**SECRETARY-GENERAL’S PEACEBUILDING FUND**

**PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT TEMPLATE**

**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

**TYPE OF REPORT: semi-annual, annual OR FINAL** ANNUAL

**date of report:** 1/12/2019

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| **Project Title:** PROMOTING KYRGYZSTAN'S YOUTH COHESION AND INTERACTION TOWARDS UZBEKISTAN  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** 00113043 | |
| **PBF project modality:**  IRF  PRF | **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** |
| **List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc):**  United Nations Children’s Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Populations Fund  **List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:**  State Agency on Youth, physical culture and sports  Osh, Jalalabad and Batken province administrations  Batken city administration  NGO partners:  International Debate Education Association  Public Association "Youth of Osh"  Association of legal clinics of Kyrgyzstan | |
| **Project commencement date[[1]](#footnote-1):** 14/11/2018  **Project duration in months:[[2]](#footnote-2)** 18 | |
| **Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below:**  Gender promotion initiative  Youth promotion initiative  Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions  Cross-border or regional project | |
| **Total PBF approved project budget\* (by recipient organization):**  UNICEF:$ 670,000  UNDP : $ 480,000  UNFPA : $ 350,000        : $  Total: $ 1,500,000  *\*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*  **How many tranches have been received so far:** 1 | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Gulnara Zhenishbekova  Project report approved by: Munir Mammadzade  Did PBF Secretariat clear the report: yes  Any comments from PBF Secretariat on the report:  Has the project undertaken any evaluation exercises? Please specify and attach: N/A | |

***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. **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):

The project has progressed towards the expected results and is on track against all the indicators, including the completion of the baseline report. Several sessions on monitoring and evaluation were conducted for UN Agencies and the NGO partners towards adjustment of the monitoring framework of the joint project through a shared understanding of the Theory of Change and unpacking of the indicators. Initial presentation of the project that has been conducted jointly by all UN Agencies in all three provinces with participation of more than 120 boys and girls (60% are girls), local authorities and community members in bordering villages with Uzbekistan. The leadership, analytical thinking, legal, media literacy and teambuilding skills of young people in border locations were also strengthened through series of sessions on peacebuilding competencies during the Leadership Innovation Academies (LIA), outreach and “School of law” activities covering around 1220 boys and girls (58% girls).

As a result of the capacity development activities, 30 youth initiative groups have been formed for the promotion of peaceful dialogue with local authorities, community members based on the issues identified during outreach and participatory research activities.

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)

The national level partners emphasized the importance of this project and work with youth in the remote areas of Kyrgyzstan bordering with Uzbekistan. Young participants of all four International events conducted in the southern provinces of Kyrgyzstan as part of the MOUs between two countries have demonstrated the high interest of Uzbekistani youth in the project and cross border cooperation through presenting suggestions for further partnership in cultural and sports areas (see resolution in Annex1). The project is highly relevant and well placed to address young people's needs to channel their complaints and grievances linked with the quality of the services provided by the local institutions (including Ombudsman's office, prosecution office, territorial divisions of the State Registry Service etc). Given the significant improvements in cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan over the last couple of years, this project is timely and very useful in terms of supporting two-way efforts in developing cooperation and good neighborhood.

Based on the detailed monitoring plan developed by UN Agencies and the NGO partners, some indicators might have been adjusted and reported accordingly during the next reporting period.

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).

As part of the celebration of 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Kyrgyzstan, UNICEF has initiated a Parliament session where 25 children and young people from all provinces of Kyrgyzstan were able to ask the Members of Parliaments questions that concern them. Young people from the bordering with Uzbekistan communities were able to participate and raise cross-border issues.

The project underpinning approach is based on the inclusion of youth initiatives in the cross-border cooperation plans developed by the regional authorities. The mentorship programme is very important part of the project that ensures timely expert support to young people at local level through trained and experienced one mentor in each selected community. They provide necessary support to youth in conducting activities, leasing with the local authorities throughout the project implementation and ensure linkage of the youth initiatives with the local plans and the MOUs of two countries. The new approach UPSHIFT has been used within this project that gives essential peacebuilding competencies to young people to analyze the situation of their communities and look for innovative ideas to solve problems at local level with involvement of duty-bearers (Annex2). The Peer to Peer approach in the provision of legal consultations by young representatives of legal clinics to young people living in pilot municipalities allowed to reach out to more people.

