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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** Yemen

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

**YEAR of report:** 30/03/2021

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| **Project Title:** Furthering the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda in Yemen  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** | |
| **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:**  **UNFPA (Convening Agency)**  **UN Women** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 11 Dec 2018  **Project end date:** 31/12/2020  **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**  UNFPA $ 850.000  UN Women $ 650.000        $        $  Total: $ 1.500.000  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 100%  \*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: 750.000  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: 750.000 | |
| **Project Gender Marker:**  **Project Risk Marker:**  **Project PBF focus area:** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Areej Al- Khawlani- Project Coordinator  Project report approved by: Nestor OWOMUHANGI- UNFPA Representative  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: | |

***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.*

**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):**

*This final report communicates project results against the objectives for the whole implementation period between January 01, 2019 and December 31, 2020. Project intervention activities supported to first increase the capacity of young women and men, second, the creation of institutional channels of dialogue, in which youth and youth-led CSOs can participate, and third to create a strategic framework which will enable the inclusion of youth, priorities, needs and contributions, in the peacebuilding process.*

*The first six months of the project had focused mainly on the project set-up and inception phase. This included hiring of human resources, contracting of the main implementing partners, presentation of the project to different stakeholders, and confirming the list of the proposed governorates based on baseline assessment results. Moreover, governance and management modalities were formalized between UNFPA and UN Women and their partners.*

*During the implementation phase of the project, UNFPA and UN Women held many coordination meetings. This allowed the partners to onboard colleagues on the project to review the progress of the project; suggest measures to ensure timely completion of project activities in light of Covid-19 situation; facilitate overall performance and project implementation; facilitate audits and evaluations and reporting, discuss and promote synergies across the project activities in all cross cutting themes.*

**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):**

*100% of the project activities are completed. There is no project -related event planned in the next six months*

**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):**

*The project contributed to bringing about a change at the structural level, as the project established recently a national Youth, Peace and Security Alliance. The newly established Alliance is comprised of members from different ideological, political, social and economic backgrounds. The successful formation of this Alliance, is a concrete step to implement the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, and serve as a tool to include young women and men in Yemen’s peace process, at the highest level.*

*The project also has developed a strategic framework that offers a way forward for the implementation of UNSCR 2250. The Strategic Framework for UNSCR 2250 in Yemen was formulated as a result of the work of the project and the Youth Peace Alliance. It is built on the data collected and the analysis of those most affected by the topic of peacebuilding in Yemen – young Yemenis themselves. The framework explains how the implementation of UNSCR 2250 should be structured, suggesting that education, training, and capacity building should be paramount, to both improve the ability of young people to earn a living and support themselves and their families, and to extend their knowledge and capabilities relating to all phases of the peace process. The strategic framework also emphasizes communication and advocacy, skills that will be necessary for Yemen’s youth if they are to overcome the biases of their elders and make their opinions heard.*

**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):**

*Following the YPS training workshops conducted by UNFPA, a number of the trained youth formed initiatives and implemented activities related to peacebuilding. In Taiz, for example, a youth initiative was formed "Youth against the Siege", advocating ending the siege of Taiz and Sana'a Airport. ‎Another initiative was formed in Hadramout "Hadramout Youth Peace Forum". It held a public event called "Hadramout: The Land of Peace", to build capacities of youth on peacebuilding skills and a seminar on the national dialogue outcomes. Also, these trainings gave youth some exposure and were selected to participate in regional and international events like the Arab Youth Forum in Tunis, The Hague Talks on Justice and Peace in Netherlands and other events. Moreover, during the Beirut consultations workshop that UN Women conducted, " Open Space Technology Approach” focused on Yemen, a real impact was made on the participants and their beliefs about themselves as they got the chance to think outside the box in such unique way where they prepared their agenda and the topics that will be discussed. “I have never been to a workshop where I was asked what I want to talk about.” Said by one of the participants.*

*Another effect was seen when the Youth Alliance” Youth Peace and Security Pact” was established. Two workshops were conducted targeting the Pact members to develop their local governance tools and provide them with needed skills on alliances management. “Politicians in their speeches always praise the role of youth and their importance, but what is in fact is that youth issues and their participation in decision-making are undermined. The future of Yemen means our future. This alliance will carry the bag that is filled with our dreams, ambitions and youth issues”, Said by one of the Youth Pact members.*

