017.	To be conducted in the next quarter
	Indicator 1.2 Proportion of youth population who feel the peacebuilding process is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	n/a	tbc	Survey to be conducted in 2018	Team for delivering survey were not recruited in 2017.	To be conducted in the next quarter
	Indicator 1.3 Number of youth	-	-	-	The indicator needs revision as all agencies agreed that it is irrelevant to the	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	engaged by TJ, Reconciliation and Governance mechanisms				project. Suggested indicator: “# of national and sub-national policies and recommendations on peace and reconciliation consulted with young people”	
Output 1.1 Increased capacity of youth-led and youth-focused organizations to engage in peacebuilding processes/including UNSC Resolution 2250	Indicator 1.1.1 Number of youth-led and youth-focused organizations supported to increase young people engagement in peacebuilding through dialogue, awareness raising and knowledge exchange	0	5	On track 3		
	Indicator 1.1.2 # local youth consulted for policy priority setting disaggregated by	150	500	On track - 339		None

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	gender, geographical location, population group					
Output 1.2 Increased capacity of national, provincial and sub-national level institutions to engage youth in peacebuilding and linkages are created for policy-making and programming	Indicator 1.2.1 Amount of budget secured within key institutions (specify which institutions) at central, provincial and district level in targeted locations dedicated to youth.	LKR 1.5 Million at the Provincial level in the North and East	TBD	Activities related to this will commence once the National Youth Peace Panel is formed and operational.		
	Indicator 1.2.2 National Youth Peace Panel established and operational.	0	1	Preparatory work is ongoing and the National Youth Peace Panel will be established by July 2019.		
Output 1.3	Indicator 1.3.1					
	Indicator 1.3.2					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 2 State decision-making processes are more equitable and inclusive to enable women's meaningful participation and leadership in governance and peacebuilding.	Indicator 2.1 Number of new Government policies on Gender-responsive Budgeting issued at central, provincial and district level.	1	3	Ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Finance and other stakeholders regarding institutionalising of gender-responsive budgeting.		
	Indicator 2.2 Number of gender-responsive provincial plans developed.	0	4	Activities related to this will commence once the trainings for elected women officials and community leaders, as well as multi-party dialogues, have been completed.	Delay in holding Local Government elections and gazetting of elected local councillors.	
	Indicator 2.3					
Output 2.1 Increased	Indicator 2.1.1 % of targeted	0	At least 50% of targeted	Ongoing mapping of needs and	Delay in holding Local Government elections and gazetting of elected local	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
capacity among select women political candidates and local leaders (women and men) to promote engagement of women in governance and peacebuilding processes.	women leaders who are aware of key information related to governance and peacebuilding processes and procedures.		women leaders	capacity gaps of elected women officials and community leaders. Ongoing development of course contents for trainings and certification course.	councillors.	
	Indicator 2.1.2 Number of those trained who are able to cite at least one example of applying the training in their work by three months after training.	0	At least 50% of trained people.	Ongoing mapping of needs and capacity gaps of elected women officials and community leaders. Ongoing development of course contents for trainings and certification course.	Delay in holding Local Government elections and gazetting of elected local councillors.	
Output 2.2 Increased	Indicator 2.2.1 Number of institutions that	0	2	Ongoing discussions with the Ministry of		The target may be refined based on any changes to the

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
capacity of national and sub-national institutions, including political parties, to ensure policies, plans, and budgets are gender-responsive.	introduce gender responsive tools for governance.			Finance and other stakeholders regarding institutionalising og gender-responsive budgeting. Ongoing work to initiate multi-party dialogues at the local level to promote women's role in governance.		political context.
	Indicator 2.2.2 % of people who believe that presence of women in leadership positions leads to improved policy-making.	TBD	TBD	Activities are scheduled for the latter quarters of 2018.		Target to be defined following the outcome of the mapping assessment, which is to be finalised shortly.
Output 2.3 Women	Indicator 2.3.1 Number of women leaders at national,	0	25	Ongoing mapping of needs and capacity gaps		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
leaders promote increased civic engagement on issues related to governance, reconciliation and TJ.	provincial and local level in target locations who use social media platforms to engage with the public.			include an assessment of social media usage.		
	Indicator 2.3.2 Number of social media advocacy campaigns designed and supported.	1	4	Based on the assessment of social media usage, advocacy campaigns and materials will be designed.		
Outcome 3	Indicator 3.1					
	Indicator 3.2					
	Indicator 3.3					
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1					
	Indicator 3.1.2					
Output 3.2	Indicator 3.2.1					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
	Indicator 3.2.2					
Output 3.3	Indicator 3.3.1					
	Indicator 3.3.2					
Outcome 4	Indicator 4.1					
	Indicator 4.2					
	Indicator 4.3					
Output 4.1	Indicator 4.1.1					
	Indicator 4.1.2					
Output 4.2	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
Output 4.3	Indicator 4.3.1					
	Indicator 4.3.2					

