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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** Cameroon

**TYPE OF REPORT: semi-annual**

**YEAR of report: 2020**

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| **Project Title:** Appui à la participation des femmes et des jeunes aux initiatives de consolidation de la paix, de renforcement des mécanismes de cohésion sociale et du vivre ensemble  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00119720** | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** Peacebuilding Fund | **Type and name of recipient organizations:**  **UNESCO (Convening Agency)**  **UN WOMEN**  **UNICEF** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 21 JANUARY 2020  **Project end date:** 17 JANUARY 2022  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** NO | |
| **Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:**  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):**  **Recipient Organization Amount**  UNESCO $ 698,074  UN WOMEN $ 788,682  UNICEF $ 513,177    Total: ***$ 1,999,933***  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: ***18%***  \*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\*  **Gender-responsive Budgeting:**  Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: ***$ 599,980.01***  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: ***$ 89,851.14*** | |
| **Project Gender Marker: 2**  **Project Risk Marker: 1**  **Project PBF focus area: 2.3 – Conflict prevention and management** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Yvonne Matuturu  Project report approved by: Salah Khaled  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: Yes | |

***NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:***

* *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
* *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
* *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
* *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*
* *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

**PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

Briefly outline the **status of the project** in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):

***Staff recruitment is completed. Contracting partners have been brought on-board mainly, the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Family protection, the Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development. Civil Society has also been contracted, mainly the Association for the Welfare of Women and Indigenous People. The Project has 6 main priority regions which are the Far North, North, Adamawa, East, North West and South West. So far the project has been deployed to each of these regions with the respective assigned activities which consists mainly of strengthening capacity for youth and women CSO leaders, Municipal executives and security forces on thematic issues such as youth participation, international humanitarian law and gender empowerment.***

***With regard to UNICEF, the 03 reports of the study commissioned on consultation mechanisms and frameworks for social cohesion are in the process of being validated by the Government***

***The Training sessions to strengthen the capacities of security forces (SF) including municipal police and vigilance committees started in the third quarter of 2020, making it possible to reach 8 municipalities out of the 30 targeted. 39 security forces were trained on the international legal framework for the protection of human rights in the context of armed conflicts, the protection of schools and universities by international humanitarian law and the obligations of States, international recommendations relating to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and the protection of children affected by armed conflict or in the context of armed conflict.***

Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000 character limit):

***Two major events are expected to be organised in the coming months. First a grand national conference of women leaders which shall focus on women participation to peace. The other is a grand international conference on women empowerment and participation to peace processes. These two activities, codified in the project document and earmarked for 2020 couldn’t take place in the initially assigned year as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. However, the Ministry of Women Empowerment and the protection of the family has made commitments to implement these activities in the first half of 2021.***

***UNICEF in partnership with the Government will organize the final validation session of the study that will help in strategic level, to update social policies by integrating the peace and social cohesion mechanism. In addition, another study will be carried out on the basis of the results of the U-Report to be in phase with the project.***

***The development of a capacity building action plan on inclusive mechanisms and tools for social cohesion will be also realized.***

***ii) It is also planned to continue capacity building sessions of the security forces including municipal police and vigilance committees on the Geneva Conventions, human rights / law, international humanitarian law, recommendations on the protection of schools and universities during conflict as well as recommendations on gender-based violence and child protection in the 22 remaining municipalities, so as to reach the 30 targeted municipalities****.*

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize **the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500 character limit):

***Not Applicable***

In a few sentences, explain whether the project has had a positive **human impact**. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):

***From August to September 2020, peace mediators were trained from the councils of Santa and Sabga in the restive North West Region of Cameroon. In fact, these councils have been the theatre of serious inter-community violence between Mbororos and non-Mbororos populations. In order to address these inter-community tensions, UNESCO through this project partnered with the Association for the Welfare of Women and indigenous People (ASOWWIP), a civil society organisation based in that part of the country to train inter-community peace mediators and build peace while involving youths, women, local and traditional authorities. The beneficiary populations expressed satisfaction and underscored that the initiative was timely and helpful. Follow-up communications with ASOWWIP confirm that inter-community violence has reduced as the community peace mediators that were trained have been playing a key role in deescalating any potential threats to peace between both communities. More on this story on the link:*** [***https://cameroon.un.org/en/90432-peace-mediators-trained-curb-inter-communal-violence-northwest-region-cameroon***](https://cameroon.un.org/en/90432-peace-mediators-trained-curb-inter-communal-violence-northwest-region-cameroon)

**PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME**

*Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration). Do not list 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.*

* *“On track” refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.*
* *“On track with peacebuilding results” refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.*

*If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.*

**Outcome 1: By the end of the project, the targeted populations (women/youth/men) implement the inclusive mechanisms and tools for social cohesion.**

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

***Inclusive mechanisms for social cohesion are being put to value by over 32 councils where UNESCO trained municipal executive to facilitate the participation of youth and women in peacebuilding mechanisms. Some of these councils include: FUNDONG, KUMBO, KAMBE, WUM, MBENGWI, NDOP, BAMENDA I, LIMBE I, BANGEM, MENJI, MAMFE CENTRAL, BUEA, KUMBA I, MUNDEMBA, FONGO-TONGO, DOUALA IV, MAROUA I, KOUSSERI, YAGOUA, GUERE, MOKOLO, KAELE, KOLOFATA, TOKOMBERE, MORA, POLI, TCHOLIRE, NGOAUNDERE, MEIGANGABERTOUA 1, GAROUA-BOULAI, BATOURI.***

***In the northern regions of the country, during the capacity building workshops with municipal executives, a few resistances could be perceived regarding the pledge to change social norms that exclude women and youth from participating in peacebuilding initiatives. However, with tact and finesse UNESCO and the Ministry of Women affairs have been able to encourage the few resistant municipal councillors to provide more space for women and youth in public affairs at the local level. It will be interesting to see by next year what the concrete changes have been on the ground beyond the pledge and rhetoric made by the municipal councillors.***

***Another interesting social dialogue mechanism has been set up between military and civilian populations through the collaboration between UN WOMEN and the Ministry of Women Affairs working in direct collaboration with security and defense forces. These mechanisms have been set up in the East Region of the country and the Ministry of Women Affairs looks forward to extending it very soon to the South West Region.***

***Another tool to be made available to the population is the study reports on the mechanisms of social cohesion. A training plan on this subject is planned. It is after this that the system of data collection through U-Report will be set in motion to measure the percentage of the population implementing social cohesion mechanisms.***

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000 character limit)*

***UN Women in collaboration with the Ministry of Women Empowerment and the Family has set up gender desks and services within the security and defence forces’ units in the targeted regions.***

***The municipal executives (as duty bearers) have been equipped with the approaches of elaborating Council Youth and Gender plans to foster youth & women participation in local governance. UNESCO will be keenly following up the inclusive elaboration of these youth and gender plans and will engage the wider donor community to catalytically support them.***

***UNESCO has equally trained 30 youth/women leaders (right holders) of CSOs from the North West, South West, Adamawa, East, Far North and North who also act as trainers of trainers on leadership, media and information literacy etc. These beneficiaries are equipped in elaborating and implementing effective action plans for participation in peacebuilding initiatives at the local level. Some of the organisations include, the Cameroon National Youth Council, The Pan African Network for a Culture of Peace (PAYNCOP), Local Youth Corner, Dynamique Mondiale des Jeunes, Strawacademy, Boyo Youth Association, G54 Afrique Avenir, Accord Parfait, etc.***

***The study on social cohesion mechanisms largely targeted women leaders and women in charge of civil society organizations. Their opinions and points of view have been widely used to assert their position and their difficulties. In addition, the voice of another category of vulnerable has been heard, namely children.***

**Outcome 2: Respect for human rights and the protection of vulnerable people, particularly women, youth and children, are better ensured by the warring parties in the target areas by the end of the project.**

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

***Activities carried out to meet this result started in the third quarter 2020, considering the preventive measures related to the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The training of the security forces made it possible to reach 08 municipalities out of the 30 targeted, for a total of 39 security forces and vigilance committees. The continuation of these training sessions is planned for the fourth quarter for the 22 remaining municipalities.***

***Regarding the establishment of integrated services for the care of victims of violence, the initial work of mapping and updating the services available in the different regions is being finalized. This work took longer than expected, as the Covid-19 epidemic also had an impact on the capacity and modalities of the services concerned.***

***In a nutshell, UN WOMEN, UNICEF and UNESCO collectively strengthened the capacities of Security and Defence forces on International Humanitarian Law and the protection of vulnerable populations in situations of crisis/conflict. During these activities, gender and child desks were set-up within 8 councils with the aim of providing multidimensional assistance to victims of abuse and or violence and most especially give them the courage to overcome fear and speak out with the guarantee to be protected.***

***Within the framework of evaluations, due next year, this project shall investigate statistics related to the number of abuses made, and the rate of reporting done by the victims to have a clear perception on the efficacy of the mechanisms that have been set up. At the moment it is a bit early to state whether there have been any wider peacebuilding effects.***

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000 character limit)*

***Gender Equality and Women Empowerment has mainly been ensured through the drilling of security and defense forces on the importance of protecting vulnerable populations including women and youth in crisis situations. The institution of gender desks within the ranks of the security and defense forces undertaken with the lead of the Ministry of Women Affairs is a laudable move.***

**Outcome 3: Multiculturalism, the culture of peace and the peaceful coexistence of peoples are strengthened**

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

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

***Within this project, World Peace Day 2020 was commemorated with youth and women CSO leaders as well as some public institutions including the Ministries of Youth Affairs and the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism in a view of promoting a culture of peace in Cameroon. Sensitisation campaigns and messages for peace were shared through multiple channels and platforms.***

***UNESCO is working very closely with the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism to elaborate terms of references aimed at mainstreaming youth and gender responsiveness in the 2021 action plan of this important entity whose mission is to promote multiculturalism and a culture of peace at the national level.***

***At the local level, Municipal executives have been drilled on techniques for social inclusion in their council development plans in order to promote peaceful inter-community co-existence particularly in the Far North, North, East, North West, Adamawa and South West regions.***

***Youth & Female CSO leaders have equally been drilled by the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism as well as the Ministry of Social Affairs on the elaboration of projects that support multiculturalism and promote a culture of peace at the local level.***

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000 character limit)*

**N/A**

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)  ***There have been seven United Nations inter-agency monitoring sessions that have taken place among UNESCO, UNICEF and UN WOMEN.***  ***There have been six Government-UN Agencies monitoring sessions held at the level of the technical coordination focal points group, the technical secretariat and one steering committee monitoring session.***  ***A robust monitoring exercise was undertaken in during the Semi-annual reporting undertaken in June 2020***  ***A monitoring mission of the Tecnhicnal Secretariat, together with recipient agencies and implementing partners has been undertaken in Bertoua and Garoua Boulay (5-7 November)***  ***Internally at Agencies, meetings are held regularly between focal points and management to share processes and results of interventions. The budget is regularly monitored for readjustment and appropriation.*** | Do outcome indicators have baselines? ***No***  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?  ***Yes, youth and women leaders of CSOs have been consulted in view of grasping their perception on their participation towards peacebuilding.*** |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?  ***No*** | Evaluation budget (response required): $63,887  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: N/A |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project. | Name of funder: Amount: |
| **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)* |  |

**PART IV: COVID-19**

*Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

1. Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

***$43,000***

1. Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications:

***The delivery schedule for several activities were modified and adopted during the previous steering committee session in order to take accounts of delays and disruptions caused by Covid-19 pandemic.***

***The effects of Covid-19 on social cohesion were incorporated in the terms of references of studies undertaken on local peacebuilding mechanisms.***

1. Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications

Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery

Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management

Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe):

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)