**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:** **The needs and priorities of young men and women and provisions for youth inclusion are articulated in the peace agreement and post-conflict stabilization, relief and recovery plans**

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

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

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***Within Output 1:*** *UNFPA conducted a baseline assessment that provided a basis for future monitoring and evaluation of progress and how to measure project progress. Moreover, UNFPA implemented two TOT workshops for 30 young women and men who subsequently conducted 7 trainings targeting 176 young using the training manual that was developed by UN Women. As a result of the capacity building activities, in the targeted governorates it was witnessed that the volunteer activism and initiatives related to peacebuilding are increasing. The knowledge gained from the training workshops and the developed manual enabled them to join other activities related to peacebuilding, to get job opportunities and to be nominated to participate in regional and international events*

*UN Women also implemented an online survey and an online dialogue platform that engaged more than 10,500 young people nationwide and provided valuable qualitative and quantitative information on youth priorities regarding YPS-related topics. Moreover, UN Women organized a 3-day consultation workshop focused on Yemeni young women in Beirut, highlighting the role of women and youth in peace and security.*

***Within Output 2:*** *UNFPA accomplished the mapping of individual youth, formal youth-led CSOs, and informal youth group leaders in the targeted governorates – such exercise availed database for actors on the YPS agenda and informs access and programming considerations of YPS actors. Also seven consultation meetings were conducted in the governorates, two of them were conducted online due to COVID-19, and seven detailed reports were produced to develop consultation papers to be used to inform the peace process, enriching the local literature on YPS as well as creating awareness about youth priorities in Yemen. Moreover, the Youth Peace and Security National Alliance was established and members were selected. UNFPA conducted two workshops with the YPS Alliance members in Aden to define the Alliance’s governance structure. UN Women organized a 3-day consultation workshop: the initiative focused on UNSCR 2250 and the role of young women and men in the peace building process as well as on their priorities.*

***Within Output 3:*** *UN Women designed an advocacy & strategic communications strategy with clear mechanism for the Alliance’s engagement. Such a tool aims at helping the outreach efforts the Alliance is mandated to do and increasing their efficiency influencing decision makers on the YPS agenda. Moreover, under this output, UNFPA developed 30 advocacy messages around peacebuilding at the community and national levels to be used by the YPS Alliance members to conduct advocacy activities. Accordingly, the Alliance members launched their campaign on field and online.*

***Within Output 4:*** *UNFPA developed a situational analysis on Youth Peace and Security (YPS) in Yemen that provides an overview of Yemeni youth’s role in relation to the YPS agenda. Also under this output, UNFPA developed a summary report to share the project outputs and achievements with the Secretary-General’s Progress Study Advisory Board for YPS and global partners. Moreover, UNFPA has developed a strategic framework that offered a way forward for the implementation of UNSCR 2250 in addition to the development of a guiding document on youth and women joint monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the peace agreements. Finally, UNFPA and UN Women conducted the Yemeni Youth Peacebuilding Conference to validate the strategic framework for the Youth Pact, position the recommendations of the Yemeni youth targeting main actors. The conference was attended by more than 400 young Yemeni people and resulted in a final youth statement and a set of recommendations.*

**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)*

*The project aimed to make a significant contribution to gender equality, with 50% of project’s funds was directed to activities which sought to contribute to gender equality and women’s empowerment. In addition, being 50% of project beneficiaries were women, the project also aimed at the empowerment of young women in the public sphere and to enforce the principles of equality, inclusivity and human rights. Furthermore, all training materials actively promote inclusivity and equality. Finally, the project partnered young men and women with more experienced female activists and leaders, by facilitating an exchange of experience and skills between the Yemeni Women’s Pact for Peace and Security (Tawafuq) and the Youth Peace and Security Alliance*