PART 2: INDICATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL PROGRESS

2.1 Comments on the overall state of financial expenditures

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, delayed, or off track, vis-à-vis project plans and by recipient organization: *delayed*

How many project budget tranches have been received to date and what is the overall level of expenditure against the total budget and against the tranche(s) received so far (500 characters limit): One tranche has been received to date. For outcome 1 UNFPA, the expenditure rate for this tranche is 43.93%. (USD126,092 of USD 287,000) For outcome 1 UNV, the expenditure for this tranche is 32.97% (USD 64,919 of USD 196,916).

When do you expect to seek the next tranche, if any tranches are outstanding: November 2018

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

Some expenditure under Outcome 1 were delayed due to the Ministry reshuffle, but date of the Government-UN-private sector joint activity for advocating volunteerism and peace is decided and should not cause any further delays.

Expenditure under Outcome 2 has been delayed due to scheduling of Local Government elections only in February and issuance of the gazette of elected official in March 2018. Measures are being taken to ensure that expenditure is fast-tracked in upcoming months.

Please state what \$ amount was planned (in the project document) to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment and how much has been actually allocated to date: USD 500,000 was allocated for GEWE activities as per Outcome 2. There is no change to this allocation and it remains the same to date.

Please fill out and attach Annex A on project financial progress **with detail on expenditures/ commitments to date using the original project budget table in Excel**, even though the \$ amounts are indicative only.

Attachments for PBF Project Semi-Annual Report

Project Title: "Promoting the Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process(Sri Lanka)"

List of Attachments

Outcome 1:

1. Videos and pictures from 'Youth4Peace' capacity building trainings on youth and peace in Central, Eastern, Northern Provinces
2. Article on 'Youth4Peace' capacity building trainings on youth and peace
3. Media coverage of the 'Youth4Youth' provincial symposia in Northern, Eastern, Southern Provinces

Outcome 2:

1. Media coverage of the 'Women for Change: National Campaign on Women's Political Participation' – 14 November 2017

Outcome 1 – 1. Videos and pictures from capacity building trainings on youth and peace

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1oRQdo2wu9fPEWBpqNVk0Z1rS8m2PM_MQ?usp=sharing

Outcome 1 – 2. Article on 'Youth4Peace' capacity building trainings on youth and peace

<https://www.unv.org/our-stories/building-peace-through-training-youth-leaders-sri-lanka>

Outcome 2 – 3. Media coverage of the 'Youth4Youth' provincial symposia

Post-event reports:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=10BTTvW3G6D7LVkRK3ziLtl2j8i3e6uaY>

Online News Portals:

Neithal News [30 November 2017] <http://www.neithalnews.com/?p=1669> (in Sinhala)

Colombo Gazette: NEWS UN notes importance of role of Sri Lankan youth in peacebuilding [1 December 2017] <http://colombogazette.com/2017/12/01/un-notes-importance-of-role-of-sri-lankan-youth-in-peacebuilding/>

Puttalam Online: <http://puttalamonline.com/2017-12-07/puttalam-regional-news/129178/> [7 December 2017] (in Tamil)

SLYCAN TRUST: <http://www.slycantrust.org/2018/02/08/promoting-sustainable-lifestyles-at-youth4youth-2017/>

iVoice [07 Dec 2017] <https://goo.gl/WAWkoQ> (in Tamil)

iVoice [21 February 2018] <https://goo.gl/Wm6ZXr> (in Sinhala)

iVoice [06 Mar 2018] <https://goo.gl/gViB7d> (in Tamil)