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

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 project enhanced the engagement of young people in peacebuilding as proactive agents of change by supporting the establishment of teams for further implementation of the initiatives that provide solutions to the identified by young people issues at the local level and to be implemented by youth initiative groups in partnership with local authorities. The key peacebuilding progress is achieved through strengthening tolerance, peacebuilding competencies and skills among bordering population. The project involves the State Agency on Youth Affairs, Physical Culture and Sports as a strategic government partner from the beginning of the project. This helped to ensure national and local ownership of the intervention and contributes to sustaining peace in the country.

The project also initiated partnership among youth from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, thus, enhancing initial dialogue of youth from both countries, as well as youth within the countries. For example, youth from Suu-Bashy AO (municipality) conducted a joint event with youth from Uzbekistan. Relations between youth and local government has improved. Local government is participating in project activities and activities of youth initiative groups in the communities. Young people started to get introduced with the local plans of municipalities and have presented the results of their research and raised priority issue before the local government that have expressed their readiness to include into the local plans.

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):

A 12 years old child from the cross-border community asked Parliamentarians during the meeting “When the children of our village can sleep peacefully?”, due to lack of clear geographical boundaries with Tajikistan.

The participants of the Leadership Innovation Academy were empowered for positive changes in their communities and expressed their readiness in playing the leadership roles in promoting the peaceful dialogues in their communities.

“We have no boss here. We all value and consider that each person is unique. Mentors, organizers, and trainers spent their time with us, played, danced as well as trained”, Deikanov Ilyas

“LIA helped me to release my talent, allowed to demonstrate individually as well as within the team. Also, it contained very interesting energizers that I can use during my classes”, Eshbaeva Gulzhamal, Kok-Serek AO, Jalal-Abad province.

“Before I used to study well at school. Then I broke my legs and could not attend school for 4 months, thus I lost my interest in studies. Since I started to participate in LIA, I learnt to freely express my ideas before the public, received useful information on social media. It will help me to post youth initiative group’s activities in social media. I also learnt how to approach to local government through the website www. kattar.kg”.

"We did not expect from our young people to deliver such research and present their plans. We are ready to provide funding to buy computers to their school.”, Kara-Suu Mayor’s Office.

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).

One of the main difficulties in the field is the participation of school students in the project activities. The project team issued an official letter to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic to provide support and endorsement to the activity. Given the delays in the official reply the project team is temporarily implementing the activities with the support of local government, parents and schools’ administrations on the margins of the education process.

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):

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.

* 1. **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:** Kyrgyzstani youth and relevant government agencies collaborate and further develop cooperation plans for improving positive interactions with their Uzbek counterparts.

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**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)?*

Two LIAs focused on improving civic activism, knowledge and skills on interacting with the local government officials, and youth of bordering communities, based in which young people were able to analyze the results of their researches and present them to the representatives of local government, parents and other members of their communities during the Community Talks in November. In total, 180 young people (55% girls) and seven mentors participated in the event.

347 participants (219 women and 128 men; 174-youth, including 56% girls) had a chance to voice their concerns through Focus group discussions, which identified a high demand for legal consultations and inefficient work of local service providers as major concerns for young people from the pilot municipalities. Around 299 young men and women (60% women) received primary legal aid (legal issues faced by young people effectively identified and referred to competent authorities) provided by community -based lawyers. The guide was developed as a working tool, containing the most relevant information, including the main principles of legal aid according to international standards and national legislation. Interventions were extended to the followings: a) legal awareness activities among youth; b) training for service providers on the “single-window” principle; c) capacity building trainings for law enforcement and youth on the rights of the youth at the pretrial stage, which is to be organized at the end of November 2019.

A workshop on effective communication, leadership and civic activism was organized for 147 project participants and mentors from Osh and Batken provinces.

**Outcome 2:** Output 1.2.: Youth relevant government agencies in Kyrgyzstan have improved knowledge, skills, opportunities and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with their Uzbek counterparts

Platforms for dialogue between the state bodies of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan through several youth international events provided a good opportunity for both, government officials and the UN to exchange experiences in working with young people, especially with those living in border areas.

There is a training plan of the State Agency of Youth Affairs staff members capacity development which is under finalization that will focus on broader Youth policy concept working plan development with integration of cross-border issues and youth participation in decision-making processes at different levels. Through consultations with the State Agency the following areas are identified for capacity development of the State Agency national and local level youth specialists:

Results -based management, promotion of youth issues and youth participation in decision-making processes, access of young people into the government and municipal services etc.

Within the framework of the national level cooperation plans of two countries on youth issues, for experience exchange and on youth policy, as well as knowledge exchange on the participation of youth in decision-making processes, under the leadership of the State Agency on Youth Affairs, and involvement of youth-led NGOs, the annual camp "Zhash Bulak” was organized. More than 200 participants, including youth from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan were part of this event. Youth forum in Osh city in the framework of the TURKSOY – partnership of countries with Turkic populations and languages, and the informal conference "Zhashtar Camp" were held with the participation of more than 20 representatives of the Uzbek Government and 20 young people from the communities bordering with Uzbekistan.

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

**Outcome 3:** n/a

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

**Outcome 4:** n/a

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

* 1. **Cross-cutting issues**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **National ownership:** How has the national government demonstrated ownership/ commitment to the project results and activities? Give specific examples. (1500 character limit) | The State Agency on Youth, Physical Culture and Sports of the Kyrgyz Republic (SAYPCS)fully owns the project . The project work plan was developed in coordination with all stakeholders and signed by the State Agency.  SAYPCS is part of all major events and aware of all interventions planned and conducted in the regions. Therefore, RUNOs regularly meet with its representatives at the local and national level and share information on the project activities, discuss and co-facilitate joint project activities.  Similarly, representatives of offcies of the plenipotentiary representatives of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in the pilot provinces participate in designing plans and implementing interventions.  The ownership of the government partners in the project is also linked with the existing provincial level cooperation plans, which remain important strategic documents that the project and project activities refer to.  The State Registry Service, Presidential Administration, Ombudsman's office, Ministry of Justice, local municipalities demonstrated a high interest in the project as they agree on the need of the preventive activities helping to promote youth cohesion and, as a result, sustainable peace.  Local government officials provided support in the implementation of project activities, participatory research and some of them are ready to provide financial support to the youth initiatives. |
| **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)?* | To ensure effective coordination and reporting among the UN Agencies and the Implementing NGO partners, the project team organized M&E workshop with all RUNOs to discuss results framework, unpack some terminologies and agree on the indicators. In addition, two workshops took place in October and November with the participation of all Implementing NGO partners, to ensure shared understanding of the indicators and have clear monitoring plan. All the UN Agencies are planning to have joint meeting to discuss the way forward regaring the adjusted frame. |
| **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)* | The baseline report is available. The evaluation will take place in 2020. |
| **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)* | It is expected that this project will have a catalytic effect by helping local and national authorities to make these plans more meaningful and serve to the purpose.  Local government officials are expressing their readiness to support youth initiatives that have been presented to them and committed resources. |
| **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)* | The State Registry Service of the Kyrgyzstan and Ombudsman's office demonstrated readiness to work on follow-ups on the case-to-case basis within the period of the project and after the project ends. Exchange visits to the successful municipalities allowed young people understand the main steps of interaction with local government. Young people in Suu-Bashy municipality organized ashar (community volunteer activity) with youth from Sokh municipality, Uzbekistan. |
| **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)* | The sustainability of the project is ensured through the established dialogue platforms of young people and local authorities, so the issues related to youth well-being and the well-being, interests of the communities bordering with Uzbekistan are raised and the steps for solutions are taken.  Through the capacity of the State Agency on Youth affairs staff we ensure that the young people at local level are part of the processes related to the cooperation and partnership with Uzbekistan, platforms for dialogue among young people are established and maintained for the interests of youth. |
| **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. *(1500 character limit)* | Permission from the Ministry of Education and Science is needed for further project implementation with the involvement of students. As a result the Implementing NGO partners have signed MOU with the Ministry of Education and Science and the activities are under implementation with involvement of school children and administration. |
| **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? *(1500 character limit)* | The project ensures gender equality by involving both boys and girls, young women and men in the project activities, starting from the selection of project participants, as well as the participation of girls with ethnic minority groups and from the religious families. |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(1500 character limit)* | RUNOs are meeting on a regular joint program meetings discussing and addressing the shortages and obstacles during the implementation including taking the capacity building measures of implementing partners to ensure the smooth project implementation, monitoring and tracking the progress/results.  Annexes to the report:  - Forum resolutions;  - Information on UPSHIFT;  - Media clipping for the reporting period;  - Financial report  - Monitoring frame developed as a result of the M&E workshops |

