



## **"Empowering Youth for a Peaceful, Prosperous, and Sustainable Future in Kosovo"**

### **Extraordinary Joint Project Steering Committee Meeting Report**

Date: Thursday, 29 October, 15:30hrs to 16:30rs

Venue: UN Common Premises, Large Conference Room, Zagrebi str. 58, Prishtinë/Priština



**Attendees:** Chair – Ulrika Richardson, UN Development Coordinator; Maria Suokko, UNDP Resident Representative; Valbona Bogujevci, Assistant Resident Representative and Programme Coordinator; Rozafa Kelmendi, Project Coordinator, UN Women; Dren Rexha, Social Policy Officer, UNICEF; Shpend Qamili, Associate Development Coordination Officer, Programme Communications and Advocacy and Outreach; Blerim Azizi, Programme Analyst, UNV; Ferdinand Nikolla, PBF Joint Project Coordinator; Arsim Maloku, PBF Project Associate; Trina Ukmata, Communication Associate

### **Introduction:**

The Steering Committee extraordinary meeting discussed the created situation after the resignation of PBF CTA and agreed the next steps in bringing the new person in the team ASAP so that it does not affect the successful project implementation.

An update on UNKT and OSCE conversation was provided in the lines that both agencies can collaborate more closely in the frame of PBF project and this is because the similar projects both agencies implement – youth and reconciliation, and there is large space for synergy and coordination. Inviting OSCE in the first Stakeholder Platform meeting was mentioned as first step, along with other strategic partners and donors. A one-pager to be done in consultation with PBF in NY was mentioned, as it was in the previous meeting, and follow up actions needed to produce it since it can serve multiple purposes.

### **Reflections and suggestions from Heads of Agencies on the situation and immediate response**

The Steering Committee discussed the created situation by emphasizing the need to immediately start the new recruitment process and hire the new CTA who would support the project implementation until the project end - June 2020. The need for finding someone who knows the context, has expertise in the respective area/s of was stressed. But most importantly, someone with experience in peace building and trust building process, able to capture the change the project delivers on the ground, bring best practice from projects of the same nature helps to capture the lessons and develop innovative ideas to use for future similar interventions and scale up. It is a common goal of all implementing agencies to ensure continuation of such projects in the future, and CTA can play pivotal role on this. However, it was also noted that we need to review the existing TOR and make the necessary changes in order to make it more realistic bearing in mind the remaining project period.

The Steering Committee reflected also on the post-election situation, emphasizing that Kosovo has not form its central institutions yet, and this is an obstacle for organizing the next Steering Committee meeting since understanding that we need to have Kosovo institutions representatives joining the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee discussed also about the Stakeholder Platform, and it was mentioned that an initial TOR has been designed and will be shared soon with all agencies for inputs and comments. Participants emphasized that the Stakeholder Platform should be meeting this year, while the modalities are to be defined as per the agreed TOR. This is because Stakeholder Platform

will be a good opportunity for sharing project results and exploring ways for synergies with other international agencies. In addition, this would increase the potential for future support on similar youth, trust-building, peacebuilding projects from these actors. It was emphasized that Kosovo institutions stakeholders should be part of the platform too, and that we need to follow the political development and act accordingly. The Steering Committee stressed the idea that the Stakeholders Platform should not be formal, but rather be knowledge sharing forum and use the opportunity to disseminate PBF project approach, strategies and disseminate communication products. Ideas to link it with the platform with RYCO (regional level) were mentioned too, since this is another PBF project along with UN DFF. While the latter is not a platform to consider.

### **Brief project update**

- Donor report: It was pointed out in the meeting that PBF secretariat was very positive about the semi-annual report submitted in June and that they are looking forward to receiving the November annual report. The outreach activities were also mentioned by PBF as effective communication tools PBF in Kosovo is using, while the participants asked to check with PBF if they can share/retweet our posts as this would help a lot in reaching strategic audiences. Currently, the annual narrative/finance report is being drafted and it a review schedule with Development Coordinator and Heads of Agencies was agreed.
- Budget delivery: A brief update was provided to the Steering Committee by Joint Project Coordinator highlighting that apart from the CTA challenge, the project does not face major challenges on its implementation. Clarification from the Steering Committee was requested on the criteria for second tranche as at something was not clear based on the skype meeting with PBF NY project team had. The project delivery to date is at this level: UNDP/V = 63,69%; UNW = 89.66%; UNICEF = 85,86%.

### **Conclusions:**

1. The project team to start with the recruitment process for the replacement of the CTA immediately. Consultation with regional office, PBF HQ was advised too.
2. The Joint Project Coordinator to review existing ToR and share it with agencies for their input based on the meeting conversation.
3. The Steering Committee planned for this year to be postponed and the new date to be set following the creation of new Kosovo institutions.
4. The Stakeholder Platform to be organized in the week of 25<sup>th</sup> of November, and beforehand the TOR to be finalized and agreed, including the agenda for the first meeting
5. The Joint Project Coordinator to contact PBF secretariat to clarify the criteria for the second tranche so that agencies are able to move forward with their project funds requests.
6. Development Coordinator and Heads of Agencies will receive the report for their review on 6<sup>th</sup> of November. The deadline for submission of the report is 15 November.