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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

**TYPE OF REPORT:** FINAL

**YEAR of report:** 2021

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| **Project Title:** Support to the prevention of radicalisation to violence in prisons and probation settings in the Kyrgyz Republic  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** PRF, 00108336 | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:**  United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)  United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | **Type and name of recipient organisations:**  UNODC  UNDP |
| **Date of first transfer:** January 11, 2018  **Project end date:** July 11,2021  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** yes | |
| **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 organisation):**  **Recipient Organisation Amount**  **UNODC:** $ 1 408 000  **UNDP**: $ 350 000  Total: $ 1 758 000  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: $527,200    Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: $525,552 | |
| **Project Gender Marker:** Score 2[[1]](#footnote-1) More than 30 % of the total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women’s empowerment.  **Project Risk Marker:** Risk marker 1[[2]](#footnote-2)  **Project PBF focus area:** Priority Area 1: Support the implementation of peace agreements and political dialogue (1.2. RoL)[[3]](#footnote-3)  If applicable, **UNDAF outcome(s)** to which the project contributes: Priority II: Good governance, rule of law, human rights, and gender equality.  If applicable, **Sustainable Development Goal** to which the project contributes: **SDG16 -** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. **SDG5-** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.  If applicable, **National Strategic Goal** to which the project contributes: National PVE Action Plan; Peacebuilding Priority Plan. | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Mr. Kuban Ismailov  Project report approved by: Mr. Koen Marquering  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):

Project implementation started on 11 January 2018 and ended on 11 July 2021.

The implementation period includes a no-cost extension of six months approved by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) following the COVID-19 pandemic. This allowed the project to complete all activities despite restrictive quarantine measures and challenges posed by political upheaval in 2020.

This final report covers the main results achieved based on activity plans signed with the project beneficiaries on 25 May 2018 and 3 April 2019.

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarise **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 started its work at a time when the country had just adopted new criminal legislation, including a new Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Criminal Executive Code, Law on Probation and a Law on Changes to Regulatory Acts on Introduction of the Probation Institute (in 2017). This was the result of an ongoing process of judicial reform and a major step forward in terms of humanization of criminal policy and application of alternatives to incarceration with important implications for the management of violent extremist offenders.

A period of preparation ensued for the authorities to get ready for entry into force from January 2019 onwards. The project was implemented during this preparatory period and covered the initial stages for the introduction of probation in Kyrgyzstan. This required the project to focus on institutional reforms and assistance to the new probation service in parallel with specific interventions aimed at facilitating social reintegration of violent extremist offenders into the community and promoting community partnerships to prevent violent extremism.

Based on the project’s strategic engagement, the Government made a decision to place the probation service under the Ministry of Justice, an unprecedented step for probation management in Central Asia (where probation is often embedded in law enforcement rather than set up as a civil institution in line with international standards and best practice).

The project supported the development of the normative framework to guide probation services, with 9 regulatory acts developed and adopted during the lifetime of the project to support implementation of the new Law on Probation. These include guidelines for the development of probation reports; establishment of rehabilitation centres (social dormitories); support to probation units and probation clients by local self-government bodies; probation procedures and multiagency coordination on probation at the community level.

The project helped the authorities map technical needs for the provision of probation services at the community level. Based on this engagement, the government allocated premises and funding for the establishment of probation offices. 139 probation staff were recruited and started working. The project further boosted this effort with technical assistance to open eight probation offices employing 48 probation officers (31 women) in Chui, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken oblasts.

The project trained over 800 prison staff (over 300 women) and 128 probation officers (42 women) to work with violent extremist and other prisoners and probation clients, based on international standards and norms, including the UN Minimum Rules on Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules) and Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules).

For the first time, the Prison Service made a significant investment in the capacity of its Training Centre, with the recruitment of new teaching staff, raising the number from 3 to 15 staff. The project has increased the professional capacity of the training staff on the new novels of the criminal legislation, including the legislative provisions on management of violent extremist prisoners.