**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**  Kyrgyzstani youth and relevant government agencies collaborate and further develop cooperation plans for improving positive interactions with their Uzbek counterparts. | Indicator 1.1  % youth in the targeted communities who believe that diversity is an added value to their community (disaggregated data by age, sex, location) | 77%  Out of total respondents that believe that diversity is an added value  35.6% of men and 64,4% of women. | 10% increase | To be assessed through endline |  |  |
| Indicator 1.2  % of Kyrgyzstani youth that assesses positively the relations with Uzbekistan (segregated data by age, sex, location); | 70,6%  Out of total % of Kyrgyzstani youth that assesses positively the relations with Uzbekistan 25% of men and 75% of women | 10% increase | There were several international forums, festivals with participation of youth, authorities from both countries and the cooperations between the countries is very positive. |  |  |
| Indicator 1.3  # of youth proposals are included and implemented in the national and subnational cooperation plans with Uzbekistan. | 0 | 2 | All the activities (five oblast and national level events/forums with participation of Uzbek countarparts) are in line with plans. As a result of the forum in Osh, two proposals are included into the joint plan of the State Agency of Youth Affairs, Physical culture and Sports and UN Agencies. |  |  |
| Output 1.1  Kyrgyzstani young women and men in selected border locations have improved knowledge, skills and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with Uzbek counterparts | Indicator 1.1.1  # of youth with a sense of empowerment, knowledge and skills to participate in and lead collaboration initiatives, disaggregated by sex and age. | 0 | 200 | 241 (45% men and 55% women) |  |  |
| Indicator 1.1.2  # of success stories/practices produced by the project  target: 30 | 0 | 30 | 18 | There were several media outputs mentioning successful processes at local level related to Kyrgyz-Uzbek cooperation. The details are in media clipping (annex to the report). |  |
| Output 1.2 | Indicator 1.2.1  # of youth participating in cooperation and trust building initiatives with project support, disaggregated by sex and gender | 0 | 500 with at least 50% of girls | 490 young people (57% men and 63% women) have been part of the joint with Uzbekistan initiatives with support of the project. |  |  |
| Indicator 1.2.2 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.3  Youth relevant government agencies in Kyrgyzstan have improved knowledge, skills, opportunities and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with their Uzbek counterparts | Indicator 1.3.1  # of municipalities with increased number of interactions | 0 | 2019-2  2020-5 | 9 municipalities and 3 cities in the south of Kyrgyzstan | Besides themunicipalities, we were able to involve three provincial centers in Kyrgyzstan (Osh, Jalalabad and Batken cities) and three provinces from Uzbekistan into the international level interventions |  |
| Indicator 1.3.2  # of items of national and sub-national Kyrgyz-Uzbek national plans implemented | 0 | 2019-4  2020-10 | 7 items of the plans (national and sub-regional) have been implemented with support of the project | All the activities are related to the cross-border cultural exchange and cooperation on youth policy |  |
| **Outcome 2** | Indicator 2.1  Output Indicator 1.2.c  # of youth received legal aid  Baseline: 0  Target: 700 |  | 700 | 299 young men and women received primary legal aid | The local lawyers/complaint officers are hired and follow ups on legal aid consultations are organized |  |
| Indicator 2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.1 | Indicator 2.1.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.2 | Indicator 2.2.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.3 | Indicator 2.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **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 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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**

* 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:

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):

When do you expect to seek the next tranche, if any tranches are outstanding: Next tranche is expected to be requested by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

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:

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.

1. Note: commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)