

Global SOC programme; Quarterly Report for partners

Overview

Quarterly results reporting, along with Change Stories, are the central pillar of the Global SOC programme approach to Monitoring and Evaluation. It provides a formal structure to ensure accountability, better decision making and to refine SOC activity. Further guidance and support can be provided by the programme team.

Report Type	Reporting From	Reporting to	Submission deadline
Q1 Report	1 April	30 June	14 July
Q2/Mid-year Report	1 July	30 September	14 October
Q3 Report	1 October	31 December	14 January
Q4/ Full-year Report	1 January	31 March	14 April

Quarterly Report Template

Basic information			
Team/Project:	WA Observatory Director, WA Coastline Programme Manager,	Name and contact details	Lucia Bird; lucia.bird@globalinitiative.net ; Andreia Teixeira; Andreia.teixeira@undp.org
FY and quarter	FY 2021, Q4	Spend in quarter (£):	Approx. 50.000 GBP spent from Observatory Funds. HMG funds received on 13/01/2022

1. Contextual changes, risks and opportunities

Context update

Contextual changes are things that are generally outside the project's ability to influence but that affected or will affect delivery and results. They might include political, economic and social changes, such as a shift in public opinion on CSEA, a change in diplomatic relations as a result of BREXIT or covid restrictions preventing travel. Maximum 300 words

The global Covid-19 pandemic is still posing continuous challenges to international travel, and to the co-ordination of meetings, dialogues and events in Guinea-Bissau. Virtual engagement is not feasible in many parts of the country given the lack of technology infrastructure and capacity as well as due to the sensitivity of the topics, which means many of our counterparts do not trust online channels to promote discussions and share experiences.

There are strong signs of political instability in the country, with growing tensions between the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister (the latter of which has close ties to military hierarchy), and frequent Presidential threats to dissolve the National Assembly.

The CSOs network that is working in collaboration with the Civil Society Observatory of Illicit Economies in Guinea-Bissau (CSOIE) face challenges when approaching local authorities in order to engage them in activities to divert and prevent communities from becoming involved in illicit markets. This is primarily due to the fear local authorities have of being associated to be with or against a specific political faction.

A key member of the UNDP team working on the project passed away very suddenly in January 2022. This is likely to cause some disruption on UNDP support the project, although project staff are working to mitigate this.

Risks and opportunities update

This section is to describe any new risks, changes to risk or new opportunities that the programme might be able to influence. Try to include a suggested action for mitigation or capitalisation and a suggestion for who should make the decisions (project level, programme, MISOC, ISOC, etc.). Maximum 300 words.

With the aim of helping to bridge existing gaps between the community, civil society and state institutions, CSOIE-GB project is planning and convening the II National Dialogue on Drug Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime as a follow-up to a first high-level National Dialogue which had been organized in November 2018. This event will promote greater proximity and interactions between the public and criminal justice institutions, and is envisaged to take place in the first half of 2022. This national level event will provide an opportunity for some of the findings and activities undertaken under Phase II of the project to be shared with a wide-ranging audience.

An opportunity was identified to build synergies with the academic world, and discussions have been initiated with the Bissau-Guinean University Lusófona to organise a seminar on drug trafficking and organized crime to enhance awareness among youth of the impact of this illicit market on society.

2. Events

Events from last quarter

List any significant events from the last quarter, stating the date, location and significance. This should include delivery events (training, conferences, etc.) and important contextual events that have/will affect delivery (for example elections, personality changes in partner governments, etc.). Maximum 200 words

- 22/10/2021_Bissau, Hotel Hala & Aqua Park: Guinea-Bissau & Senegal community dialogue and workshop on security and cross-border development. This event was co-organized with NGO AFEX Afrique Enjeux, a civil society organisation based in Ziguinchor/Senegal. The aim of the dialogue was broadly to enable the better development of the border areas, and more specifically to promote efficient collaboration for the sustainable resolution of key cross-border problems, including banditry in the borderland region, illegal logging, land conflicts in border areas and cross-border drug trafficking and corrupt police behavior. The dialogue brought together more than **70** participants, administrative and local authorities, security and defence forces, as well as civil society organisations working in the field, from the Bissau-Guinean regions of Bafatá, Cacheu and Oio, as well as the regions of Kolda, Sédhiou and Ziguinchor on the Senegalese side, enhancing sub-regional coordination. The dialogue provided a powerful space for the exchange of strategies between different stakeholders, enabling strengthening of collaboration for a sustainable resolution of common problems among transborder communities affected by illicit markets.
- 29/11/2021 _ Bissau _ UNDP building in Penha_ A full day training session was organized and delivered to **14** CSOs representatives which are part of the CSObservatory network of CSOs working to support the fight against illicit economies. The session provided technical and specific training to CSOs regarding the specific criminal phenomena that they can face due to the early warning and activist role they play in relation to illicit market, like threats and pressure and incitement to corruption. In line with this, particular focus was given during the training to human rights protection and promotion, drug trafficking, drug addiction, trafficking in persons and illegal logging.
- 9/12/2021 _ Bissau _ UNDP building in Penha _ A full day training session for the **12** activists from the regional early warning cells (EWC) was conducted. This EWC are a network of community members and activists across strategic points in the cocaine trafficking ecosystem who have the role of collecting and sharing local information regarding illicit activities with the Observatory and competent authorities. The training was conducted by an investigative law enforcement agent and provided tools to the CSOs for approaching potential sources and victims of criminal activity, collecting information, and on how to best organize and share information with competent authorities and the CSObservatory of Illicit Economies.

Events in upcoming quarter

List any significant events for the next quarter, stating the date, location and significance. Think particularly how you'd like SOC decision makers to react; do you need support from the programme or other parts of HMG? Maximum 200 words

Between January and April 2022:

- 5 training sessions for civil society organisations working close to the borders with Senegal and Guinea, including human rights defenders who are part of the Civil Society Observatory of the Illicit Economy in Guinea-Bissau project network on transnational organised crime, illicit markets, drug trafficking, corruption, money laundering for 100 participants (20 per session) in Bissau, Gabu, Bafatá, Cacheu and Bolama. Many participants are part of the early warning system being built under the project, and the trainings will bolster civil society awareness and build resilience within communities to prevent entry into cocaine markets;
- 3 community resilience dialogues are being organised to take place in transborder areas of São Domingos, Cacine and Pitche during the first quarter, all of which are host to key border crossings into Senegal and Guinea. In Pitche, a theatrical play will be held regarding the illicit trade, the strategies used by traffickers, and the roles of law enforcement agents. The choice of communities in the border areas, is a way of alerting and raising the awareness of local residents to the dangers and consequences that the illicit economy can bring to their lives, their communities and the country, as these practices are fostered by complex networks of local and foreign criminals, who operate through violence and corruption of public and private agents to manipulate markets according to their convenience. The aim of these dialogues is to create awareness and coordinate actions and initiatives to combat illicit market in the communities.
- Launch and present the ToR of the baseline study on drugs consumption to local partners.

- A specific community resilience dialogue will be held in Cacheu region for the promotion of the Blue Economy, aiming to empower the development of interventions to strengthen the value of existing and emerging sectors of the licit economy in the region. This region has endemic poverty and this is a key contributing factor to the outbreak of conflicts making these communities highly vulnerable to involvement in organized crime, so promoting discussion, analysis and promoting support for sustainable and resilient livelihoods will divert their involvement in illicit markets.

Exact dates tbd.

3. Activity and outputs from the last quarter

A summary of the key activity delivered and output level results achieved during the last quarter. This can be very high level and written in bullet points. Please structure this by the outputs in your theory of change. Maximum 500 words.

Output 1:

- 12 early warning cells activist selected and activated, to be coordinated under Human Rights League (HRL);
- 12 activists have enhanced capacities on how to collect and report on the gathered information;
- Guidelines for the reporting framework between HRL and UNDP developed and approved;
- 1 community resilience dialogue organised to promote efficient collaboration among borderland communities and state officials for sustainable resolution of a range of cross-border challenges, including banditry, illegal logging, border area land conflicts, drug trafficking and corrupt police behaviour with a view to the better development of the border areas. The dialogue brought together administrative and local authorities, security and defence forces, as well as civil society organisations working in the field, from the Bissau-Guinean regions of Bafatá, Cacheu and Oio, as well as the regions of Kolda, Sédhiou and Ziguinchor on the Senegalese side enhancing sub-regional coordination.

Output 2:

- International consultant with vast experience in baseline studies on drugs in Africa was selected and hired, 5 preparatory meetings were held to design the baseline study submission to National Ethics Commission;
- 2 civil society organizations sensitized and supported to work on drug prevention (National Observatory on Drugs and Drug Addictions and ENDA Santé – Tiers Monde);

Output 3:

- A grant with a woman-led Association called “Friends of Guinea-Bissau”, based in Cacheu region, was approved and activated for the promotion of Blue Economy aiming to enable the development of interventions to strengthen the value of existing and emerging sectors of the licit economy in the region, and to expand socioeconomic opportunities to women, through financing four local projects (Bigene, Bula, Cacheu and Caió);
- 8 CSOs received the first training session on illicit markets concepts and its consequences to social development;

Output 4:

- Development of ToRs for training session to journalists on reporting on cocaine trafficking– to take place on February 2022;
- Media outlet identified and partnership being developed to syndicate news outside the sub-region;

Political access and influence

What broader political influence have you helped to secure? How did you work with governments, politicians or other statutory bodies? Max 100 words.

The Observatory is working with Members of the Assembleia Nacional Popular (ANP) and its specialized commission to fight drugs to organise an interactive session to nation deputies on drug trafficking and transnational organised crime to create awareness and steer its engagement, promoting a space for dialogue among those who are responsible for the creation/approval of the legal framework and that should be examples for the society and not perpetrators or beneficiaries of illicit markets.

Also, GI-TOC and UNDP has strengthened the engagement of the Civil Society Observatory with national and sub-regional stakeholders, like civil society regional networks, media outlets, academia and with pivotal elements of the law enforcement agencies, namely Bissau-Guinean Judicial Police, the most effective law enforcement mechanism in the country and a crucial partner in engagement.

Gender, conflict sensitivity and sustainability

Please note any specific results, lessons or challenges around gender conflict sensitivity and/or sustainability not already captured above. Max 200 words

The Civil Society Observatory of Illicit Economies (CSOIE) Project seeks to leverage windows of opportunity to increase the gender-sensitivity, effectiveness and sustainability of operations across all implemented activities.

However, discussions around key trends affecting the community are heavily male-dominated in Guinea-Bissau, with women typically side-lined. In line with this, it is a recurrent challenge to ensure equal gender participation in events and activities. Nevertheless, female participation has been strong to date at Project events and activities, partly due to the emphasis placed on this by Observatory staff.

There are already clear signs of strong female inclusivity. For example, 100% of the most recently selected members of the early warning cells are women; 30% of the CSOs representatives of the CSOIE network attending the CDTOC training sessions are women; 90% of the beneficiaries are women under the Cacheu interventions to strengthening the licit economy expanding socioeconomic opportunities under 4 local projects.

The team will ensure that outreach to would-be-participants retains a focus on women going forwards, and explore whether all-women break-out sessions at dialogues, workshops and trainings could further foster open debate and empower women.

4. Output results forecast for the next quarter

What results do you expect to achieve against the agreed indicators for next quarter? Also use this space to report reasons for delays or issues achieving results, or any anticipated results that do not fit into the agreed indicators. Max 200 words

Output 1:

2 community resilience dialogues organised promoting coordination between CSO networks and state representatives;

Output 2:

1 baseline study produced with data and analysis on drug use and trafficking;

Output 3:

3 local communities with enhanced skills and means to valorise natural resources for expanded socioeconomic opportunities in the blue and green economy;

Output 4:

10 journalists with enhanced capacities to report on cocaine trafficking;
 2 media outlets sensitized on the possibility of being syndicated outside of the sub-region;
 2 network of journalists and media outlets supported to bolstering comprehensive coverage and critique of illicit economies.

The delay in the funds availability, received in mid-January 2022, delayed the formal commitments with some partners and consequently the implementation of activities but results are expected to be achieved promptly.

5. Outcome/Impact reporting - Change Stories

Number of Change Stories this quarter:	1	Cumulative total of Change Stories:	For Phase II: 1
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Change Stories this quarter

Use the space below to note the headline behavioural change (1 sentence) from each Change Story you have submitted and had accepted in this reporting period. Please include the full **Change Story(ies)** as an annex to this report.

People in Guinea-Bissau enjoy improved democratic governance, peace and rule of law and their needs are met.

Change Stories forecast

What outcome level change do you expect to achieve in the next quarter? Use the space below to note the expected behavioural change (who will do what differently). This is a prediction and you will not be held to account if these do not occur.

Feeding into the project outcome of leveraging existing mapping of the criminal ecosystem underpinning illicit markets in the sub-region to target key areas of vulnerability, project activities are focused on borderlands, identified to be of crucial importance to illicit ecosystems in the sub-region, together with key transit and entry points which underpin cocaine trafficking flows, the team expects that in the next quarter the Project would drive:

- Increased and stronger reporting by civil society early warning cells on cocaine trafficking in an organized and systematic way to CSOIE and law enforcement authorities, more specifically identified entry points in the judicial police.
- More women from Cacheu region will have access to financial literacy, and commercial skills; they will be more sensitized regarding the impact of illicit markets on economy, peace and stability, and will be empowered to provide alternative sources of income for their families, diverting and preventing them and their families from becoming involved in illicit markets.

- Bissau-Guinean policy-makers and civil society will (for the first time) be able to rely on granular data and evidence regarding drug use in the country, and be empowered to shape priorities and public policies around this evidence.
- Media outlets will be able to syndicate news outside the sub-region, creating an early warning of any changes in the country and sub-region's vulnerabilities to cocaine trafficking.
- community attendees of resilience dialogues would be empowered to take action on the small number of granular objectives set out in the dialogue designed to respond to illicit markets which most affect them. (The progress of the community in taking the granular steps they committed to in the dialogue will be assessed in follow-up engagement, and additional support given where needed).
- The CSO network focused on the fight against serious organized crime is expanded to the sub-region and new and deep partnerships between organizations are established for a more sustainable resolution of cross-border criminality.

6. Financial

Value for Money

What value for money has been achieved for HMG this quarter? This means making the best possible use of our resources to maximise our impact. Consider economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity. See guidance for more support. Max 200 words

The project drew on the GI-TOC's and UNDP longstanding and deeply-embedded network in Guinea-Bissau, further bolstered through the CSOIE joint project. This positioned the team to hit the ground running, efficiently using the time and project funds available to maximise impact.

Existing relationships of GI-TOC and UNDP staff with key stakeholders in Guinea-Bissau ensured accurate targeting of spending and engagement, both in training sessions and community engagement – for example we used UNDP premises for training venues, internal IT equipment and in house trainees, namely GI programme manager and UN law enforcement adviser and communications officer, making use of GI programmatic content on TOC. This multiplied the efficiency and effectiveness of project operations. Longstanding experience of senior project staff in Guinea-Bissau enhanced the value of outputs, driving enhanced change in public awareness, and meeting desired project outcomes.

Wider CSOIE financing sources, namely GI-TOC and UNDP funds, were used as a stopgap for pending UK funds which had not become available until January 2022, shortening the gap between Phase I and Phase II of the project, and maximising the impact of UK financing, as the project was able to continuously invest in ensuring that the momentum around community engagement programming built through phase I was capitalized upon. The community resilience dialogues from phase I marked a pivotal point in the development of civil society in responding to illicit markets and built trust among CSOIE and partners: rural communities broke longstanding taboos to openly discuss illicit markets in public fora. Participants reported that for the first time they were heard and felt part of the solution and this allowed the design of a new round of dialogues in the border regions. The extension of such activities into Phase II of the project sought to ensure that such gains were not lost, and instead communities continued to feel supported and engaged.

Submit your ABB

Now submit this form to the programme team to complete the final section:

Programme Team Comments

1. Any actions required on risks and/or opportunities?	
2. Any central level support/actions for upcoming events?	
3. Are there any actions for the project team as a result of the lessons identified?	