Under the project’s guidance, Kyrgyzstan’s prison service introduced a new prison risk assessment and classification system (PRACS), based on international good practice, to enable development of individualized rehabilitation sentence plans for prisoners, including those convicted of violent extremism. In this context, the project facilitated better conditions and opportunities for vocational training and employment for over 400 prisoners and ex-prisoners (including 20 percent women) to obtain essential skills and knowledge to enable them to integrate better in their communities.

The project also facilitated the creation of a Psycholinguistic and Religious Expertise Unit at the State Forensic Service. Investment in the expert capacity and infrastructure for this new department was made increasing the number and the quality of psycholinguistic and religious expertise to serve as a sound evidential basis for the adjudication of terrorism and extremism related crimes in line with fair trial standards. By mid-2021 the Psycholinguistic and Religious Expertise Unit increased the number of forensic staff to 23 people (vs. 4 staff in 2018) and the total number of conducted examinations in relation to terrorism and extremism crimes that reached over 800 examinations (for 2020-2021) as compared to less than 200 such examinations conducted in 2017-2018.

Finally, the project contributed to the review of the regulatory framework for the provision of forensic services in terrorism and extremism related cases, so as to improve provisions related to forensics and to make those consistent with the related legislation, increasing trust in the justice system and reducing grievances towards the state. The relevant amendments were made to the Law "On Countering Extremist Activity", "On Freedom of Religion and Religious Organizations in the Kyrgyz Republic”, the Law “On Forensic Activities”, Criminal Procedure Code of and Civil Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic.

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):

The project has contributed to the founding and development of the probation service in support to alternative measures of incarceration and humanisation of the criminal sanctions. This has had positive human impact based on a reduction of the prison population and promotion of effective rehabilitation and social reintegration processes in the Kyrgyz Republic. The number of prisoners went down from 10,891 in January 2019 to 9,400 in September 2020 and 8635 in January 2021. Over 550 probation clients (305 women), including 101 (41 women, 40%) sentenced for extremism/ terrorism related crimes benefited from probation services, including legal aid, placement in rehabilitation centres and support with access to identification documents, social benefits and employment. Recidivism among extremist offenders decreased by 40% (with an actual rate of 10% as of January 2021). The recidivism rate among the general prison population decreased by 30% (i.e. the recidivism rate in 2018 was 50% vs. 21% by January 2021).

The project supported development and adoption of a new Law on Amnesty. This proved a timely initiative during the COVID-19 pandemic. Five hundred twenty-seven (527) prisoners’ sentences were reconsidered and 44 prisoners convicted for less serious crimes were released under this law. Given that prisons are a high-risk environment for the spread of COVID-19, this was an important measure to reduce related risks and consequences in Kyrgyzstan’s prisons.

Introduction of a risk assessment and classification system in prisons has provided an opportunity for prisoners to be treated individually depending on their level of risk, motivating them to participate in rehabilitation programs and acquiring new skills and knowledge that will be useful upon release when they return to their communities.

Access to information for the prisoners and their families has been increased through the establishment of a Prison Service Call Centre. The Centre receives about 50 phone calls and about 20 visits every day providing prison-related information and legal advice to the public (addressing questions of a total of 6000 prisoners, their families and other citizens during the lifetime of the project).

Beneficiary quotes:

*“There are many prisoners, including those who have been convicted for extremism and terrorism, willing to gain knowledge, skills and work during their detention. Unfortunately, the State Prison Service does not have sufficient capacity to ensure their needs fully at this moment. However, I believe that if we continue our cooperation, in the same way, we’ll be able to reach our goals and more prisoners will get opportunities to be engaged into rehabilitation programs and find their places in society after release”, stated Mr. Kadyrov Aivaz Samatovich, Acting Chairman* *of the State Prison Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.*

*The Minister of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Marat Dzhamankulov: “Thanks to UNODC and UNDP for their support to the development of the probation service in the Kyrgyz Republic as it helps in rehabilitation of probation clients without distancing them from their families and social environment which enhance their reintegration to society”.* [*http://minjust.gov.kg/ru/news/view/id/2579/*](http://minjust.gov.kg/ru/news/view/id/2579/)

*“In order to correctly identify racial, ethnic or religious incitement to hatred and violence, the Handbook for law enforcement and judicial officials on conduct of forensic examination of cases related to extremism and terrorism was developed. This handbook hopefully will improve investigation, prosecution and adjudication of crimes on terrorism and extremism”, said Mr. Tabyldy Matsakov, Deputy Chairman of the State Forensic Service of the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic.*

**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:** Penitentiary and probation officers, as well as police and forensic experts effectively prevent and address radicalisation to violence by ensuring adequate safeguards in compliance with national law and international standards.

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

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

Output 1:

* Two high-level dialogue platforms, engaging over 100 government sector professionals and independent experts, facilitated to share promising practices for the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons and to promote criminal justice reform with a focus on alternatives to imprisonment and effective management of violent extremist offenders.
* Capacity of 839 prison staff (377 women) enhanced via a series of trainings on implementation of new criminal legislation (which came into force in January 2019), with a focus on provisions governing management of high risk prisoners, and based on a needs assessment of prison staff capacities to recognize violent extremist behaviour (including its differentiation from religious practice), profile recruiters and vulnerable individuals and manage them safely within the prison setting.
* The project supported strengthening the capacity of the Prison Training Centre (raising the teaching staff number from 3 to 15 staff), with a focus on increasing the professional capacity of the training staff on the new novels of the criminal legislation (including the legislative provisions on management of violent extremist prisoners), and on the newly developed methodological tools: a) forms and methods of prevention of terrorist and violent extremist recruitment in prisons b) socio-psychological diagnosis, psychiatric and psychotherapeutic work with VEPs.
* Totally 260 prison staff (97 women) working with VEPs were capacitated on applying new criminal legislation, policies and procedures on VEPs management, and the new

tools on prevention of terrorist and violent extremist recruitment in prisons.

* Prison risk assessment and classification system (PRACS) developed for the first time in Kyrgyzstan’s prison system, based on international recommendations, to enable development of individualized rehabilitation sentence plans for prisoners, including those convicted of violent extremism. Five pilot prisons equipped to introduce the PRACS and 25 prison practitioners trained on its further usage.
* Development and adoption of a new Law on Amnesty facilitated resulting in reduced sentences for Five hundred twenty-seven (527) prisoners and the release of 44 prisoners convicted for less serious crimes. Given that prisons are high-risk environments for the spread of COVID-19, this was an important measure to reduce the risk in Kyrgyzstan’s prisons.
* A Prison Service Call Centre established with the project’s technical support, provided advisory and information services to 6000 prisoners, their families and other citizens by mid-2021. The Centre receives about 50 phone calls and 20 visits everyday providing prison-related information and legal advice to the public.
* Prison-based rehabilitation and social reintegration programs including faith-based, psychological, vocational, employment, sports, family ties, and craftworks components in closed and open type facilities, engaged over 400 prisoners and ex-prisoners (including 20 percent women) to obtain essential skills and knowledge to enable them to integrate better in their communities.
* Living, healthcare and security conditions in 3 prisons for over 250 VEPs improved by creating conditions for family visits, provision of essentials (clothes, bed linen, etc.), medical equipment (clinic surgery equipment) and security devices (portable body worn cameras) for prison staff to enhance security, deter aggression and violence, and prevent corruption in prisons.
* Over 100 violent extremist prisoners, including foreign terrorist fighters, obtained the necessary knowledge, employment opportunities and extra earnings being a part of prison-based rehabilitation programs in pilot closed-type and open-type prisons, where the project constructed a production facility (for work with leather and felt), walking areas (prison 27) and automobile repair station (prison 32).

Output 2:

* New probation service placed under the Ministry of Justice based on the project’s engagement, in particular through its legal expert. This model is fully in line with international best practice, allows the new institution to be developed as a civil body rather than a militarized, law enforcement structure, and provides much better preconditions for a strong focus on social reintegration of offenders, including those convicted for terrorism and extremism related offenses.
* Normative framework developed to guide probation services, with 9 regulatory acts adopted during the lifetime of the project to support implementation of the new Law on Probation. These include guidelines for the development of probation reports; establishment of rehabilitation centres (social dormitories); support to probation units and probation clients by local self-government bodies; probation procedures and multiagency coordination on probation at the community level.
* Judicial reform monitoring group, established under the auspices of the President’s Office, including government representatives and independent experts, supported through the organization of missions to all regions to assess the situation and expedite the opening of probation offices, establishment of probation councils and to ensure coordination at the community level. As a result, premises and funding were allocated for the establishment of probation offices; 139 probation staff were recruited and started working according to the new legislation and policy.
* Eight (8) probation offices opened in Chui, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken regions, including 2 interregional probation units to cover the whole north and south of the country. The offices have been furnished and equipped (office equipment) creating a favourable working atmosphere for 48 probation staff, including 31 women. This is extremely important given the heavy workload with a total of 4234 probation clients registered in these regions.

* Two (2) methodological tools/manuals developed for (i) probation and police officers on the management of violent extremist offenders and for (ii) members of probation councils and all stakeholders involved in the probation process on interagency cooperation for rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders.
* Eighty-three (83) probation staff (26 women),local administrations’ officials (10), police officers (5), social service providers (30), staff of registration departments (3) and lawyers (5) from 24 districts of the country increased their knowledge and skills on the management of violent extremist offenders and their social reintegration at community level.
* A Regulation on interdepartmental cooperation in the field of probation was developed by a specially established expert group, provides for coordinated social assistance to probation clients (endorsed by the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic). The project facilitated 14 interagency meetings at the regional level, including with local government representatives, prison administrations, prosecution bodies and local police, to discuss interagency coordination and community-based joint efforts to support the probation service in the regions.
* The project conducted and empirical research based on in-depth interviews with 32 (3 women offenders) individuals convicted for extremism and terrorism (serving their sentence in prison #27 where a prison wing was created to accommodate this group of prisoners). The study analysed the hypotheses that suggested the factors of mobilization for violent extremism, disaggregated by factor-related clusters and selected motifs that are indicative of general trends.
* A public monitoring conducted on the management of male and female violent extremist offenders, interviewing 76 offenders, including 14 women in 4 open-type prisons and 11 probation locations (in 2019). The recommendations of the monitoring report defined a series of measures for inclusion in individual social and legal support programmes for rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders.
* The project developed a unified electronic database to track probation clients and a risk and needs assessment tool for classification of violent extremist offenders and development of individual rehabilitation plans. Based on this, the project implemented a pilot initiative to support probation staff with psychological and other tests of probation clients and development of individual plans.
* Twenty (23) probation clients (10 women) and 10 vulnerable families from pilot locations participated in a mentoring and support program and case studies to facilitate the interventions aimed at involving the offender’s social network in the social reintegration process, with a focus on vulnerable families, including women and children.
* Two video reels produced to promote and feed public awareness about probation services in Kyrgyzstan. Videos are public and being promoted and disseminated in the public and social media. [https://youtu.be/6PtFCZFyzlA](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2F6PtFCZFyzlA&data=04%7C01%7Cartur.bukalaev%40undp.org%7Ce7336193488248859ebb08d971b6aa8f%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C637665851619103629%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Cx4OARXTDYNUb07ofKIVV%2BFkcDpguOblJLTZwEC6F94%3D&reserved=0); <https://youtu.be/FUWVR8oIMDE>

Output 3:

* + Psycholinguistic and Religious Expertise Unit at the State Forensic Service established with the project’s expert and technical support to enhance the quality of psycholinguistic and religious expertise to serve as a sound evidential basis for the adjudication of terrorism and extremism related crimes in line with fair trial standards.
  + Regulatory framework for forensic services reviewed to address gaps in the criminal justice response to terrorism, so as to improve provisions related to forensics and to make those consistent with the related legislation, increasing trust in the justice system and reducing grievances towards the state. The relevant amendments were made to the Law "On Countering Extremist Activity", "On Freedom of Religion and Religious Organizations in the Kyrgyz Republic”, the Law “On Forensic Activities”, Criminal Procedure Code of and Civil Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic.
  + Analysis of judicial practice on cases related to terrorism and extremism in the Kyrgyz Republic was made in partnership with the Association of Women Judges and other UN agencies (UNODC, UNDP, UN Women, OHCHR) and covered 496 extremism and terrorism related cases considered by all courts throughout the country for the period 2014-2018. On completion of the study a set of recommendations was developed for improving judicial practice in this category of cases, including a recommendation on application of a complex psycho-linguistic examination.
* A Handbook for criminal justice officials on authorisation of psycholinguistic expertise and a methodological tool for forensic experts on production of quality expertise on cases related to extremism and terrorism developed, printed, and disseminated in Russian and Kyrgyz languages. A series of workshops held to present the tools and discuss existing gaps in appointment and conduct of forensic examinations on cases related to extremism and terrorism in 7 oblasts of the country engaging 253 police, prosecutors and judges.
* A Kyrgyz-Russian dictionary of religious terminology developed and disseminated among police and prosecution staff, courts and religious experts to serve as a guide in daily work and to support expertise in criminal cases involving signs of extremism and terrorism.
* Data analysis and collection system established, and specialized computer equipment provided for production of expertise in criminal cases involving signs of extremism and terrorism, increasing the capacity of forensic experts to produce comprehensive psycho-linguistic and religious expertise. Software developed and introduced for processing psycholinguistic texts to speed up the processes and increase the quality of the forensic expertise provided.
* Professional internship/exchange programme implemented to foster professional networks and gain in-depth practical knowledge in the production of psycholinguistic expertise with a religious component with participation of 6 experts of the State Forensic Service, who visited forensic laboratories in Kazan (Russian Federation)to learn about good practices in the provision of expertise in court cases dealing with terrorism and extremism.
* Twenty-eight experts (20 women) trained in psycho-linguistic and religious expertise in criminal cases involving signs of extremism and terrorism and participated in the mentorship programme.

**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 regularly collected data on violent extremist prisoners, which was analysed through a gender lens. Data shows that women make up approximately 54 per cent of violent extremist offenders on probation. As such, women were specifically targeted for inclusion in rehabilitation programs with the probation service and with local self-government bodies in the community. Over 250 women prisoners were involved in rehabilitation programs through employment in sewing production and bakery in the women’s prison.

Gender considerations were mainstreamed in needs assessment and public monitoring of conditions of male and female violent extremist offenders in open-type prisons and on probation. The methodology for the research included specific questions related to the needs of convicted women who were systematically interviewed.

Capacity development for prison and probation staff was based on a training module on the management of violent extremist prisoners, which includes skills building on working with women offenders. The project’s capacity-building component also targeted local self-government bodies and other relevant community-based stakeholders on gender-sensitive post-release interventions, social support and risk management. The project trained over 1000 prison and probation officers, including over 400 women staff to work with prisoners, including violent extremist prisoners, and probation clients, based on international standards and norms, including the UN Minimum Rules on Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules), Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules).

The project has committed to spending 30 per cent of the project budget to gender-related aspects. The estimated overall budget spent on the gender-related interventions and initiatives with involvement of women participants, including those covered in the project monitoring results, capacity building activities, and rehabilitation activities with the involvement of women, etc.), reached the committed 30 per cent ($525,552).

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000-character limit)  Implementation of the M&E plan is coordinated with the PBF Secretariat, led by the Project Manager and M&E Officer. | Do outcome indicators have baselines? Yes  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?  The project collected baseline data on the number of violent extremist prisoners disaggregated by type of crime and applicable sanction, gender, age and ethnic origin.  In 2018, in-depth needs assessment was conducted, which provided the baseline for planning and implementation of social rehabilitation programs for violent extremist offenders in prison, on probation, and post-release interventions, engaging over 100 representatives of local administrations, police, social protection and education bodies, civil society organizations, crisis rehabilitation centres, religious organizations. In 2019, the project experts conducted empirical research based on in-depth interviews with 32 individuals convicted for extremism and terrorism (serving their sentence in prison #27 where a prison wing was created to accommodate these prisoners). The study analysed factors for mobilization into violent extremism, exploring perceptions and attitudes of offenders. In line with the M&E plan, the project conducted public monitoring visits to open-type colonies and probation offices. Interviews were conducted with 76 offenders, including 14 women in 4 open-type prisons and 11 probation locations. The monitoring visit results and recommendations were published in a report, shared and discussed with the national counterparts.  Monitoring visits to Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chui provinces were undertaken to observe the implementation of new criminal and probation legislation. As a result, measures were taken to improve coordination at the local level; probation office premises were allocated and co-financed by local authorities. |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?  The project management has launched the final independent project evaluation in close coordination with the PBF Secretariat and PBSO. | Overall project budget for monitoring and evaluation activities (response required): $ 70 000  If the project will end in the next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*:  The project team launched the final project evaluation in March 2021, coordinated the TOR for the final evaluation with the core learning partners and recruited a team of independent evaluators – 1 international lead expert, 1 international prison expert and 1 national peacebuilding expert. The evaluation process is currently in its final stages with a draft report ready for submission to project stakeholders for comments |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project. | 1) Regional project “Strengthening Community Resilience and Regional Cooperation for Prevention of Violent Extremism in Central Asia”, funded by the Government of Japan, implemented by UNDP in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan during 2018-2021 (completed in March 2021). The project budget of UNDP in Kyrgyzstan was 1.1 million USD.  2) STRIVE EU (UNDP) – 330,000.00 USD allocated for preventing violent extremism at the local level, including capacity building of the probation institution.  3) Government of Qatar (UNODC) Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, 168,039 USD allocated for Kyrgyzstan to implement Rehabilitation & Social Integration of Prisoners (2018-2021) in 2 pilot penitentiary institutions in Kyrgyzstan.  4) US State Department (UNODC) “Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters Detention Programme” (2019-2021) involving Iraq, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan (overall budget 4 180 000 USD, incl. 750 000 USD for Kyrgyzstan) supports further institutionalisation of work to strengthen prison and probation management to prevent radicalisation to violence.  Note: National authorities allocated the state budget funds for the establishment of special wings accommodating violent extremist prisoners. Funds were also allocated to develop software for a database of probation clients, which is to be integrated with the new system for crime registration and criminal justice data collection (unified e-crime registry). |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organisations? *(1500 character limit)* | The COVID-19 outbreak and measures to prevent infection, such as quarantine, trade and travel restrictions, hampered project implementation during its latter stages (from March 2020). Turnover in the leadership of the prison service during the first phase of the project and political upheaval and changes in the government structure towards the end of the project (end 2020) required the project team to re-establish regular workflow with national counterparts. The establishment of prison rehabilitation programs and provision of international expert advice on forensic services in terrorism and extremism cases were impacted.  Taking into account these factors and the evolving COVID-19 situation, PBSO granted the project a no-cost extension (for six months until July 11, 2021) to accomplish the planned activities. |

**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:

n/a

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

n/a

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 stigmatisation and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe): The project supported development and adoption of a new Law on Amnesty. This was not specifically planned but was deemed a useful adjustment to prevent the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak in Kyrgyzstan’s prisons. Five hundred twenty-seven (527) prisoners had their sentences reduced and 44 prisoners convicted for less serious crimes were released under this law.

