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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** SOUTH SUDAN

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

**YEAR of report:** 2021

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| **Project Title:** Breaking the Cycle of Violence -rehabilitating justice and accountability mechanisms for the transformation of survivors and perpetrators of violent conflict into change agents for peace**.**  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:**  **00117921** | |
| **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:**  **UNICEF (Convening Agency)**  **UNDP**  **OHCHR** |
| **Date of first transfer: 4** October 2019  **Project end date: 3 April 2022**  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** Yes (No cost extension (NCE) for 6 months has been approved) | |
| **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**  UNICEF $ 1,000,000  UNDP $ 2,000,000  Total: $ 3,000,000  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget:  \*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: 900,000 USD (30 %) of the total project budget  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: | |
| **Project Gender Marker:**  **Project Risk Marker:**  **Project PBF focus area:** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: UNICEF, UNDP and OHCHR  Project report approved by: UNICEF  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.*
* *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):

Under outcome one, OHCHR reached 6,866 beneficiaries (3,089 females), in addition to an estimated 19,990 beneficiaries (14,693 females) reached through radio messages. OHCHR established and operationalised 23 survivors’ networks, with 375 members (148 females), to prevent violence and deal with conflict related traumas.

Nine training sessions were conducted to sensitise stakeholders on conflict, violence, and peace. In addition, 304 victims and survivors (216 females) received counselling and psychosocial support services to engage in the truth telling and reconciliation process. UNICEF, through the work of civil society organisations (CSOs), reached a total 30,731 children (16,503 girls) with messages on children’s rights and children in contact with the law. An additional 561 children (191 girls) reached with case management, family tracing and reunification (FTR) services.

Under outcome 2, UNDP partnered with four CSOs to implement project activities aimed at strengthening community security and access to justice for juveniles. In Bentiu and Rubkona, Hope Restoration South Sudan (HRSS) formed 13 Police Community Relations Committees (PCRCs) as part of community policing activities to enhance public trust in law enforcement. In Juba the Foundation for Democracy and Accountable Governance (FODAG) and Hold the Child (HoC) in Bor, provided legal aid services to 123 juveniles (12 females) that had come into conflict with the law.

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 construction of the Aweil Reformatory Centre will be completed by the end of 2021. The design is based on a standardised concept of reformatory centres developed in partnership with the National Prisons Service of South Sudan and the Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare.

A final project evaluation will be conducted by 3 April 2022. The terms of reference (ToR) is jointly being developed between partner agencies. The sourcing of consultants is set to begin in February 2022.

UNICEF has identified Alight, as the CSO to provide programmes for children that are diverted from the formal justice system in Aweil. This is a low-cost community run service alternative to prosecution and custodial measures that can be scaled up as part of the wider strategy for child justice reform.

OHCHR and the South Sudan Law Society (SSLS) will hold a high-level conference on transitional justice in Juba to inform the design and implementation of transitional justice processes in South Sudan.

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 supports the strengthening of the juvenile justice system in South Sudan. Measures are taken to develop the standard operating procedures (SoPs) for courts; training curriculum for the reformatory centres; and trainings to legal personnel within the formal and informal justice system that interact with youth under 18 years of age.

With technical support from the project, a multidisciplinary training module was developed for critical national and state actors based on the Child Act (CA), 2008 which includes a facilitators guide and participants handbook.

By establishing a PCRCs in Bentiu, Unity State, the project contributes towards trust building between communities and the law enforcement systems. The availability of legal aid services directly enhances access to justice, especially for children and youth who would not be accustomed to navigating a legal system without representation.

With an increased understanding of underlying causes of violence and of the impact of trauma, victims have moved from voicing sentiments of revenge to seeking for reconciliation and non-violent means to resolve grievances and access to justice. The network leaders display enhanced confidence and actively engage with the community and local authorities in dialogues to promote peace and security. Survivors have also received increased social and community recognition, as they act and raise awareness on the peaceful resolution of violence and conflict within their 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 victim of conflict in Bor reported that after having witnessed the killing of his family, he wanted revenge against those who committed the crime. After participating in the project activities, he now wants to seek justice through the legal system. Moreover, a Bor network leader reported he was selected by the members of his payam to join the local court committee on land dispute resolution. Network members are receiving increased community recognition and are being assigned new roles. As survivors raising awareness on peace within their communities, project volunteers are observing improved security on the roads to remote payams and increased freedom of movement. UNIDOR in Leer also reported observing a reduction in the number of cattle raid incidents involving youth as a direct result of survivor networks engagement.

The justice for children intervention under the PBF project in Pibor has contributed to the improved treatment of children in the justice system. For example, through our partner, Grass Root Empowerment and Development Empowerment (GREDO), Simon Logocho Kireru, a resident of Langachod village of Gogolthin, Payam of Pibor County, Greater Pibor Administrative Area was supported by social workers when he was alleged to have committed offences and was in a police detention. ‘He is a 14-year-old orphan in primary 4. Simon was found guilty of having stolen three goats, and as this was his fourth offence, his family were unsupportive. “His family rejected him, named him stubborn, and troublesome”. Social workers followed the case of Simon and understood his family situation. They worked effectively to prepare his family members to support Simon to refrain from alleged criminal offences. He was released from detention after his elder brother agreed to pay the fine levied on him. Simon has now returned home and re-joined school. Refer to annex for picture of Simon reintegrated into his community.

**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 engagement of children and youth in the target communities of Aweil, Juba Bor/Pibor and Bentiu in dialogue and trust building mechanisms has increased and leads to a reduction in violence and conflict.**

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

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

UNICEF, in partnership with CSOs, reached a total 30,731 children (14,228boys; 16,503 girls) with messages on their rights and contact with the law. In addition, 561 children (370 boys; 191 girls) reached with case management services and FTR. In Juba, messages on children’s rights and contact with the law were radio broadcasted nation-wide between March and July 2021. In addition, four community-based awareness sessions were conducted in Juba on rights and duties of children and children in conflict with the law.

The action research and conflict analysis conducted in Unity and Jonglei States has reconstructed the logic of violence, and that of cattle raiding. It shows how violence and raiding in the two states is both political and economic in nature, and it provides key insights and practical recommendations for ongoing and future programming.

The project has continued to strengthen the survivors and victims’ networks in Bor, Bentiu and Leer Counties. Following the previous reporting period, an additional five groups were established in Bentiu bringing the total number of networks in the area to eleven with 135 members. Additionally, 194 network members (50% female) were selected to speak the media; supported with public speaking skills and engaging with broader audiences. Overall, the networks have continued to be an important space for victims to discuss issues related to conflict, violence, trauma healing, and non-violent means to achieve justice and peace. The members of the networks have been supported to spearhead peace dialogues and raise awareness on transitional justice within their communities. Community dialogues also saw the participation of local leaders and chiefs which is an opportunity for survivors to engage with local political members.

Peace ambassadors are identified and being trained to promote peaceful resolution to conflict and counter the influence of hate speech in remote areas and cattle camps. Furthermore, trainings targeting national and local stakeholders are underway to raise awareness and strengthen their capacity on victim and witness protection.

UNICEF continues to work with CSO partners to support children in conflict with the law in all project sites. UNICEF provides case management and psychosocial support services to support children exposed to violence. Children are also being supported with being reintegrated into their communities where they were rejected for being alleged offenders.

**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 continues to ensuregender equality, women’s empowerment and youth inclusion is at the highest priority, aiming for 50% female participation across all activities. To date, the overall beneficiaries reached consists of 44% females. Moreover, initially, the target for networks was set at 50% where ultimately 51% of the members now consist of youths (40% Bor; 42% Bentiu; 63% Leer). In addition, the action research and conflict analysis conducted in Unity and Jonglei States had a strong focus on youthand on understanding the role of youth groups and militias in society, violence, and cattle raids.

**Outcome 2:** **Target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor/Pibor and Bentiu have enhanced trust in the formal law enforcement system leading to a stronger social contract between the state and its children and youth**

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

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

UNDP completed the construction of the Juba Juvenile Reformatory Center office block. Office equipment and furniture were also provided. An SOP for Juvenile Courts is developed with the aim to provide clear guidance to justice actors as they provide legal services that are responsive to the needs of the child.

UNDP trained 197 justice actors (57 females) on the rights of juveniles. The justice actors included judges, prosecutors, investigators, traditional leaders, social workers, youth leaders and women groups. The training incorporated teachings on the role of each actor and the importance of coordination when intervening in all matters related to children. The training focused on the rights and treatment of children in conflict, with or in contact with the law, and made specific reference to child victims and witnesses. The subjects covered in the training included: provisions of the CA, 2008; the role of each justice actor; who is a juvenile; instruments relevant to juvenile justice administration; introduction to diversion and restorative justice; rights, privileges and obligations of children; juvenile court standards; standards governing specialized probation services; return to the community and social reintegration of child offenders.

Two CSO partners (FODAG and HoC) provided legal aid to children in conflict and contact with the law, and awareness raising on the rights of juveniles in Bor and Juba. A total of 750,627 individuals (427,857 females) reached with messages on human rights, children’s rights, and obligations. This was done through the radio programmes, outreaches, and distribution of 500 fact sheets that provided answers to the frequently asked questions on juvenile justice. The CSOs are conducting prison visitations, and to date, provided support to 47 juvenile offenders through legal representation, mediation, and provision of psychosocial support.

The project established 13 PCRCs and two neighborhood watch groups in Bentiu and Rubkona through HRSS. The PCRC meetings were attended by 522 people of which 43% were female. HRSS also trained 25 youth (13 females) on the community policing concept.

National and state actors involved in the justice for children work were trained on child rights and juvenile justice based on the CA, 2008. These were judges, prosecutors, social workers, prison officers, police officers and customary court chiefs. The multidisciplinary training was led by national experts and was very interactive. The main objectives of the training were to increase the knowledge on the CA with a focus on children in conflict with the law; and strengthen the coordination and collaboration between different actors. The actors had the opportunity to discuss their respective roles, challenges, and opportunities to strengthen their capacity to deal with cases involving children.

**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 inclusion of youth aged 18-32 years is set as a priority focus group across all relevant activities. For example, 25 youths (13 females) were trained on community policing to foster youth inclusiveness and empowerment on dispute resolution among their peers. The project Information Education Communication (IEC) materials developed depict women playing various roles in law enforcement and the dispensation of justice. Furthermore, once the construction of the Aweil Reformatory Center is completed, it will provide rehabilitation and psychosocial support for 20 juveniles who come into conflict with the law. The project provided information to 427,857 females on access to legal aid. Similarly, 57 female formal and informal justice actors including judges, prosecutors, investigators, traditional leaders, social workers, and youth leaders benefitted from training aimed at increasing their knowledge of rights of children to improve child responsive services.

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000-character limit)  - Monthly Technical Group coordination meetings are held to track implementation progress, discuss challenges faced, and how to address them. The CSO partners, (FODAG and HoC) also submit monthly progress reports for review.  - Programmatic visits and discussions conducted with CSOs whose partnership concluded.  - Weekly on-site monitoring for the on-going and concluded constructions of the Aweil and Juba reformatory centres were conducted by the project engineer to ensure the construction followed the technical specification. | Do outcome indicators have baselines? Yes  The baseline survey was conducted in April 2021 and the survey findings was attached as an annex in the June progress report.  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? Yes  The baseline survey was conducted in April 2021 and the survey findings was attached as an annex in the June progress report. |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period?  The final project evaluation will be conducted early 2022. The Technical Working Group is in the process of developing the ToRs with the guidance from M&E team. | Evaluation budget (response required): 100,000 USD for monitoring and evaluation.  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500-character limit)*:  ToR for the recruitment of a consultant to conduct the final evaluation is being developed by the partnering agencies. |
| **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:  None |
| **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)* | Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic activities were slightly delayed, and subject for smaller adjustments to fit the evolving context and restrictive measures in place. For example, the partners have had to modify their implementation modalities in line with government issued guidelines on mitigating the risk of spreading COVID-19. Nonetheless, the project has been instrumental in reinforcing the efficiency of the Juvenile Court in Juba.    After the delay in executing the diversion programme, UNICEF has entered a partnership with Alight, a CSO that will provide diversion programme services for children in conflict with the law. The partnership will commence in November 2021. |

**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

$ 0

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

The project adapted the implementation of its activities in line with COVID-19 government issued guidelines. To further ensure compliance, when possible, in-person meetings were held virtually and when necessary, in-person meetings were held in smaller groups in accordance with guidelines. Some implementing partners’ allocated parts of their budgets to hygiene and personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure that their activities were held in line with national and international social distancing guidelines.

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

Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications

Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery

Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management

Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe):

Within the COVID-19 context, the consortium (OHCHR, UNDP and UNICEF) and its local counterparts had to adapt their activities and workplans to guarantee the implementation following the WHO and government guidelines on infection prevention and control.

The project consortium continued to observe WHO and UN guidelines, norms, and regulations on COVID-19. Where possible, online meetings were conducted and technical support through the consultants were done remotely with limitations of in country presence. Where in-person meetings were undertaken, face masks, handwashing and social distancing were strictly observed. Activities were monitored and implemented in compliance with COVID-19 preventative measures and best practices. Also, awareness raising continued to be undertaken, both across project partners and within the community on COVID-19 and relevant preventative measures.

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

**PART V: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

*Using the* ***Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments****- provide an update on the achievement of* ***key indicators*** *at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation.* Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

|  | **Performance Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator Milestone** | **Current indicator progress** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1**  **The engagement of Children and Youth in the targeted communities of Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu in dialogue and trust building mechanisms has increased and leads to reduction in violence and conflict.** | Indicator 1.1  **#** of individual respondents with confidence in peace and security in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, Bentiu and Juba (disaggregated by sex, age, and geography) | **Baseline**: 47.4% (Male 46.6% and Female 48.7%) | **Target**: 50% (disaggregated by sex) |  |  | The current indicator progress cannot be measured at this stage as the baseline was conducted only recently. The target will be measured in the final evaluation, at the end of the project. |
| Indicator 1.2  % of children and youth (<=32) both male and female with motivations to join armed groups in the targeted locations. | 15.3 | Decrease 1% |  |  | The current indicator progress cannot be measured at this stage as the baseline was conducted only recently. The target will be measured in the final evaluation, at the end of the project. |
| **Output 1.1**  Strengthened local networks of survivors for peace dialogues with local communities and political elites in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, Pibor, Bentiu and Juba | Indicator 1.1.1  **#** of local youth networks operational to promote peaceful resolution to conflicts in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, and Bentiu | **0** | **2** | 1 | **23** | Further updates will be provided in the final progress report. |
| Indicator 1.1.2  # of victims/survivors engage in truth telling and reconciliation process | 83/150=55.3%  Female=46.8%  Male =64.4% | 100 (at least 100 victims/survivors (min.30% female) to engage in truth telling and reconciliation process) | **50** (30% female) | **375 (66% female)** | This is cumulatively reported, and more data will be consolidated for the final progress report. |
| **Output 1.2**  Improved access to justice in the target communities of Aweil, Bor, Pibor, Bentiu and Juba | Indicator 1.2.1  # of children and youth having access to at least 1 justice service consistent with the best interest of the child and youth. | 150  Female = 77  Male = 73 | 500 (min. 40% female) | **300 (min 40% female)** | **1036, of which 508 children (115 girls) and 528 adults (289 females)** | With further implementation of activities, indicated will be cumulatively updated. |
| Indicator 1.2.3  # of children and youth (disaggregated by age and sex) accessing case management services including psychosocial support, family tracing and referrals. | 112  Female = 39  Male = 73 | 100 (min. 30% female) | **70 (min 30 % female)** | **804 children (44.6 females)** | With further implementation of activities, indicated will be cumulatively updated. |
| **Outcome 2** Target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu have enhanced trust in the formal law enforcement system leading to a stronger social contract between the state and its children and youth | Indicator 2.1  Percentage of public satisfied with the legal aid services provided by the government in the project target locations (disaggregated by age and sex) | TBC with the result of the initial  assessment. | **Target**: increase of 2 % | **0%** | **TBD** | The current indicator progress cannot be measured at this stage as the baseline was conducted only recently. The target will be measured in the final evaluation, at the end of the project. |
| Indicator 2.2  Public perception of a fair trial: “Level of confidence  that you will receive a fair trial if you were charged  of committing a criminal act/delinquency “in the  project target locations **(disaggregated by age and**  **sex).** | **Baseline**: 50% Female=with the result of the initial  assessment. | **Target**: increase of 2 % | **Increase 0 %** | **TBD** | The current indicator progress cannot be measured at this stage as the baseline was conducted only recently. The target will be measured in the final evaluation, at the end of the project. |
| **Output 2.1**  2.1  **Output 2.1**  Fair trials/detention provided for children and youth of the target communities in Aweil, Juba, Bor, Pibor and Bentiu. | Indicator 2.1.1  2.1.1 # of children and received legal aid and representation support. | **0** | **Target**: 500 (30% female) | **500** | **124 (10 percent female)** | UNDP might not be able to meet this target as the two partner CSO selected to implement this aspect did not understand the assignment and therefore did not achieve desired results. However, UNDP has partnered with a CSO partner, Help Restore Youth to provide legal aid services in Aweil and there will be more results reported. |
| Indicator 2.1.2  # of community-based policing and community relations Committees (PCRCs) established and operational | **9** | **22** | 13 | **14** | With further implementation of activities, indicated will be cumulatively updated. |
| **Output 2.2**  Enhanced capacity of justice actors in Aweil, Juba, Bor and Bentiu. | Indicator 2.2.1  # of judges, prosecutors, police and prisons officers and socialworkers demonstrate increased knowledge on juvenile justice and inmate care. | **0** | 100 participants (30% female | 100 participants (30% female | **278 (83 Female (29.8 % female)** | With further implementation of activities, indicated will be cumulatively updated |
| Indicator 2.2.2  # of traditional leaders/customary court judges with increased knowledge on children’s and women’s rights and child sensitive justice procedures. | Baseline: 60 traditional leaders benefitted from training. | 90 traditional/customary law judges | 30 | **47 (10 female)** | With further implementation of activities, indicated will be cumulatively updated |