Sunday Leader [3 May 2018] <http://www.thesundayleader.lk/2018/04/27/unfpa-to-bring-youth-from-around-to-sri-lanka-to-discuss-social-issues/>

Ceylon Today [30 Apr 2018] <http://www.ceylontoday.lk/site-api/view/30237>

News.lk [27 Apr 2018] <https://www.news.lk/economy/item/20315-unfpa-launches-program-for-youth-to-achieve-lasting-peace-and-sustainable-development>

Colombo Page [27 Apr 2018] http://www.colombopage.com/archive_18A/Apr27_1524807673CH.php

Wedi Vistara [18 Apr 2018] <http://www.wedivistara.com/6668/unfpa-launches-program-for-youth-to-achieve-lasting-peace-sustainable-development>

iVoice [07 May 2018] <https://goo.gl/eaMsMe> (in Tamil)

iVoice [16 May 2018] <https://goo.gl/nZHwsi> (in Sinhala)

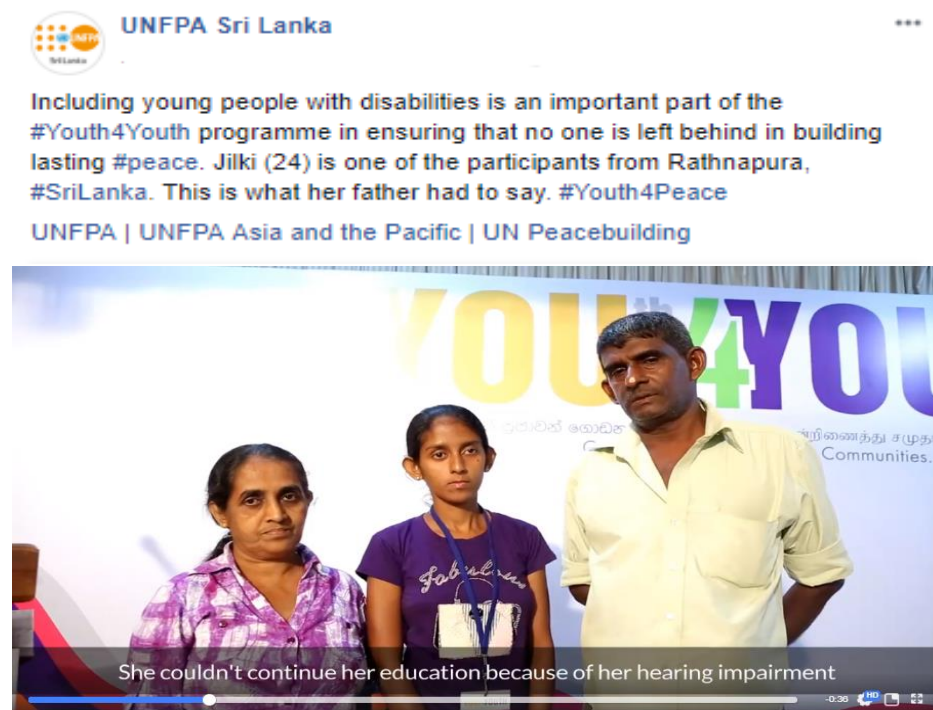
UNFPA Sri Lanka [27 April 2018] <http://srilanka.unfpa.org/en/news/investing-youth-achieve-lasting-peace-and-sustainable-development>

Social Media:

Youtube video on Youth4Youth Northern province symposium <https://youtu.be/CNepcRJD0E>

Youtube video on Youth4Youth Southern province symposium 1 <https://youtu.be/l3ux4hd2qdQ>

Youtube video on Youth4Youth Southern province symposium 2 <https://youtu.be/XKm6cW-Sta4>





Nuwan Senarathna @NuwanSe · May 3

This is one of the best project started by @UNFPASriLanka



UNFPA Sri Lanka @UNFPASriLanka

"The concept of #peace should come from our hearts and minds. If all young people commit to work together then we can achieve lasting peace", says Nithushaan at the #Youth4Youth South symposium.