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.*)

***Providing a new chance for prisoners in Kyrgyzstan: UNODC Supports Measures to Improve Prison Conditions and Implement Social Rehabilitation Programs for Prisoners in the Kyrgyz Republic***

*Despite the widely understood notion that imprisonment should be designed to rehabilitate prisoners ahead of their release, rather than simply punish them for crimes committed, far too often countries lack the resources to put into place structured programmes to reduce reoffending. In Kyrgyzstan, as in many parts of the world, this is a challenge for authorities, which struggle to offer vocational training and employment opportunities, thus hampering social reintegration of offenders. Indeed, out of the country’s 9,000 prisoners, only 2,000 are currently involved in some form of work programme with a view to foster rehabilitation, an issue recognized by the prison service.*

*As part of UNODC’s efforts to overcome issues such as this and promote prisoner rehabilitation, the organization launched a set of new initiatives in Kyrgyzstan. One of these include for the creation of a new prison production facility and exercise space in a prison wing accommodating violent extremist prisoners. The completion of the new production facility has been postponed since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to restricted access to prison facilities. With the lifting of these restrictions, the new facility was opened in September 2021.*

*The Deputy Minister of Justice, Chairman of the State Prison Service, Head of the UNODC Program Office in the Kyrgyz Republic, Manager of UNODC’s Criminal Justice Program in Central Asia, and media attended the event in Prison No. 27 in the village of Moldovanovka, 30 kilometres from the city of Bishkek. “Initiatives of this kind support prison reform by introducing new approaches to prison management and streamlining international standards in our penitentiary policy,” said Mr. Kynatbek Smanaliev, Deputy Minister of Justice.*

*As the custodian of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules), UNODC has been providing comprehensive support to the Kyrgyz Republic since 2009. “UNODC works in close cooperation with government authorities and the Prison Service to improve prison management in accordance with the Nelson Mandela Rules and other international standards,” said Mr. Andrey Seleznev, Head of the UNODC Program Office in the Kyrgyz Republic. “We are promoting comprehensive approaches to prison security management based on security audits that take into consideration not only infrastructural and procedural aspects, but also focus on what we call dynamic security, which means that prison staff should develop and sustain professional and constructive relationships with prisoners”, said Mr. Koen Marquering, Manager of UNODC’s Criminal Justice Program in Central Asia.*

*Technical assistance provided by UNODC during the past years includes establishment of new entrance facilities, procurement of x-ray equipment, innovative video surveillance and intercom systems, and software for electronic registration of visits, packages, and parcels. UNODC also supports the rehabilitation of prisoners through refurbishment of rooms for family visits, bath and laundry facilities, office space for psychologists and social workers, library services and launch of vocational training and prisoner employment programs.*

*During his welcoming speech, the Chairman of the State Prison Service, Major General Askat Egemberdiev, emphasised the importance of such rehabilitation work: “I believe that the efforts undertaken together with UNODC will play a vital role in making a positive change in offenders’ lives and enable them to develop skills, which will ultimately help them find their place in society.”*

*Around 15 out of 95 prisoners convicted for terrorism and extremism related offenses will be engaged through the new facility in Prison Nr. 27. They will undergo a month-long training in leather and felt craft and continue to work in the workshop. The State Enterprise "Kelechek" will coordinate the production process and salaries will be transferred to deposit bank cards for use by the prisoners upon release.*

**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**  Penitentiary and probation officers, as well as police and forensic experts effectively prevent and address radicalisation to violence by ensuring adequate safeguards in compliance with national law and international standards | Indicator 1.1  Recidivism rate among violent extremist offenders | over 50% | 10% decrease by 2020 |  | 40% decrease (10% actual recidivism rate for VEPs; 21% actual recidivism rate for the whole prison population) |  |
| Indicator 1.2  Ratio of violent extremist offenders enjoying social and economic rights (enrolled in educational institutions, employed, etc.) to the total number of VEPs | 200 offenders (<50%) to the total of 483 VEPs | 15% (at least 3% of women) increase by 2020 |  | 450 offenders, incl. 90 women (20% women) of the total of 534 |  |
| Indicator 1.3  Perception of key stakeholders (experts, civil society) on adherence to fair trial standards in terrorism and extremism related cases as a result of forensic examinations in line with national and international standards. | less 40% | 20% increase in the average score by 2020 |  | over 20% increase (60% stakeholders) |  |
| Output 1.1  Penitentiary staff enhance their expertise in addressing violent extremism in prisons by developing methodologies for the prevention of radicalisation to violence in prisons as well as on disengagement interventions for violent extremist offenders | Indicator 1.1.1  Number of laws and policies on prevention of radicalisation to violence and management of violent extremist offenders endorsed  Indicator 1.1.2  Number of prison staff effectively applying new policies and procedures in the management of VEPs | 0  0 | Up to 5 by 2020  200 persons (100 % of staff) working with violent extremist prisoners (15 % female staff) by 2018 | 10 regulatory documents developed:1 draft law on combatting terrorism;  9 probation regulations | 10 regulatory documents: 2 laws on combatting terrorism and countering extremism; 13 regulationsrelating to probation and management/organization of penitentiary system, incl.work with VEPs  260 prison staff (97 women) working with VEPs applying new criminal legislation, policies and procedures on VEPs management |  |
| Indicator 1.1.2  Number of violent extremist offenders and members of their families involved in social reintegration programmes | 0 | 150 persons (at least 50 women) by 2020 | 23 probation clients (13 men, 10 women) and 10 vulnerable families (selected cases) underwent through the pilot rehabilitation and resocialization programme | over 400 violent extremist prisoners (20% women) engaged in the social rehabilitation program incl. psychological support, legal aid, health and social services, vocational training and employment opportunities |  |
| Output 1.2  Probation staff and police officers facilitate the social reintegration of violent extremist offenders into the community and promote community partnerships to prevent violent extremism | Indicator 1.2.1  Number of vulnerable persons who benefited from community initiatives to prevent extremism and recidivism | 0 | 250 (at least 30% women) by 2020 | 135 probation clients (3rd year of project implementation)  83 probation officers (26 women) from 24 regions enhanced skills on implementation of social reintegration programs. | 554 probation clients (305 women), including 101 (41 women, 40%) sentenced for extremism/ terrorism related crimes, employed, documented, received legal aid and placed in rehabilitation centres |  |
| Indicator 1.2.2  Percentage of duty bearers and rights holders who believe that community initiatives contribute to the prevention of extremism and recidivism | 16% duty bearers and 3.9% right holders | 15% increase in the perception that community initiatives are effective | 2018 situational analysis on the system of rehabilitation and probation of vulnerable population (109 respondents incl.9 ex-offenders); 2019 monitoring report on management of VEPs in open-type prisons and on probation (101 respondents, incl.76 offenders) | progress indicatorwill be set based on the final evaluation results | The initially planned baseline-/end-line surveys have been cancelled due to COVID quarantine restrictions; the baseline proxy data source: situational analysis and public monitoring report |
| Output 1.3  Forensic experts provide high-quality expertise in terrorism and extremism related cases | Indicator 1.3.1  Number of forensic examinations conducted by the State Forensic Service in relation to terrorism and extremism related crimes in line with national and international standards | 0 | 50 | 74 examinations (3rd year of project implementation) | 176 complex examinations |  |
| Indicator 1.3.2  Number of forensics experts effectively applying new methodological guidance on the provision of psycholinguistic and religious expertise | 0 | 100% (15% women) by 2019 | 50% forensic experts  (2nd year of project implementation) | 100% forensic experts  **(**28 men and 20 women) capacitated to apply psycholinguistic and religious expertise in criminal cases involving signs of extremism and terrorism |  |

1. **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE)

   **Score 2** for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate at least 30% of the total project budget to GEWE

   **Score 1** for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 30% of the total budget for GEWE) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes

   **Risk marker 1** = medium risk to achieving outcomes

   **Risk marker 2** = high risk to achieving outcomes [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. **PBF Focus Areas** are:

   (1.1) SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

   (2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Conflict prevention/management;

   (3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services

   (4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)