**PART V: 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** | **Indicator Milestone** | **Current indicator progress** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1**  **By the end of the project, the targeted populations (women/youth/men) implement inclusive mechanisms and tools for social cohesion.** | Indicator 1.1  **Percentage of the population using inclusive mechanisms and tools for social cohesion** | **TBD** | **80% women, 80% young girls, 85% young boys, 90% men.** | **% of youth and women participating in local / community conflict prevention mechanisms** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 1.2  Percentage of the population promoting the ideals of peace and living together | **TBD** | **90% women, 85% young girls, 90% young boys, 95% men.** | **Number of advocacy / communication sessions held and campaigns to disseminate the local plans for peace** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 1.3 | **TBD** |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.1  **Frameworks/mechanisms for consultation between CBOs, youth/adolescent CSOs, women, religious and traditional leaders are set up and supported** | Indicator 1.1.1  **Increased percentage of citizens in the target areas who think that the consultation frameworks in their communities are inclusive and listen to them** | **TBD** | **25%** | **3 studies on social cohesion undertaken** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 1.1.2 | **TBD** |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.2  **CBOs, youth/women CSOs, religious and traditional leaders participate and contribute effectively in the public life of their localities and in the prevention and resolution of conflicts.** | Indicator 1.2.1  **Percentage of youth and women participating in local/community conflict prevention mechanisms** | **TBD** | **85%** | **New actors supporting peace initiatives**  **An action plan on social cohesion to be adopted.** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 1.2.2 | **TBD** |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.3 | Indicator 1.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 1.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.4 | Indicator 1.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 1.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 2**  **Respect for human rights and the protection of vulnerable people, particularly women, youth and children, are better ensured by the warring parties in the target areas by the end of the project.** | Indicator 2.1  **Number of human rights violations reported by the populations living in the target zones** | **TBD** | **Less than 500** | **Number of security and defense forces trained per theme.**  **Number of consultation frameworks formally set up** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 2.2  **Percentage of people whose rights have been violated and who have reported their case to state institutions** | **TBD** | **90% women, 95% young girls, 85% young boys, 80% men.** | **Number of communication activities and legal clinics supported** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 2.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.1  **The security forces (FDS) carry out their functions in accordance with the principles of the rule of law.** | Indicator 2.1.1  **Percentage of population in target areas who say that defense forces respect their rights.** | **TBD** | **75%** | **Number of Gender / Child Desks operational** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 2.1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.2  **Abused women, children and youth have access to appropriate and holistic support services.** | Indicator 2.2.1  **Percentage of women reporting feeling safe in their communities** | **TBD** | **25%** |  |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 2.2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.3 | Indicator 2.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.4 | Indicator 2.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 3**  **Multiculturalism, the culture of peace and the peaceful coexistence of peoples are strengthened** | Indicator 3.1  **percentage of the affected population that received assistance from the non-affected population.** | **TBD** | **90% women, 80% young girls, 90% young boys, 95% men.** | **Number of training modules/self-study course developed in French and English**  **Number of programs produced and broadcast on major radio and TV channels**  **Number of microprograms translated and broadcast on regional and community radio stations**  **Number of large-scale advocacy activities involving women's and youth movements and their supporters**  **Number of studies and opinion polls carried out** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 3.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.1  **Peace, living together, multiculturalism and conflict prevention are promoted at the local, regional and national levels.** | Indicator 3.1.1  **Level of willingness shown by stakeholders (actors and victims of exclusion) to collaborate regularly and equitably with each other for peaceful cohabitation** | **TBD** | **60%** | **Number of seminars and training sessions on the integration of gender, youth and children's dimensions in peace building/consolidation initiatives and the promotion of bilingualism and multiculturalism.** |  | **Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. This indicator will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 3.1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.2  **The gender-sensitive, youth-sensitive peacebuilding approach is integrated into policies, sectoral strategies, and development plans at the local and national levels.** | Indicator 3.2.1  **The gender and youth-sensitive approach to peacebuilding is integrated into sectoral policies and strategies and development plans at the local and national levels.** | **TBD** | **Policy document – 01**  **Sectoral Strategy – 05**  **Development Plans – 30** | **Number of campaigns to promote peace, living together and conflict prevention.**  **The mayors of the 30 target councils are sensitive to the approach of integrating youths and women.** | **Policy document = 01/01 = 100%** | **For sectoral strategies and development plans - Not evaluated yet due to delayed start of activities resulting from Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. These indicators will be evaluated next year.** |
| Indicator 3.2.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.3 | Indicator 3.3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 3.3.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 3.4 | Indicator 3.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 3.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **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 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 4.4 | Indicator 4.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |