PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: ETHIOPIA
TYPE OF REPORT: FINAL
YEAR OF REPORT: 13 DECEMBER 2018- 13 DECEMBER 2020

Project Title: INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TO ETHIOPIA **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00113418**	
If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: ☐ Country Trust Fund ☐ Regional Trust Fund **Name of Recipient Fund:**	**Type and name of recipient organizations:** **UNDP (Convening Agency)** **IOM** **UNWOMEN**

Date of first transfer: 13 December 2018 **Project end date:** 13 December 2020 **Is the current project end date within 6 months?**
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** UNDP $899,049.27 IOM $ 1,317,321.71 UNWOMEN $ 623,970.50   Total**: $ 2,840,341.48** Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 100% UN Women 100% for UNDP ……for IOM *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**: USD767,654.93** Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: **USD 599,251**
Project Gender Marker   GM2 **Project Risk Marker:**   HIGH **Project PBF focus area:** Strengthening National State Capacity and Conflict Prevention/ Management
Report preparation: Project report prepared by: Project report approved by: Did PBF Secretariat review the report:

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.)

At the time of this reporting (January 2021), the project had concluded implementation of all activities based on the original and adjusted integrated plan that were approved extending the project end date from 13 June-13 December 2020. The work plan was adjusted to respond to the emerging priorities of the Government of Ethiopia, conveyed by the Ministry of Peace (MoP), and changes in the national political context due to the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic since March 2020. This adjustment resulted in the refocusing of the first Outcome of the project which initially intended to support the development of the national peacebuilding strategy to instead focus on strengthening the capacity of the MoP to respond to the pandemic and to strengthen the capacity of the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission (ERC). The project adjustment also added a new output (2.4) under the second Outcome to increase national solidarity and promote peaceful co-existence and social cohesion in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The end of project evaluation also commenced on December 22, 2020 and was being carried out during the current reporting period. Thus, this final report is compiled by using implementing partners' reports, proceedings of review meetings, activity, biannual and annual narrative and financial reports, management updates, output verification report and case stories as source documents.

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):

The project was operationally closed on 13 December 2020 so there are no new activities anticipated at this point. Upon completion of the end evaluation, success stories and lessons from the project will be captured and widely shared to promote project achievements and also to inform the design of similar peacebuilding projects in Ethiopia. The evaluation report, a separate case story and lessons learned piece will be the means to do so.

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):

Since the outset of the project (December 2018), the investments that contributed to some structural and societal changes at national and local level were made. The noticeable contributions of the project investment in this regard are briefly presented below:

Institutional Level
Capacity of local government actors and Media Houses strengthened: the project has addressed the knowledge and skills gaps of 735 (607 male and 128 female) experts and senior staff of key national and regional government institutions and public and private media houses[1]

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[1] Ministry of Peace, Regional Security and Administration Bureaus, Justice Bureaus, the regional Police, Women, Children and Youth Bureaus, Disaster and Risk Management Bureaus including the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority, public and private media houses, development sector ministries

on various peacebuilding and conflict management areas[2]. The knowledge and skill sets acquired by these key actors is expected to strengthen the conflict management, prevention and gender sensitive peacebuilding efforts of these key institutions at national and regional level.

The Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline (Amharic and English) and the Peace Education Manual (Amharic, Afaan Oromo, and Somali) are critical resources developed by the project which can henceforth be used to strengthen peacebuilding efforts of government institutions. The guideline, which was endorsed by the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority (EBA), a media regulatory body in Ethiopia, will continue to ensure the applicability of skills gained by journalists during the successive trainings on gender sensitive conflict reporting in addition to positively influencing the media landscape in the country beyond the project timeline. In terms of ensuring quality assurance of reports in minimizing conflict sensitivity, the Peace Education Manual on the other hand will contribute to back the peacebuilding efforts of the Ministry of Education (MoE) and MoP with their regional counterparts and public higher education institutions. Moreover, the timely crisis communication training which was delivered to the MoP experts and higher officials was also a significant contribution of the project to enhancing the Ministry's strong sphere of influence to promote peace and stability in Ethiopia. The practical tools and techniques on message crafting, effective communications writing, tackling fake news and hate speech and designing strategic media campaigns were introduced to participants to improve MoP's capacity to promote peace and stability in Ethiopia.

The establishment and capacity building of 18 Conflict and Early Warning (CEWARN) facilities (6 in each region in Oromia, Somali and SNNP respectively), along with the capacity building workshops for traditional leaders were also part of the institutional capacity building efforts of the project at regional and community level. The CEWARN facilities are situated in the 18-district level peace and security bureaus facilitating the tracking of conflict incidences and early warning signs on a timely basis. These efforts contributed to more effective coordination, early warning information gathering, sharing and analysis to inform proper response at different layers of the government in order to prevent violent conflicts. It also laid the foundation to strengthen the role of customary conflict resolving mechanisms in the targeted regions of Oromia, Somali and SNNP Regions.

Societal Level

Dialogue platforms and Inter-regional conflict management, prevention and coordination mechanisms created: With its bottom-up community-level planning approach to dealing with the root causes and resolution of conflict in the targeted regions, the project managed to create inter-coordination task forces comprised of government representatives and traditional leaders. During the life of the project, four (4) intra-coordination and two (2) inter-coordination meetings were also conducted, leading to the facilitation of eight (8) inter-community dialogues among the bordering districts[3] of Oromia-Somali cluster. Besides this, the coordination task forces managed to link-up with officials from the adjacent local government actors of the two clusters (Oromia-Somali and Oromia and SNNPR) to deal with peacebuilding and security issues in an integrated and coordinated manner.

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[2] Peacebuilding and conflict transformation, conflict management and prevention, rule of law, dialogue facilitation, gender responsive conflict reporting and peace journalism, durable solutions, trauma healing, conflict early warning and response mechanism, gender mainstreaming in peace building projects, ToT on Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion, Communication with a focus on crises were the areas covered by the various trainings provided by the project.

3 Wolrane for both the Meiso districts (Oromia-Somali),Derer-Arba for both Babile districts (Oromia-Somali), Karsa-Oromia for both Gursum (Oromia-Somali) and lastly in Chinakson for Tuluguled and Chinakson district

Including the eight (8) inter-community dialogues in Oromia-Somali Cluster, a total of 20 peace dialogue sessions (16 regional and 4 national) were also supported by the project. These dialogues were inclusive, of giving the opportunity for 1,320 community members (985 male and 335 female) comprised of host communities, returnees, government actors, male and female traditional leaders[4], peace ambassadors and university students to deeply discuss topics such as religious diversity, extremism, tolerance, social cohesion, peaceful coexistence, the role of women and youth in peace, and national consensus.

These dialogues were also significant for religious leaders to play their roles in motivating the youth to engage constructively; for women peace ambassadors to play their cultural role as mediators; and for the community to reflect and prioritize short-term and long-term remedies to recover back from the destructed social ties and infrastructures in their communities. Moreover, the dialogues were also opportunities for Christian and Muslim community members in Oromia and SNNPR[5] to jointly identify each other's positive practices, the conflict triggering factors and to make mutual requests on what they would want the other to improve in order to strengthen peaceful coexistence among their communities.

Rehabilitated social infrastructures through community initiatives: As a result of the community-level dialogue platforms, the communities identified common social infrastructure (such as schools and health posts) to be rehabilitated. The destroyed infrastructures were a physical testimony of the disruption resulting from the violent local conflicts and the communities' prioritized their rehabilitation as a symbol of their resolve to rebuild peace and social cohesion for the generations to come. Specifically, schools are regarded as epicentres to advance peace education and as per the demand from the communities, the project managed to rehabilitate and furnish 70 schools (42 in Oromia and 28 in SNNPR) and 2 health posts in Somali Region. The schools and health posts are currently used by 28,000 students and community members (Internally Displaced People and host communities alike) across the target communities.

Similarly, in the Oromia and SNNP Cluster, business and financial skills training coupled with cash-assistance for small businesses - such as coffee plantation and drying - were provided to improve the livelihood of 192 community members (170 women and 22 youth). These community initiatives are instrumental to restoring the income sources of the targeted women and youth and helped to reconnect, rebuild and empower the targeted community to work towards peaceful coexistence.

Improved participation of women through women peace forums and dialogue platforms: The project's strategy to ensure a bottom up approach in the participation of women in peace building processes created an enabling situation and structure to bring the voices of women at the grassroot level to the fore. The two Women Peace Forums which were established in Oromia and Somali Regions, composed of women traditional leaders, have been the gateway to deliver capacity building support and engage them in peace dialogues and conferences conducted at regional and national level. Creating these forums is also a contribution by the project to address the structural barriers women face to participate in peace building processes and a significant step forward in creating a united women's front. This has been evidenced during the experience sharing event between the two women forums[6] and national dialogue

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4 Women traditional leaders called Hadde Siinqees from Oromia and Aba Gadas from Oromia and SNNPR.

5 West Arisi, Jimma, Meska and Mareko and GuraFerda

6 An experience sharing and dialogue forum with Oromia and Somali Women Peace Forum members was conducted from 28-29 October 2020.

forms[7] where the women were able to amplify their voice, concerns, and aspirations. Of the issues discussed during the forum, the culture of Oromia and Somali communities, the traditional role of women in peacebuilding in Oromia, the problems and causes of concern for women in their respective regions were the main one. These events were also serving as a symbolic moment to display the crucial role and leverage women can have through their synergy in bringing peace to the bordering localities of the Oromia and Somali regions. As the women witnessed, the only exchange forums they knew were those which were conducted with a generic topic than a specific women issue like this one. The forums which enables such integration of the two regional women are also expected to serve their community beyond the project life.

Youth engagement through capacity building initiatives: In alignment with its objective to offer the youth positive and constructive avenues, tools and opportunities, the project was able to provide ToT trainings and dialogue platforms for university students from all over the country. Trainings on transformative leadership, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution and later on peacebuilding and social cohesion were provided to 365 students[8] (208 male 157 female) who are leaders and members of peace and gender equality clubs in 47 public universities. The peace clubs are functioning structures in the state universities and are expected to replicate these trainings to additional students in the campuses. These trainings were instrumental in informing and motivating the youth to promote peaceful coexistence, provide social service and combat COVID 19 pandemic in their respective campuses and communities.

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):
A compilation of the project success stories is attached with this final report. The following are parts taken from the document.

Case 1   Rehabilitated Common Social Infrastructure: Hope to restore Peace and Social Cohesion among the communities of Oromia and Somali Regional States

……the inclusive and participatory approaches of these dialogues have allowed the community to reflect and prioritize short-term and long-term remedies to recover back from the destructed social ties and infrastructures in their communities. Among the prioritized solutions to restore peace and trust among the communities is the rehabilitations of common social facilities(schools and clinics) to serve as a living witness of the disruption due to the violent local conflicts in their life and their renewed conviction to rebuilding peace and social cohesion for the generations to come. Accordingly, among others, the PBF project managed to rehabilitate and handover two schools in Babile and Gursum districts of Oromia Region, which have now started receiving students after the long break due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Case 2: Women Peace Forums: Paving the way for inclusive regional and interregional peacebuilding efforts

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7 National peace dialogues/conferences on the role of women and youth were also conducted in Addis Ababa and Adama, in 2019 and 2020. These forums were also facilitated in partnership with MoWCA, MoP, PDC, IRCE and regional Women, Children and Youth Bureaus.
8 Two rounds of trainings for university students were conducted in 2019 and 2020 in partnership with PDC and MoP.

Oromia and Somali Regional States have been affected by violent conflicts which resulted in the internal displacement of millions of people. In the conflict, the women from the two regions have been affected disproportionately. After the violence stopped, there were very few chances created for women to come together and discuss and begin to heal the trauma created by the violence and displacement. In the dialogue that took place between the regions following the different conflicts, women have not been given the space to come together and discuss issues especially their roles in local peace that matter to them. …… a strategy embedded in the "Inclusive Governance and Conflict Management Support to Ethiopia Project" created an enabling situation and structure to engage women at all levels. The two Women Peace Forums in Oromia and Somali Regions of Ethiopia are thus, the results of the project strategy created in close collaboration with the Bureaus of Women, Children and Youth (BoWCY) of the two Regions.

The following are also weblinks of communication pieces.
Article UNDP website on the project launch:
- https://www.et.undp.org/content/ethiopia/en/home/presscenter/articles/2019/01/03/inclusive-governance-and-conflict-management-support-project-lau.html

Social Media
- Twitter Link of the project: https://twitter.com/PbfProject
- Twitter link for Gender Responsive Conflict Reporting and Peace Journalism training https://twitter.com/unwomenafrica/status/1126031109098299392?s=19
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1602927176555937/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1601638243351497/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1600842970097691/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1599866916861963/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1598951923620129/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1606544582860863/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1605809129601075/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1605619876286667/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1604733669708621/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1603997583115563/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1603909763124345/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1603723683142953/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1619988274849827/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1619843848197603/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1618926504956004/
- https://www.facebook.com/178060545709281/posts/1618903434958311/\

News links on Women Peace Conferences- EBC news it starts on 15:08 to 18:08 audience is general public:
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzew6hWqa1E
- Walta it starts on 1:43 to 6:44 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-qA0DiF4QI

Televised dialogue on the role of youth and women in peacebuilding and conflict resolution
- **#AshamTV**
  Part I https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABURvzY5Nag
  Part II https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FbKzhnLUWM

Press Release: for the general public

- https://ethiopia.iom.int/inclusive-governance-project-brings-cultural-leaders-peacebuilding-talks-ethiopia
- https://ethiopia.iom.int/visit-un-lends-ethiopia-support-inclusive-governance-and-conflict-managementhttps://www.iom.int/news/iom-rehabilitates-educational-institutions-ethiopia
- https://allafrica.com/stories/202101060283.html?aa_source=nwsltr-ethiopia-en

PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME

The progress summary below is presented against the performance indicators highlighting the changes contributing to the expected results envisaged in the project performance framework.

Outcome 1: The GoE develops/adopts a national peacebuilding strategy through an inclusive and evidence-based process/supporting national reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts (during the political transition)

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Off Track- with progress at output level being catalytic for the development of other peacebuilding project with MoP.

Progress summary: *(3000-character limit)*

Despite the initial interest of the MoP to set the peacebuilding priorities of the country through the development of the peacebuilding strategy, the internal restructuring process that was undertaken in the MoP required a significant amount of time and ad hoc priority setting to respond to the emerging peace and security crises in the country. Given the sensitivities and security concerns involved in the development of a conflict analysis and peacebuilding strategy as well as changes in the political context, the Ministry preferred to conduct the analysis without involving international/external partners.

Based on an official request from the Ministry of Peace (MoP), the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) project has also been investing to strengthen the capacity of government and non-government actors has created dialogue platforms and women peace structures, and also produced assessment reports and policy briefs[9] for an inclusive and effective development process of the peacebuilding strategy. The deployment of a senior technical advisor has also been one of the efforts made towards supporting the MoP in this endeavour.

The contribution of this project was rather indirect via its inspiring strategic-level discussions which culminated in the development of another standalone peacebuilding project[10] with a focus on integrated national and regional interventions in the country. Besides, despite the challenges at the federal level, the project also managed to pull through regional and community-level initiatives (such as community dialogues, the establishment of CEWARN facilities and capacity building trainings etc.) leaving a notable signature for future peacebuilding interventions by the MoP and other actors in Ethiopia.

Output 1.1 Capacity of key government actors strengthened: During the 24 months of the project, 735 (607 male and 128 female) experts and senior staff of key government institutions were successfully trained on peacebuilding and conflict management topics surpassing the initial target of 250 national and regional participants' set by the project. The conclusion can

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9 Stakeholders mapping, capacity assessment, mainstreaming durable solutions option, conflict factors and dynamics in the targeted and other regions were the reports produced by the project.

10 This is a project by UNDP with Ministry of Peace.

be drawn that the project was successful in creating a good base for effective national and regional conflict management, prevention, and gender-sensitive peacebuilding effort. This has been confirmed through the project output verification exercise. As per the pre- and post-training verification report[11], the trainings that were provided by the project has helped trainees to perform their role and responsibilities better. Already, trainees have also reportedly transferred the knowledge and skills they gained to their staff and co-workers via the onward training they were provided as per the methodology of the ToT.

As part of the efforts to support national reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts, the MoP and Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission (ERC) were provided with technical support (training and direct deployment of experts) by the project. A training on communication with a focus on crises communication targeting the communication experts and higher officials of MoP was conducted to enhance the capacity of the ministry to deliver on its mandate and to promote peace and stability in Ethiopia. The training, which was specifically tailored to the contexts and challenges of MoP was value adding allowing participants to question their practices and assess internal systems against the standard practices and global principles that was provided during the training. The topic on crises communication was also timely helping participants to gain hands on skills and knowledge to respond to fake news and hate speeches that is viral on social media.

With a combined effort of PBF and other programme[12], direct support had been initiated to the ERC with the aim of strengthening the ERC institutional capacity to deliver on its truth seeking and reconciliation mandate. To this end, technical support was provided through direct deployment of five short term technical advisers and the mobilization of international experts in transitional justice and communications. The additional technical capacity has thus far enabled the ERC Secretariat to finalize its strategy, develop its organogram and staffing plan, draft a communication strategy, initiate a revision of its legal framework, and develop key communication and public relations activities. The PBF support contributed to design a radio-talk show and SMS polling survey concept that can be rolled out by the ERC in the post electoral period to gather feedback and generate public awareness on/about its mandate.

The Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline both in Amharic and English, Peace Education Manual which is translated to Amharic, Afan Oromo and Somali languages along with the other training material that were developed on communication, conflict sensitive development planning and conflict management and durable solutions, exceeds the two training materials planned to be developed by the project. These resources are what the project provided for, Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority (EBA) the Ministry of Education (MoE), MoP and their regional counterparts to continue using for similar trainings in the future.

Output 1.2 Support to the process of developing a peacebuilding strategy available: the project supported four consultation meetings with the participation of 203 people (182 Male and 21 Female). These consultations were the high-level retreat on the mandates of the newly established MoP, inter-community mechanism in Oromia-Somali cluster[13], with humanitarian and development partners in Somali region and a national consultation on the role of women and youth.[14] The high-level retreat meeting with the senior and middle level leadership of MoP was instrumental in clarifying on the mandates of the ministry which ranges from ensuring

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[11] 9% of those trained by the project interviewed on the impacts of the training.

12 Additional support from UNDP's Governance Democratic Participation Programme was combined with PBF project to support ERC.

13 The meeting was conducted from 9-10 January 2020 in Dire Dawa.

14 This national consultation was conducted on November 5,2020 in partnership with IRCE.

peace, stability and promotion of social cohesion to managing diversity. The inter community and national consultations have also led to facilitation of inter community dialogues and identification of concrete actions to promote the role of women in peace.

In addition, two policy papers with a title "Role of Women and Youth in Peace" and "Maintaining peace and security in Ethiopia through Strengthening the Role of Government, Religious and Community Leaders" were produced informing national level dialogues conducted in partnership with Peace and Development Center (PDC) and Inter-Religious Council (IRCE) of Ethiopia.[15]

Output 1.3 Policy guidance for peacebuilding policy development is available: The project has produced 4 reports on stakeholder mapping, capacity assessment of the MoP, customary actors mapping, and factors and dynamics of conflict. Despite the little progress on the development of the peacebuilding strategy, these reports have a lot to offer towards similar endeavours in the future and can be used as a roadmap going forward. In addition, the two policy dialogues on "The Role of Youth and Women on Peace Building and Conflict Resolution" [16] had been exemplary allowing a genuine reflection and ownership of the agenda by 130 participants (60 female, 70 male) from universities, government and other community members. Among the discussion point were identification of the structural barriers of women to assume the top leadership positions of national universities (only 9% as per the assessment conducted in 9 universities) and their non-existence at local administration levels which greatly affects the role of women in peacebuilding. In order to tackle this, policy directions including the need for development of a comprehensive gender responsive peace policy and institutionalised youth capacity building programs and sustained dialogues were forwarded.

Output 1.4 Inclusive consultation on peacebuilding strategy development organized: Exceeding the target, two functioning Women Peace Forums, composed of women traditional leaders were established in Oromia and Somali Regional states. These forums are significant to address the structural barriers of women to voice their concerns as victims of the ongoing conflict as well as to play their role as peacebuilders, whose role has not been recognized, and change agents. The experience sharing that took place among these two Women Peace Forums was an evidence to the fact that the project facilitated a platform that was not available for women groups affected by the intercommunal conflict between the two societies. In terms of capacity building, the project had also successfully trained 365 youth students[17] (208 male 157 female) on transformative leadership, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution and later on peacebuilding and social cohesion. As part of this effort, a training on gender mainstreaming in peacebuilding[18] was also provided 93 participants (47 male and 46 female) from UN agencies, CSOs and government institutions who were targeted to inspire the development of new transformational gender responsive and inclusive conflict management and peacebuilding interventions in their respective institutions.

Aligned with the bottom-up approach of the project in informing policy development, five (5) conferences[19], exceeding the targeted three (3) sessions, were also conducted allowing the project reach more audiences where, the discussions were focused on the role of women and youth in peace and the management of religious and ethnic diversity. These conferences brought 1,085 participants together and were comprised of mothers of peace, who are serving as ambassadors of peace, female university students, religious and traditional leaders and

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15 IRCE and PDC are the local Civil Society Organizations working to promote peace and religious Harmony in Ethiopia.

16 The dialogues are organized at Wollo, Jimma and Ambo Universities and in Addis Ababa in partnership with PDC

17 Two rounds of trainings for university students were conducted in 2019 and 2020 in partnership with PDC and MoP.

18 The training for Somali Region was conducted from March 6-7, 2020. The training for UN agencies and Implementing partners was conducted February 19-21, 2020.

19 All the conferences were conducted in 2019.

government officials from the targeted two clusters. Participation of women was more than 50%. These conferences created a platform for women and youth to voice their concerns and also allowed documenting issues around religious and ethnic-based conflicts for a national-level policy formulation.

With the purpose of creating gender and conflict sensitive media, 72 public and private media journalists[20] (56 Male and 16 Female) were trained[21] on gender responsive conflict reporting and peace journalism. This training has enhanced the knowledge and skill of targeted journalists to be conflict sensitive on issues which impact the lives of persons in conflict situations. In addition, for further reference for the media, Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline was developed and endorsed by the EBA, which is a media regulatory body in Ethiopia. In Ethiopian media, stereotypical narratives where women are portrayed as victims and survivors and where men are portrayed as active participants at all levels is rampant. The contribution of this guide is thus significant to change the deep-rooted and challenging stereotypes by promoting basic journalism ethics for a balanced and inclusive story telling of all stakeholders. The guide is also expected to serve as a systematic framework to enhance the balanced representation of women in conflict as well as reporting in their role as peace makers and peace builders.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:

Under Outcome-1, the project had successfully integrated interventions to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment and youth inclusion. These include the establishment of the two functioning Women Peace Forums in Oromia and Somali regions; the five peace conferences and two policy dialogues on "The Role of Youth and Women on Peace Building and Conflict Resolution" with more than 50% participation of women and youth; the Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline and capacity building of public and private media journalists on gender responsive conflict reporting and peace journalism; and the gender mainstreaming in peacebuilding projects and transformational leadership in peacebuilding training for youth university students, UN agencies, CSO and government institutions.

Outcome 2: Increased Security and Social Cohesion in Conflict Prone Clusters

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On Track

Progress summary: *(3000-character limit)*

The project implemented inclusive, conflict mitigation instruments including intra and inter-regional peace dialogues, conferences, community and livelihood initiatives and capacity building of government actors, traditional leaders, and the youth and women in the targeted Oromia -Somali and Oromia -SNNPR conflict clusters. These interventions provided platforms for the communities reached to openly discuss peace and security challenges and to identify and prioritise solutions to increase and maintain security and social cohesion in their regions and beyond. The following section presents the major achievements of the project against the specific targets set at the outset, as well as later adjustments made to respond to emerging security and health challenges of the targeted regions.

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[20] These are part of the 735 actors trained by the project.

21 The Journalists were trained in two phases where the first-round training for broadcast media was on 7-10 May 2019 and the second round of training for community radio was on 12 – 14 June 2019.

Output 2.1 Regional and inter-regional mechanisms strengthened: With its bottom-up planning approach to dealing with the root causes of conflict, the project created to create three (3) inter-coordination mechanisms (task forces) in the targeted two clusters (Oromia-Somali and Oromia-SNNPR). These coordination mechanisms contributed towards linking officials from the adjacent local government actors of the two clusters and also paved the way for communities to participate in the inter-regional dialogue platforms and to identify common ground or any other dormant issues to foster peaceful co-existence and deter violent conflicts.

Throughout the project, twenty (20) dialogue sessions (16 regional and 4 national) were also conducted with the participation of 1,320 community members (985 male and 335 female) comprised of host communities, returnees, government actors, male and female traditional leaders and peace ambassadors and university students. Through these dialogues, participants were able to deeply discuss topics such as religious diversity and extremism, tolerance, social cohesion, peaceful coexistence, the role of women and youth in peace, and national consensus.

These dialogues were also helpful in minimizing tensions, analysing the perception of community members towards the roots and drivers of the conflict and promoting social cohesion with those who have had conflict with each other.

To enhance the capacity and responsiveness of state actors and other stakeholders, fifty-five (55) community members (51 male and 4 female) from 8[22]districts of Oromia and Somali regions were provided with Training of Trainers (ToT) on dialogue facilitation and conflict management.[23] This helped to facilitate successful dialogue sessions at the community level. Moreover, these efforts were also backed with the establishment and capacity building of eighteen (18) Conflict and Early Warning (CEWARN) facilities (6 for each region) along with a capacity building training on early warning[24] for eighty – one (81) experts (73 male and 8 female) drawn from regional admin and security bureaus of the targeted three (3) regions and the MoP.

Output 2.2 Mechanisms to address community conflicts strengthened: Creating effective coordination between the statutory and traditional/customary conflict management mechanisms was one of the strategies of the project to create a coordinated response to the 2018 conflict that caused massive human displacement in the targeted clusters. Accordingly, 31 traditional leaders (19 male and 12 female) of Gedio and Guji Zones were successfully trained and provided with valuable information to effectively coordinate with the statutory conflict management mechanisms.

Among the benefits of the local level intra and inter-community dialogues were also the prioritization of the community to rehabilitate common social infrastructures which were destroyed during the 2018 violent conflict in Oromia, Somali and SNNP Regions. The project has rehabilitated 70(42 in Oromia and 28 in SNNPR) schools and 2 health posts.

Similarly, in Oromia and SNNP cluster[25], business and financial skills training management coupled with cash-assistance for small businesses such as coffee plantation and drying, was provided to improve the livelihood of 192 community members (170 women and 22 youth). Also, 5 series of children's football matches were organized with a participation of 144 children (56 male and 88 females.[26]

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22 The 8 selected districts were from of Somali Babile, Gursum, Meisso, and Tuluguled woredas and from Oromia Babile, Chinakson, Gursum, Meisso.
23 The training in Somali was conducted in Jijiga town from January 1-3, 2020 and for Oromia in Harere from 4-6, 2020.
24 The TOT was provided from 24-27 December 2019.
25 In Gedio and West Guji Zones.
26 The matches were attended by round 10,300 people from Gedo and West Guji zones.

Output 2.3 Women empowerment at the community level supported for more effective conflict management: the project was able to build the capacity of 81 women (41 from Oromia and 40 from Somali Regions) through the training[27] and awareness creation session conducted on transformative leadership, role of women in peacebuilding and on United Nations Security Council Resolution (UN SCR) 1325 covering issues of gender equality/women empowerment and peace and security.

With an effort to document the voices of women for national policy development, the project supported two dialogues with an experience sharing exposure[28] among 175 women and 23 male participants of Oromia and Somali regions. The dialogue among the Somali women was monumental providing an opportunity to share their experiences to each other on how they are working with IDPs, community leaders and elders on resolving clan conflict. The dialogue and experience sharing event among the members of the two forums was also a symbolic moment confirming the possibilities for women of the two regions to leverage their platform and synergy to bring peace in the bordering localities of the two regions and beyond.

Output 2.4 Increased engagement of national and local groups for solidarity in response to Covid-19 and to promote peaceful co-existence at a time of uncertainty (added on Output): the project had been flexible and adoptive towards the emerging national priorities, security and COVID 19 health concerns in Ethiopia. Mobilization of national and local actors including media houses was the main strategy adopted to respond to emerging needs and challenges while promoting solidarity and peaceful coexistence amidst the COVID 19 crises in the country. MoP being the main actors of this initiative, 120 women, 189 religious' leaders, 450 (398 Male, 52 Female) local government officials and youth leaders were mobilized through the discussion forums[29] conducted by the project. All the forums were organized by applying the COVID 19 prevention measures.[30]

These forums were fruitful in engaging participants for meaningful discussions on democratic participation at local level, significance of religion as a social capital for social cohesion, emotional intelligence for taking an ultimate responsibility for peace, design and process of dialogue, rule of law, and citizen's dignity, which all were significant in helping the participants to promote social cohesion and solidarity among communities. Particularly, the detail discussion on the design and implementation process of dialogues were conducted with local government officials and women representatives with the purpose of cascading the same discussion at community level. Accordingly, with the support of MoP, government officials from SSNPR, Dire Dawa, Gambella, Sidama, Somali and Beneshangul Gumuz were able to reach out to more people at the community levels.[31]

Moreover, as part of the initiatives of the project with Inter Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE), a half day consultative meeting[32] among religious leader and public and media houses, and officials of EBA was conducted to promote social responsibility and forward remedies for the escalating hate speech and an unethical journalism practices dominating the Ethiopian Media. The paper that was presented on the reality of the current practices of the media was informative for religious leaders understand the extent of the problem and call for actions for

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27 The training for Oromia Women Peace Forum member was conducted from October 25 and 26, 2020
28 The dialogue for Oromia was conducted from 8-9 August 2020 and the Dialogue and experience sharing between Oromia and Somali Peace forum members from 27-29 October 2020.
29 The discussion forum with local government officials was conducted from 31 October to 3rd November 2020. The forum with women was conducted from 16-17 November 2020. The forum with religious leaders was conducted 13-14 November 2020. The dialogues with university students was also conducted during their ToT training from 12 -16 October 2020.
30 Masks, sanitizers and sops were provided by the project.
31 This was a report collected by MoP until 20 December 2020.
32 The half day consultative meeting held on Dec 10, 2020 at Addis Ababa

the media to focus on peacebuilding, refrain from reporting erroneous information and for leaders to respect the social and ethical responsibility of their profession.

Finally, a peace messaging documentary video was produced with the initiation of the MoP in partnership with RUNOs. The documentary captures the peace message delivered by the iconic figures promoting the essence of solidarity among Ethiopians despite ethnic and religious diversity. The message also reiterates the need to ensure sustainable peace for the economic, social, political stability in the country. This documentary is also meaning a valuable tool contributed by the project to reach out to the larger audiences with peace and solidarity messages beyond the project life. The broadcasting of this message is also facilitated through the formal partnership that was created between MoP and Association of Ethiopian Broadcasters' under the framework of the project.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:

Under Outcome-2, The project ensured women and youth participation in all the interventions. For instance, women represented 25% of the 20 community dialogues; youth and women-focused dialogues were conducted at the national and regional levels. Women influencers were also engaged in promoting solidarity and social cohesion through the national-level discussion forums and media platforms (private and public TV channels). In sports activities such as football matches, the project also targeted female youths to participate in the "sports for peace" initiative. Moreover, 180 vulnerable women and 20 youth from host communities and IDPs also benefited from the livelihood support that was provided by the project.

PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Monitoring: Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000-character limit)	Do outcome indicators have baselines? No
As per the performance monitoring and evaluation plan of the project, joint planning sessions, regular project technical and higher-level review meetings were conducted documenting the outcomes through minutes and proceedings. Activity level, biannual, annual narrative and financial reports, management updates, monitoring reports including output verification reports, case stories, and success story videos were also timely produced, shared and documented as knowledge products of the project.	Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?
	No, the planned perception survey was cancelled due to the current COVID-19 situation. Rather output verification exercise was done to measure a progress against the output indicators.
In addition, the government partners in Somali and Oromia along with the CSO partners had conducted monitoring of implemented activities at regional level. The Somali Region Security and Admin Bureau monitoring visits the six CEWARN situation rooms along with the	

construction of two health posts) and IRCE's monitoring meeting with communities in the targeted regions were examples to mention few.	
Evaluation: Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? Yes:	Evaluation budget (response required): USD30,000 If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500-character limit)*: the preparation for the project evaluation has already completed in consultation with PBSO. The evaluation process was also commenced hiring two consultants followed by two consecutive inception meetings and approval of the inception reports and data collection instruments. An Evaluation Reference Group comprised of RUNOs and government partners was also established to ensure quality of the evaluation process and its results.
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: Government of Japan Amount: USD 30,000 Name of funder: Swiss Development Agency: Amount: USD 158,980.97 Name of Funder: UNDP Amount: USD 150,000
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)*	The lack of institutional resilience and capacity of national partners to effectively respond and adopt in a crisis like COVID 19 and deliver on their core mandates is a major capacity gap that is observed during this reporting period. Significant gap in capacity to mainstream gender in peace building projects and lack in knowledge of the Women Peace and Security Agenda in general and UN SCR 1325 have been evidenced based on the feedback registered following the capacity building training on Gender Mainstreaming in Peace Building Projects underlining the need for comprehensive intervention on the area.

PART IV: 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 The GoE develops/adopts a national peacebuilding strategy through an inclusive and evidence-based process//supporting national reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts (during the political transition)	**Indicator 1.a** The national peace building strategy approved	0	1	-	The development of the peacebuilding strategy was not realized despite the technical capacity and policy support provided by the project	The internal restructuring of MoP and the ad hoc and consistent shift in MoP priorities to respond to the diverse and newly emerging peace and security crises in the country. Moreover, given the sensitivities and security concerns involved, the Ministry was less enthusiastic to go ahead with an in-depth conflict analysis rather

						preferred to follow its approach without involving international/external partners.
	Indicator 1.b The process of strategy development conducted in an inclusive and participatory manner, involving participants of various societal groups, including women and youth	0	2	-	The consultations were not initiated despite mobilization of different actors and documentation of inputs from national, regional, and community level.	The same reason above.
Output 1.1 Capacity of key government actors strengthened	**Indicator 1.1.1** Training material prepared and translated in local languages	0	2		4: Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline, Peace Education Manual translated to Amharic, Oromifa and Somali languages, training materials on communication, conflict sensitive development planning and conflict management and durable solutions	

	Indicator 1.1.2 Number of people successfully trained (disaggregated by age/sex)	0	250 national and regional participants		735 (603 Male and 128 Female) experts and senior staffs of key government institutions are successfully trained on various peacebuilding and conflict management topics	
Output 1.2 Support to the process of developing a peacebuilding strategy available	**Indicator 1.2.1** Inclusive national taskforce established and operational	0	1		The taskforce was established comprised of technical team from MoP.	This is due to the preference of MoP to use its internal capacity.
	Indicator 1.2.2 Number of consultations and participants (disaggregated by sex and age)	0	3		4 consultation meetings with 203 participants (182 Male and 21 Female).	There was an enabling situation to conduct more consultations with different participants
	Indicator 1.2.3 Number of policy papers produced	0	4		2 policy papers with a title "Role of Women and Youth in Peace" and "Maintaining peace and security in Ethiopia through Strengthening the Role of Government, Religious and Community Leaders"	Conducting more research for the purpose of producing policy briefs from the field was difficult due to the volatile security situation and COVID 19 pandemic.
Output 1.3 Policy guidance for	**Indicator 1.3.1** Number of reports on comprehensive	0	2		3 reports on stakeholders mapping, customary actors mapping and capacity of MoP	

peacebuilding policy development is available	information regarding most feasible durable solution options and conditions					
	Indicator 1.3.2 Number of research papers commissioned	0	6		1 research paper on conflict factors and dynamics	Conducting research from the field was difficult due to the volatile security situation and COVID 19 pandemic.
	Indicator 1.3.3 Number of thematically relevant policy dialogue events organized-	0	3		2 Policy dialogue on the role of women and youth in peacebuilding and conflict resolution organized in three Universities and at national level in Addis Ababa with a participation of 120 people (60 female and 70 male)	The policy dialogues are based on the two policy briefs produced.
Output 1.4 Inclusive consultation on peace building strategy development organized	**Indicator 1.4.1** Women Peace Forum established-	0	1		2 Women Peace Forums established in Oromia and Somali Regional States	
	Indicator 1.4.2 Number of youth and women successfully trained on transformative conflict resolution (disaggregated by sex and age)	0	250 Youth and women		365 youth students (208 male 157 female) from 47 public universities and 93 participants (47 male and 46 female) from UN agencies, CSOs and government institutions	

	Indicator 1.4.3 Number of conferences organized	0	2 Conferences with 200 youth participants. 50% women		5 conferences on the role of women and youth in peace and management of religious and ethnic diversity with 1085 participants were conducted. Participation of women was more than 50%.	
	Indicator 1.4.4 Number of journalists trained on gender sensitive reporting in politics and peace process (disaggregated by sex)	0	75 Journalists		72 journalists (56 Male and 16 Female) trained on gender responsive conflict reporting and peace journalism. Gender Sensitive Conflict Reporting Guideline was developed and endorsed by the Ethiopian Broadcasters Authority	
Outcome 2 Increased Security and Social Cohesion in conflict-prone clusters	**Indicator 2.a** IDPs and members of the host communities show an increase in perception of security and social cohesion in their areas		35%		Although there was no perception survey undertaken during the evaluation, discussions with the communities suggests that IDPs and members of the host communities show an increase in perceptions of security and social cohesion in their areas. Those reached in West Guji and Gedeo reported to live harmoniously following the peace dialogues and enhanced by the sports and games supported by the project.	

| | Indicator 2.b
Relevant stakeholders (IDPs, members of host communities, women groups etc.) report an increase in trust and in satisfaction with the responsiveness of government management of displacement and conflicts resulting from it | | 35% | | As per the focus group discussions conducted during the evaluation, community groups also suggested an increase in trust and in satisfaction with the responsiveness of government management of displacement and conflicts. Those reached in Gursum Woreda indicated the rehabilitation of infrastructure affected by the conflicts; improved access to water and rehabilitation of the destroyed schools has helped in managing displacement and conflict. Lack of development opportunities, they stated, are the causes of the violent conflicts, which can be taken up areas of focus for future interventions. | |
| | Indicator 2c
Increased level of community participation on multi-ethnic and religious | No | | | No report on this indicator. | There was no field level data collection made on this indicator due to the difficulty to conduct the survey amidst the |

	community-based healing initiatives					security and health concerns.
Output 2.1 Regional and inter-regional mechanisms strengthened	**Indicator 2.1.1** Number of regional conflict management coordination mechanisms established	0	3		3 inter regional/local co-ordination platforms/mechanisms established	
	Indicator 2.1.2 Number of dialogue sessions conducted with the participation of all key stakeholders including women representatives	0	3 Sessions with 1500 participants		20 dialogue sessions/ platforms (16 Regional and 4 National) were also conducted with the participation of 1320 community members (985 Male and 335 Female)	
	Indicator 2.1.3 Number of people successfully trained on conflict management and internal displacement (disaggregated by sex and age)	0	30		55 (51 Male and 4 Female) community members from eight districts of Oromia and Somali region were provided TOT on dialogue facilitation and conflict management	
	Indicator 2.1.4 CEWARN facilities strengthened	9	9		18 CEWARN facilities (6 in each region) have been established/strengthened	

					81 national, regional and local government peace and security experts (73 Male and 8 Female) were trained on early warning	
	Indicator 2.1.5 Workshops for mapping customary conflict management	3	3		3 workshops on mapping customary conflict management Mechanisms were conducted, one in each Oromia, Somali and SNNP regional States**.**	
Output 2.2 Mechanisms to address community conflicts strengthened	**Indicator 2.2.1** Number of people successfully trained on statutory peacebuilding resolution of conflict and internal displacement (disaggregated by sex and age)	0	500		31 (19 Male and 12 Female) traditional leaders were brought to discuss on statutory conflict management mechanisms	The result is short of the target due to security situations as well as covid19 pandemic of the targeted regions constraining to reach more traditional leaders as targeted.
	Indicator 2.2.2 Number of community-based local initiatives	0	10		5 Children football matches organized 70(42 in Oromia and 28 in SNNPR) schools and 2 health posts which were damaged during the conflicts are now rehabilitate and furnished Livelihood support to 192 community members (170 women and 22 youth) provided	

	Indicator 2.3.1 Number of women successfully trained on gender peace and security (disaggregated by age)	0	300		81 women (41 from Oromia and 40 from Somali). Training on transformative leadership, role of women in peacebuilding for Oromia Women peace forum members and awareness creation session on the international instruments (UNSCR1325) and the role of women in peacebuilding for Somali members	Due to Covid 19 pandemic some of the planned activities were not implemented
Output 2.3 Women empowerment at the community level supported for more effective conflict management						
	Indicator 2.3.2 Number of gatekeepers sensitized on importance of women participation (disaggregated by age)	0	60			This activity has been reprogrammed.
	Indicator 2.3.3 Number of dialogue forums organized among women groups to influence the national peace building strategy and policy making frameworks	0	2		2 dialogue forums with an experience sharing exposure among 175 women and 23 male participants of Oromia and Somali regions.	

	Indicator 2.3.4 number of youth dialogues organized	0	2		3 youth dialogues with students of Jimma, Wollo and Ambo was conducted	
NEW: Output 2:4 Increased engagement of national and local groups for solidarity in response to Covid-19 and to promote peaceful co-existence at a time of uncertainty.	**Indicator 2.4.1** # of national and local groups/people mobilized to build solidarity among the nations disaggregated by sex and regions)	0	25 women influencers, 100 youth volunteers, 2 national football clubs, 30 university students, 3 professional associations		120 women influencers including leaders of women federations, peace mothers, Hade Sinqqes, and regional women, children, and youth office heads. 189 religious leaders and 450 (398 Male, 52 Female) local government officials and youth leaders Moreover, Capitan of the Ethiopian National Football Team, famous singers and runners and Ethiopian Broadcasters' Association with its 15 national members were also engaged to promote solidarity and peaceful coexistence through the formal partnerships created with MoP and also by taking part in the peace messaging video production supported by the project.	
	Indicator 2.4.2 Media messages transmitted on combat stigmatization, discrimination, hate	0	3		A peace messaging documentary video is produced. The discussion forums with religious leaders, influential women and the youth are also broadcasted	

	speech, violence against women.				by the Association of Ethiopian Broadcasters. Press release by Ethiopian News Agency was also made for the media to refrain from misinformation and hate speech	