UNFPA Sri Lanka @UNFPASriLanka · May 5

"සාමය රටට අත්‍යවශ්‍ය දෙයකි. #සාමය නමයි රටේ දියුණුව කෙරෙහි බලපාන්නේ. ජාති ආගම් භේදයකින් තොරව අප හැම එකා මෙක් ලාංකීකයන් යන හැඟීම මිනිසුන් තුළ වර්ධනය වේ නම් රටක සාමයක් ඇති කිරීම අපහසු නොවේ" - ඉදුකල්, ගාල්ල #Youth4Peace #Youth4Youth



Senani Samaranyake @SenaniSL · May 4

Very Good initiative by @UNFPASriLanka to bring people forefront and make talk about the social issues. @ritsu_nacken #Ika #SriLanka



The Sunday Leader @SundayLeaderlk

UNFPA to bring youth from around to Sri Lanka to discuss social issues dlvr.it/QQxMG8



UNFPA Asia & Pacific @UNFPAasia · May 4

Replying to @UNFPASriLanka @UNVSriLanka and 8 others

@UNYorikoY, @UPEACE - our @UNFPASriLanka colleagues are strengthening #Youth4Youth, a peacebuilding initiative meant to bring all communities and ethnicities together in this post-conflict environment.





Senel Wanniarachchi @Senel_W · May 4

With everything happening in the country/world, felt hopeful for the future seeing all these young people from different parts of #SriLanka sing dance & basically have a great time with each other after a day of talking abt peacebuilding at #Youth4Youth Symposium in #Embilipitiya



You Retweeted



Hashtag Generation @generation_sl · May 4

Hashtag Generation is pleased to collaborate with the #Youth4Youth initiative empowering the next generation of Sri Lankan peacebuilders @UNFPASriLanka



Senel Wanniarachchi @Senel_W

With everything happening in the country/world, felt hopeful for the future seeing all these young people from different parts of #SriLanka sing dance & basically have a great time with each other after a day of talking abt...



UNFPA Sri Lanka @UNFPASriLanka · May 5

"We are a country that is still recovering from a 30 year war. Yet the #youth of our nation has not fallen behind. They keep moving forward. We have a promising future & that future lies in the hands of #youngpeople"-Inspiring words by @that_pixiegirl at #Youth4Youth #Youth4Peace





unfpasrilanka

unfpasrilanka "As a young person, I am happy to participate in the #Youth4Youth programme to engage in #peacebuilding activities", - Ushani from #Jaffna, #SriLanka.

சமாதானத்தை கட்டியெழுப்பும் இளைய சமுதாயத்தின் சார்பில் Youth4Youth இல் பங்கு பெறுவதில் நான் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன். யாழில் இருந்து உஷானி



20 likes

3 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...



unfpasrilanka Sri Lanka

unfpasrilanka "#සාමය කියන්නේ සියලුම ජාතීන් හේදයකින් තොරව එකට එකතු වෙලා වැඩ කරන එකයි. ඔේ දේ හදවතින්ම එන එකයි" - නිතූෂාන් (23), හම්බන්තොට, #Youth4Peace #Youth4Youth

#UNFPASriLanka #UNFPA #SriLanka #LKA #Youth #Peacebuilding



17 likes

2 DAYS AGO

UNFPA Sri Lanka 3 May at 15:58

"සාමය යන සංකල්පය අපේ හදවතෙන් ම පැන නැගිය යුතුයි. සියලු තරුණ ජනයා එකට එක්වී අප කැප වෙතවා නම් අපට තීරසාර සාමයක් දීතා ගත හැකියි". - නිදුෂාන්.

"சமாதானத்துக்கான எண்ணக்கரு எம் மனங்களில் இருந்தும் இதயத்தில் இருந்துமே வர வேண்டும். அனைத்து இளைஞர்களும் ஒன்றாக அர்ப்பணிப்புடன் செயற்பட்டால் நிலையான சமாதானத்தை நாம் அடையலாம்" - யாழில் இருந்து நிதூஷான்

#Youth4Peace #Youth4Youth... See more
See Translation

The Concept of peace should come from our hearts and minds. If all young people commit to work together then we can achieve sustained peace - Nithushaan -

@UNFPASriLanka

UNFPA Sri Lanka Youth4Youth.

HIGHLIGHTS: The #Youth4Youth South symposium was held from 3-6 May 2018 connecting young people from across #SriLanka to come together to discuss social issues, and to propose and implement community projects.

During the programme, the young participants had the opportunity to engage with mentors from the Government, private-sector, academia, and civil society, to receive guidance in designing sustainable community projects.

The Youth4Youth programme is delivered by UNFPA in ... See more



Outcome 2: 1. Media coverage of the 'Women for Change: National Campaign on Women's Political Participation'

Online News Portals:

Official Website of the President of Sri Lanka: Awareness programme on women representation in local bodies held under President's patronage [15 November 2017] <http://www.president.gov.lk/awareness-program-on-womens-representation-at-local-government-bodies-held-under-presidents-patronage/>

Speech of H.E. President Maithripala Sirisena at the Launch of the Campaign (hosted on his official Youtube channel): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivOnCOLZSvY> (in Sinhala)

Daily Mirror: Women for Change [14 November 2017] <http://www.dailymirror.lk/140353/Women-for-Change>

Colombo Page: Sri Lankan President raises awareness in lack of women representation in politics [15 November 2017] http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Nov15_1510735491CH.php

ilankanews.com: Sri Lankan President raises awareness in lack of women representation in politics [15 November 2017] <https://www.ilankanews.com/sri-lankan-president-raises-awareness-lack-women-representation-politics/>

United News of India: SL Prez for better women representation in politics [15 November 2017] <http://www.uniindia.com/sl-prez-for-better-women-representation-in-politics/world/news/1047753.html>

Tharunaya.com: Awareness program on women's representation at politics held under President's patronage [15 November 2017] <http://tharunaya.com/english/englishnews-english-news-1510736491.html>

UN Women: Bringing Women to the Forefront: President of Sri Lanka Launches National Campaign for Greater Women's Representation in Local Government [14 November 2017] <http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2017/12/president-of-sri-lanka-launches-national-campaign-for-greater-women>

Television:

ITN (Independent Television Network): Awareness programme on women representation in local bodies held under President's patronage [15 November 2017] <http://www.itnnews.lk/local-news/awareness-programme-on-women-representation-in-local-bodies-held-under-presidents-patronage/>

Social Media:

Official Facebook Page of the Campaign: <https://www.facebook.com/women.sl.vote/>



Fig.1. Current Facebook Page of the Campaign

The Facebook page which was developed and continuously updated in the run up to the campaign launch received 3,877 likes with only a limited marketing strategy.



Fig. 2. Flyer for the event using of the UN Women 'Vote for Women' campaign upon which the new campaign was built



Fig. 3. Online invitation circulated by Hon. Faiszer Mustapha, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government which includes use of the UN Women 'Vote for Women' campaign

Outcome 2: 2. Briefing Paper on the Senior Media Editors' Roundtable (next page)



A Joint Project by the Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government along with the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Roundtable on **Promoting Women's Political Participation through Media**

Briefing Paper

This Roundtable on 'Promoting Women's Political Participation through Media' is an outcome of a collective effort of the Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government, the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, the Women Parliamentarians' Caucus, the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance and the Civil Society Action Collective for Women in Politics in Sri Lanka.

The objective of this Roundtable is to work with senior level media personnel on identifying and strengthening avenues of collaboration to provide greater opportunities in the media to facilitate the promotion of women's political participation.

Gender Considerations in Media:

The introduction of the 25% women's quota at the Local Government level in 2017 and the proposed 30% women's quota at the Provincial level provide an opportunity to increase women's political representation in the country, with the local level quota in particular ushering in an unprecedented number of new women candidates and elected officials.

As a part of Sri Lanka's civil society, media has a critical role to play during the upcoming elections to promote women candidates. Media can be a powerful tool to enable candidates and elected leaders to communicate their messages to voters and educate citizens about priority issues. Conversely, if not carried out in a gender sensitive way, media coverage can reinforce negative stereotypes about women as elected leaders. This is a challenge worldwide. Around the world, women are significantly underrepresented in news media. A 2010 study of 108 countries by the Global Media Monitoring Project, for example, revealed that women make up less than a quarter of the subjects of information in the news whereas men account for the vast majority of media personnel, of interviewed candidates, and of experts worldwide.¹

In Sri Lanka, exclusion of women candidates from more serious coverage related to national security, economics, and politics, combined with the failure to cover women in the media, undermines their role as decision makers on national and international priorities. (See Challenges box below). In its 2015 parliamentary observation report, the EU noted that "misogynistic"² parliamentary media coverage negatively affected female candidates, "firstly because women were not given equitable access to the media, and secondly because female candidates were invited to participate in programs and talk shows to discuss themes traditionally considered to be women's issues while the debate involving wider political themes were conducted exclusively between male candidates."³

Challenge 1: Unequal coverage

This includes, providing more coverage for men than women in the media. This is evident in the Sri Lankan news, newspapers and even political debates. Although 53 % of the Sri Lankan Population is female, very little time is allocated and space in the media is for female candidates

Challenge 2: Gendered coverage and/or gender insensitive coverage

This include coverage focusing on the female candidate's marital status, appearance, character and emphasizing stereotypically "female" issues like women's affairs, child affairs and healthcare. As a result of limiting female candidates into such a frame, the media is making the viewers/voters to undermine women's credibility in other important issues, like constitutional reform, economic policy, and foreign policy and reconciliation processes. This is distorted view of the women's contribution for the policy development, especially in Sri Lanka.

¹ Global Media Monitoring Project (2010). "Who Makes the News." <http://whomakesthenews.org/gmmp/gmmp-reports/gmmp-2010-reports>

² EUEOM (2015), p. 21.

³ Ibid Pg 26

The same EU report also noted that women candidates in Sri Lanka received low levels of coverage across all outlets, with state channels devoting only ten percent of their election coverage to women, and private media only five percent.⁴ This unequal coverage is compounded by women's more limited access to resources, resulting in less funding for media coverage.

Taken together, weak or gender insensitive coverage of women candidates combined with failures to engage women on serious political topics replicates negative stereotypes that continue to downplay women's role as serious political contestants qualified to run for office. To address this challenge, leaders within the media can act on the following recommendations and strategies:

Strategies to improve Media Coverage for Female Candidates in the upcoming Elections

(Note: this list is not an exhaustive one - Media Organizations can come up with innovative ideas to promote women's political participation)

Television and Radio

1. Ensure that female candidates are given an equal and fair opportunities to speak on a variety of issues, like constitutional reform, economic policy, and foreign policy and reconciliation processes
2. Ensure at least one female candidate/ politician is invited for every political debate in the media.
3. Mandate that a certain proportion of news anchors, panelists, subject matter experts, editors and other key personnel are women
4. Ensure every news broadcast carries voice cuts of female candidates/politicians.
5. Allocate at least 10% of the political new air time to speak about female candidates.
6. Provide provincial and local level female candidates the opportunity to attend talk shows
7. Provide free airtime for video-clips/Audio clips promoting women's political participation
8. Develop Short Stories of the female politicians to inspire women to come into politics.
9. Adopt a gender sensitive standards to avoid gender discriminatory remarks, contents and images being published in the media about female candidates.

⁴ Ibid. Pg. 22.

Print Media

1. Ensure female and male candidates are equally represented in the headlines and articles.
2. Ensure opinion pieces do not criticize political candidates based on their gender- expressly or impliedly.
3. Mandate that a certain proportion of news anchors, panelists, subject matter experts, editors and other key personnel are women
4. Allocate a column to profile women candidates in every issue of the newspaper.

Social Media

1. Ensure images used of female candidates are used in a manner that they cannot be re-used to cause damage for the candidate
2. Ensure that opinion pieces do not criticize political candidates based on their gender.
3. Ensure that sexist comments aimed at female candidates are being filtered or publicly criticized immediately as and when they are posted.

Long-term Strategies to Promote Women's Political Participation in Media

1. Adopting gender sensitive guidelines for media reporting to provide impartial and independent election news and analysis that includes an emphasis on increasing women's role in politics through fair and gender-sensitive coverage.
2. Identifying gender champions in every department of the Media House who will ensure the gender sensitivity of the products
3. Initiating a National level Media and Gender Steering Committee to promote gender sensitivity within Sri Lankan media.
4. Organizing gender sensitization programs for staff.
5. Adopt measures to provide mechanisms for **free or subsidized public television and radio spots** to enable all candidates to access media channels regardless of their funding sources, and lessen the financial burden on women
6. **Engage citizens as watchdogs against misogynistic coverage of women** candidates, raising the profile of the importance of gender sensitive media coverage.
7. Undertaking projects/campaigns to promote female political candidates as part of the media organization's Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative.

Thanking You;

Society Action Collective for Women in Politics