**Outcome 2:**

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

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

**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)*

**Outcome 3:**

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

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

**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)*

**Outcome 4:**

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

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

**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)*

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit) | Do outcome indicators have baselines?  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?  *Several meetings between the project teams were carried out to formalize the governance and management modalities, clarify the inputs and tasks needed to achieve intended outputs, roles and responsibilities for implementing those tasks, to clearly identify the participating stakeholders and target groups for the intervention and to develop the M&E plan accordingly.*  *Moreover, the inception phase also allowed the implementing partners to understand potential implementation challenges, identify the risks, and prepare a risk mitigation strategy. Meetings were also held to discuss the challenges facing the project and how to address them.* |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required): 40,000 USD  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*:  *An end line assessment was conducted at the end of the project to provide an opportunity to assess the changes realized through the project specifically looking at milestones related to involvement of Youth in advancing the Yemen Peace and Security (YPS) agenda. Moreover, an external evaluator was contracted to assess the impacts (positive or negative) of the projects. An Evaluation Report is attached.* |
| **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)* | *It is important to highlight that a number of external factors have negatively affected the implementation of other project activities. Key critical factors faced by the project teams include the following:*   * *The Supreme Council for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and International Cooperation (SCMCHA) was established in the second half of 2019 to replace both the National Authority for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Recovery (NAMCHA) and the international cooperation sector at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. The new body put in place a new set of restrictive measures for activities implemented by national and international organizations and the general operating environment worsened.* * *National authorities and lengthy administrative procedures in the South of the country also constitute a challenge to the implementation of activities: work plans take long to be officially approved and the formal clearance by the Government to carry out activities in the targeted governorates is still pending.* * *In order to respond to COVID-19 pandemic, since mid-March 2020 the public authorities across the country have imposed a set of preventive measures to limit the risk of virus transmission, including social distancing. This has affected project implementation and put on hold all activities that required a physical interaction and/or presence of stakeholders and beneficiaries.* |

**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 needs and priorities of young men and women and provisions for youth inclusion are articulated in the peace agreement and post-conflict stabilization, relief and recovery plans** | Indicator 1.1  **Number of youth and gender related provisions in draft peace agreements/ceasefires, position papers presented by YPS alliance and minutes of meetings with decision makers in various parties and government** | **0** | **2** |  | **0** | **During the implementation time of the project, political process witnessed a freeze with the last agreement reached was in 2018 (Hudaydah Agreement) before the project starts. Thus, provisions to any draft peace agreements/ceasefires were not visible at the project time.** |
| Indicator 1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 1.3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 1.1  **Young men and women are equipped to engage and participate actively in Track II dialogues, including in online dialogues** | Indicator 1.1.1  **Number of young people with increased knowledge about the YPS agenda (disaggregated by age, sex and geography)** | **0** | **180** |  | **206** | **There was some savings in Activity A1.a.4 thus one more additional workshop was conducted in Taiz** |
| Indicator 1.1.2  **Number of young people participating in monthly on-line dialogues (disaggregated by age, sex and geography)** | **0** | **500** |  | **338** | **Due to the poor internet connection and security conditions UN Women faced difficulty in meet the indicator of the number of young people participating in these online sessions. Thirty-one online sessions were held via ZOOM and 338 participants from** **the six targeted governorates.** |
| Output 1.2  **A national YPS dialogue structure including Government, UN and civil society is established with clear governance mechanisms and decision-making processes.** | Indicator 1.2.1  **Existence of a functional YPS structure with clear governance mechanisms and decision-making processes.** | **No** | **Yes** |  | **Yes** |  |
| Indicator 1.2.2  **Number of technical proposals and/or position papers developed informing the peace process** | **UNFPA consultation paper on 2250** | **6** |  | **6** |  |
| Output 1.3  **A collaboration between the national YPS dialogue process and youth-led CSOs is established to conduct joint advocacy and communications activities, engaging with additional Track II & III constituencies around inclusive peace.** | Indicator 1.3.1  **Existence of a functional advocacy committee comprised of national YPS dialogue process and youth-led CSOs** | **No** | **Yes** |  | **Yes** |  |
| Indicator 1.3.2  **Proportion of youth-led CSOs members with positive perception on levels in youth inclusion in the peace process** | **0** | **50% of survey respondents feel that youth participation, capacity and satisfaction has improved** |  | **47%** |  |
| Output 1.4  **A strategic framework for UNSCR 2250 in Yemen is developed, reflecting the UNSCR 1325 model with the aim to foster political, programmatic, financial and technical support of YPS partners including government, UN agencies and Track I, II & III actors.** | Indicator 1.4.1  **Existence of a Strategic Framework for UNSCR 2250 and mechanism for its implementation in Yemen** | **No** | **Yes** |  | **Yes** |  |
| Indicator 1.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 2** | Indicator 2.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output 2.4 | Indicator 2.4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator 2.4.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **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 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |