

## Final Project Progress Report

January-December 2018 Date Submitted: 1/14/2019

Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process Project ID (Award): 00103263 Sri Lanka

### 1. Project Information

Focal point at UNV RO :*Name, title*

Project Manager: [Romeral Ortiz Quintilla, Project Manager Youth and Peacebuilding](#)

Project Start Date: 4/1/2017 Original End Date: 9/1/2019 Extended to: *mm/yyyy*

Management Arrangement: Joint Project

Implementation Modality: DIM

Funding Modality: Parallel(*applicable to joint projects only*)

Implementing Partner: **UNFPA and UNWOMEN**

### 2. Relevance

Country-level Outcomes/Outputs (UNDAF/CPAP/Gov't Strategy): [Priority Plan Outcome Governance Pillar: State institutions effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently respond to the needs/demands of the population](#)

Strategic Framework 2014-2017 Outcome: [Outcome 2: Countries more effectively integrate volunteerism within national frameworks enabling better engagement of people in development processes](#)

Contribution to Strategic Framework 2018-2021:

Outcome 1: The efforts of Member States are supported to deliver on the 2030 Agenda through volunteerism as an effective means of implementation and people engagement		Y
Number of <b>other</b> volunteers mobilized in regional/national volunteer schemes supported by UNV.		N.A
Output 1.1. Member States are supported in developing programmes, policies and legislation that promote volunteerism and volunteer action.		Y
Number of volunteer schemes (online, onsite, regional, national, sub-regional, youth, etc.) supported by UNV.	With agreements	0
	Without agreements	3
Number of Member States partnering with UNV to develop their policies and legislation on volunteerism.	With agreements	1
	Without agreements	0

### 3. Progress

With reference to the project document, the project aimed to contribute/ achieve the following (add or delete project outputs as necessary):

<b>Project Output</b> Output 1.1 Increased capacity of youth-led and youth-focused organizations to engage in peacebuilding processes/including UNSC Resolution 2250 <b>Output Number:</b> 00105302 <b>Indicators:</b> 1.1. Number of youth led and youth focused	<b>Achieved Results (UNV Specific)</b> <i>1.1.1: Promoting peace in Sri Lanka through training, dialogue and outreach for peacebuilding with youth, youth groups and volunteer organisations including psycho-social support</i>  <b>1.1 Mobilize 5 UN (Youth) Volunteers to be based in 5 VIOs to support strengthening and implementation of peace-related programming</b> <b>Results:</b> Completed. Five UN National Volunteers recruited and are working to support strengthening and implementation of peace related programmes at National Youth Services Council, Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena, Centre for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation/Sagacious Youth Led Consortium, Samutthana and The Music Project.  <b>1.2 UN Youth Volunteers promote knowledge sharing among VIOs and prepare a knowledge products</b>	<b>Status:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved <input type="checkbox"/> Partially Achieved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Achieved  <b>Indicators status:</b> 1. Achieved 2. Under UNFPA leadership 3. Under UNFPA leadership 4. To be monitored in 2019
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<p>platforms/ organizations supported to increase young people engagement in peacebuilding through dialogue, awareness raising and knowledge exchange</p> <p>1.2. # local youth consulted for policy priority setting disaggregated by gender, geographical location, population group</p> <p>1.3. [%] of Youth representation within sub- national level institutions and/or processes</p> <p>1.4. % of youth that perceives or report volunteering having a positive contribution on peacebuilding</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p>1.1.1. 0 1.1.2. N/A 1.1.3. N/A 1.1.4. 79%</p> <p><b>Targets:</b></p> <p>1.1.1. 5 1.1.2. TBC 1.1.3. TBC 1.1.4. 90%</p> <p><i>insert targets</i></p>	<p><b>Results:</b> Completed. Five national UN Volunteers started the Volunteers Exchange Programme with the objective of understanding the context of different province and work environment and sharing their experiences with other UN Volunteers.</p> <p><b>1.3 Conduct youth leadership trainings on peace to enhance youth participation and mobilization in preventing violent extremism</b> <b>Results:</b> Completed. Entire 3 phases capacity building programme implemented: Phase 1: 4 trainings of leaders implemented in the 4 Provinces (North, South, East and Central) with 92 participants; Phase 2: 34 personal projects through 13 online mentoring groups implemented; Phase 3: Training of Advocates on Youth and Peace implemented with 22 participants from the 4 provinces, including young people with disabilities.</p> <p><b>1.4 Workshops for Youth in the communities to be peace champions</b> <b>Results:</b> Completed. Workshops delivered during UNFPA Symposia in the four provinces with sessions on youth and peace and UNSCR 2250, workshops provided to Sarvodaya.</p> <p><b>1.5 Support VIOs activities</b> <b>Results:</b> Partially completed. Grants to be provided to Samutthana, The Music Project, PCA, CBR/SYLC. Programmes with Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena and UNDP/NYSC delivered.</p> <p><b>1.6 Support development of University volunteer scheme</b> <b>Results:</b> Partially completed. Trincomalee Campus of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka and University of Ruhuna agreed on MoU. The Trincomalee Campus of the Eastern University has partnered with Peace Community Action through UNV to develop a curriculum on peacebuilding to be introduced to the University. A Training of Trainers on Youth Participation in Peacebuilding was facilitated for the academic staff of the University of Ruhuna from 30<sup>th</sup> of November to 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. 20 Participants (8 Female / 12 Male).</p> <p><b>1.7 Mobilize university volunteers</b> <b>Results:</b> Partially completed. Done with Ruhuna University with the Training of Trainers.</p> <p><b>1.8 Training and mentoring for University volunteers</b> <b>Results:</b> Partially completed. A Virtual Round Table on Youth and Peace was organized with Sabaragamuwa University and Akita International University. 10 male students and 22 female students participated in the event.</p> <p><i>1.1.2: National advocacy on the role of youth in peacebuilding demonstrating youth as positive agents of change</i></p> <p><b>2.1 Mobilize 2 V-Awards UN Volunteer Coordinators</b> <b>Results:</b> Completed. Both recruited. One started in November 2017, the other in January 2018. One ended her contract earlier but another UN Volunteer was recruited as a replacement.</p> <p><b>2.2. Activity Conduct V-Awards 2018</b> <b>Results:</b> Initiated and in progress. While the grand Finale of V-Awards 2018 will take place in February 2019, all preparations have been completed: nomination process, judging, venue and event company selected.</p>	<p><b>Percentage %</b> 75 %</p> <p><b>Beneficiaries Reached:</b> Over 1,000</p> <p><b>Other volunteers mobilized:</b> <i>please insert number of other volunteers mobilized</i></p>
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### **2.3 Activity Implement Advocacy and awareness raising activities**

**Results:** Completed. V-Awards launch and fellowship was organized in July 2018, capacity Building workshop for National Volunteers of V-Awards took place in December 2018 with 16 previous v-awards finalists.

### **2.4 Activity SDG16 Activation Campaign**

**Results:** Completed. This campaign after internal discussions was transformed into an online campaign to promote the positive role of young people in Sri Lanka to promote peace.

The [Young Voices of Peace campaign stories](#) were uploaded online and the two best ones selected by a panel of UNV PBF and UNOY were rewarded with sponsored participation to international events on youth and peace in The Netherlands and India.

*1.1.3: Financial and technical support to catalyse innovative initiatives led by youth in support of peace*

### **3.1 Seed funds to V-Awards winner (and 2 runners up) for Peace**

**Results:** Not completed. To happen after V-Awards finale. The needs assessment being conducted will support in deciding on the best way for the dissemination of the seed funding.

*1.1.4: Research to better understand the dynamics of violent extremism in Sri Lanka and the potential role of youth and volunteers in addressing it*

### **4.1. Support the implementation of the National Consultations and Focus Group Discussions on UNSCR 2250 and on volunteerism and citizen engagement in the prevention of violent extremism**

**Results:** Completed. As a co-chair organization, UN Volunteers Sri Lanka supported YPS Coalition to implement the programmes as below: 1) Training of Trainers on Youth and Peace were held from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> December in Wellawatte with the 21 participants. (Male: 13, Female: 8). 2) Policy Dialogue on Youth and Peacebuilding – Roadmap to localize UNSCR 2250 was held on 12<sup>th</sup> December and 46 participants discussed how to develop a roadmap to localise UNSCR 2250 by focusing on governance, political participation and regional involvement.

The research on “The Potential Role of Young Leaders and Volunteers in Preventing Violent Extremism in Sri Lanka” was initiated and in progress. This is a joint research with UNFPA and implemented by the Regional Centre for Security Studies.

*1.1.5. Monitoring and Evaluation*

### **5.1. M&E and institutional effectiveness**

**Results:** Partially completed. A retreat on monitoring for 2018 was organized from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December.

*1.1.6. Project Management*

### **6.1. International UN Volunteer Project Manager (30 Months)**

**Results:** Completed. Recruited and on board since October 2017

### **6.2. 1 NUNV Operations Associate (30 Months)**

**Results:** Completed. Recruited.

### **6.3. 1 NUNV Infrastructure Coordinator (30 Months)**

**Results:** Completed. Recruited.

**6.4. IT, Laptop and emails accounts**

**Results:** Completed. Office successfully set up: lease with WFP signed, furniture, internet, AC, stationary, laptops.

**4. Challenges/Risks and Mitigation**
**Political instability**

Sri Lanka has gone through a political crisis with constant changes in the government that have affected the partnership with governmental institutes, in particular with the Ministry that has the mandate for volunteering and with the National Youth Services Council. Measures have been taken to minimize the impact on the programmes such as in working at technical level, ensuring support and clearances from RCO and move forward with planned activities even with at a lower profile. It was also valuable that the project was mainly targeting CSO as they remain engaged and fully committed to the agenda.

**Grants and placement of UN Volunteers**

Main risk identified is on the selection of partners that would be granted with a micro-grant and with a UN National Volunteer. It was advised from both UNV and UNDP to not open a call but to do a selection based on internal criteria pertaining to the project and on previous partnerships with the UN. It was also discussed with PBF Secretariat in Sri Lanka the risks associated to the placement of UN Volunteers within CSO/VIOs but those were not identified as high as long as there was a proper understanding of the context and background in which the CSO is operating. The placement of the UN Volunteer within NYSC has been challenging as per NYSC openness to incorporate a UN support into their work environment. To mitigate any potential risk, this has been duly done with the support of UNDP as main UN focal point with NYSC. Finally, since the placement of UN Volunteers are being done outside the capital, extra clearances and procedures are delaying the process of recruitment. UNV PBF has been following up closely with both FU and RO/HQ.

**Participants for the trainings on youth and peace**

During the needs assessment for the preparation of the training of leaders on youth and peace, the main identified risk was the representation of the youth. As a mitigation measure, for the call and selection of participants there were intensive support for outreach.

Another risk was in the low turnover of participants for the training of leaders. Mitigation measure taken was to request for partners' support in identifying few additional participants. In addition, with recent episodes of violence in the Eastern and Central Provinces between ethnic and religious groups, a risk identified was the boycott or polarization of the training. Measures were taken to ensure only participation from selected participants and build trust among the group and the coordination team as well as a safe space for discussions.

The inclusion of participants with hearing disability was challenging. A sign language interpreter was hired with a UN Volunteer allocated to required translation and guidance.

**Leadership within YPS Coalition**

While UNV PBF has been very active in the YPS Coalition as co-chair and despite the active engagement of the YPS members within the coalition, there is reluctance to take leadership and coordination. One of the measures taken was to ensure clear activities to be directly led by the coalition in order encourage more active participation.

**Academia strikes**

The non-academic staff of the State Universities in Sri Lanka were on trade union action and the universities ceased to function at the beginning of 2018. It was difficult to connect with the Universities during this period. The strike continued from March till mid-April. The measures taken were to attempt to connect with the university administration or staff. However, it was challenging to meet the relevant authorities. The partnerships could only proceed once the trade union actin ended.

**Partnership with News 1<sup>st</sup> for V-Awards**

The sensitive and indecisive nature of the partnership with media partner News 1<sup>st</sup> has caused serious lapses in the V-Awards outreach timeline. The number of outreach avenues were increased by the inclusion of new partners and also by securing extra funds to avoid dependency on the partner.

**5. Partnership and Resource Mobilization**

**Main partners:** UNFPA, UN WOMEN, UNDP, NYSC, The Music Project, Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena, Samutthana, CPBR-SYLC, YPS Coalition in Sri Lanka, National Steering Committee on Volunteering, Ministry of Social Welfare and Primary Industries, Trincomalee Campus of the Eastern University, University of Ruhuna, Akita International University, United Network of Young Peacebuilders

Additional funding was secured through UNV HQ with BMZ contribution.

## 6. UN Volunteer Mobilization

National UN Volunteers	International UN Volunteers	Online UN Volunteers
10	3 among the 3, 2 are FF (Korea)	Around 30 V-Force volunteers have been supporting the project throughout 2018.

## 7. Lessons Learned and Way Forward

**Peacebuilding and volunteerism:** as mentioned on the the survey taken in the framework of UNSCR 2250, 97% of youth-led organizations globally depend on volunteers. In this framework, this project has enabled to firmly recognize the positive role of youth volunteerism in promoting peace and preventing violence. In this sense, the further efforts to formalize volunteers' schemes in the country are directly aligned with the efforts of the UN of sustaining peace.

**Interactive methodology:** in particular, the workshops and capacity building programmes have all been implemented through non-formal education methodologies that have proven to be very effective for participants to get engaged and increasing their competences. Non-formal methodologies have included being participant centered, holistic, experiential, flexible, inclusive to different abilities and certified, and with methods such as role plays, simulations, group discussions, case studies among others.

**Online tools:** while the project tries to find the right balance with both outreach and visibility online and offline, the online tools have proven to be effective. In particular, for the first time allowing nominations for V-Awards online or to promote online registrations for events. In addition, live streaming has also proven to support a larger reach to audiences.

**Partnerships:** all activities have been implemented in partnership with relevant stakeholders, from civil society organizations to governmental bodies and private sector to ensure sustainability and ownership. However, due to the fragile and volatile political situation and due to decreased financial contributions from private sector, some partnerships have been difficult to sustain. It appears crucial to diversify partners and ensure formal commitments at earlier stages.

**Monitoring with youth participants:** while all beneficiaries from our trainings were empowered through the programmes, while working with youth it appears as essential to include a thorough monitoring process to encourage them to follow-up and take action by themselves.

**Budget allocation:** initially the budget did not reflect allocation to translation or interpretation. This had to be reviewed since not all those responsibilities could be taken by V-Force volunteers as initially expected. It is important to keep in mind that most of the volunteers are quite young and not experienced, therefore for the purpose of producing material that will be out in the public, hiring a professional service is a lot more effective and efficient.

**Updated database and processes:** as one of the key activities from this project is V-wards and there was a strong need to reconnect with previous finalists who had felt disconnected after the finale, it is essential to have a proper functioning database with all information from the finalists. The team has been working in creating a compiled and updated database. In the same line, some processes such as the evaluation scheme had to be reviewed as it lacked a feasible marking criterion. This was discovered during the pilot marking session and was rectified with a new marking scheme that clearly defined mark ranges according to certain conditions.

**8. Financial Delivery broken down by Outputs for 2018**

Output	Total Budget USD	Expenditures USD	Delivery (%)
	<b>USD 200,000 (UNV SVF)</b> <b>USD 300,000 (PBF)</b> <b>USD 113,911.19 (BMZ)</b>	TOTAL SVF: 69,393.73 USD TOTAL PBF: 146,875.90 USD TOTAL BMZ: 35,519.05	TOTAL SVF: 34.70% TOTAL PBF: 48.96% TOTAL BMZ: 31,18%

- 9. Annexes:** *(Include as links, or if not available attach, any specific knowledge, best practices, innovation, evidence generated by the project such as studies, publications, articles, relevant photographs with captions and videos related to the project during the reporting period. Also share documentation of field visits and/or quotes from UN partners, local counterparts and/or community target groups for use in advocacy and communication materials.)*

**FACEBOOK POSTINGS**

- [#Youth4Peace visit to the Southern Province](#), 2. [YPS - 5 Day ToT Session](#), 3. [IVD 2018 Celebration](#), 4. [Disaster Resilience Workshop - Post Event Video](#), 5. [SWVR 2018 - Online Poll](#), 6. [SWVR 2018 - Flyer for Live Feed](#), 7. [SWVR 2018 - Speaker Introduction](#), 8. [Peacebuilding Workshop for V-Awards Past Finalists](#), 9. [YPS Policy Dialogue - Event Opening Post](#), 10. [YPS Policy Dialogue - Ms. Nina Brandstrup, UN Resident Coordinator a.i.](#), 11. [YPS Policy Dialogue Panel Discussion 01](#), 12. [YPS Policy Dialogue Panel Discussion 02](#), 13. [Shalina Miah Live on National TV](#), 14. [YPS Policy Dialogue - Participant Group Picture](#), 15. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 01](#), 16. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 02](#), 17. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 03](#)

**TWITTER POSTINGS**

- [#Youth4Peace visit to the Southern Province](#), 2. [YPS Policy Dialogue - Ms. Nina Brandstrup, UN Resident Coordinator a.i.](#), 3. [YPS Policy Dialogue - Saji Prelis Opening Remarks](#), 4. [YPS Policy Dialogue Panel Discussion 01](#), 5. [YPS Policy Dialogue Panel Discussion 02](#), 6. [Shalina Miah Live on National TV](#), 7. [YPS Policy Dialogue Closure](#), 8. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 01](#), 9. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 02](#), 10. [Competence Enhancement Programme for NYSC Officials - Day 03](#)

**INSTAGRAM POSTINGS**

- [ToT Session in Ruhuna](#), 2. [NYSC Training in Dambulla](#)

YPS Coalition in Sri Lanka Facebook Page: [click here](#)

YPS Coalition in Sri Lanka Instagram Account: [click here](#)

The 2250 Consultation Report was published on the youth4peace global platform: <https://www.youth4peace.info/node/297>

Virtual roundtable: Post on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNVSriLanka/>

Also an article was published on UNV Sri Lanka website: [http://unv.org/youth\\_and\\_peacebuilding/](http://unv.org/youth_and_peacebuilding/)

Posts on facebook on ToL East: <https://www.facebook.com/UNVSriLanka/>

Posts on facebook on ToL Northern and Central Provinces: <https://www.facebook.com/UNVSriLanka/>

Upon request of UNV RO, an article was written on the capacity building program of UNV PBF.

Provided promotional material on UNSCR 2250 and "Youth and Peace" agenda for a youth for the YMCA World Challenge, a Youth engagement event to promote awareness among youth.

An article on transitional justice was published by Mr. Rakulan Kandasamy on the Uthayan newspaper.

[The posting](#) related to #TrinCo2018 which delivered by Trincomalee Campus of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka in partnership with UNV and Training of Advocates are online.

[The posting](#) about UN Volunteer (UNV PBF partnership coordinator) is featured on UN Peacebuilding social media.

[The posting](#) about Training of Advocates on Youth and Peace is uploaded on UNV Sri Lanka social media.

A communication strategy was developed with the UNV FU on how to better provide visibility to UNV PBF collaboration in the UNDP Technopreneurship programme. Under that strategy, Instagram stories have been posted on UN Volunteers – Sri Lanka Instagram profile for the UNDP – NYSC Technopreneurship programmes.

Young Voices of Peace campaign shared the stories from the participants of #Youth4Peace Capacity Building Programme in the [Eastern](#) and [Central](#) provinces on UNV Sri Lanka social media and [one of the stories](#) is highlighted by the social media of UNV Regional office for Asia and the Pacific.

The V-Award social media page was reactivated and a post was shared to show the work of the judging process. The posting about UNV session during 4 Youth4Youth Symposia and the posting about UN National Volunteer placed at The Music Project and his project is online.

5 Facebook postings are uploaded following as: 1) [Placed UNV – Sarvodaya](#); 2) [Placed UNV - Sammuthana](#); 3) [2nd phase of #Youth4Peace capacity building programme by focusing on the impact of participants' projects](#); and 4) [#Youth4Peace field visit to the Southern province](#) & 5) [a posting focusing on the meeting among #Youth4Peace advocates and ONUR official](#).

The poster is for the V Awards 2018. At the top, it says 'අපිරිමින් ආසන්න මානවයාගේ චරිතා' and '2023 වර්ෂයේ වැඩිම වැඩි දායකයා සඳහා'. The main headline reads 'වසරේ හොඳම සේවිණියා සේවකයා ඔබ ද?'. Below this, there are sections for 'ඔබ ඉදිරිපත් කරනු ලබන නාම යෝජනා අගෝස්තු 20 වැනිදා පෙර යොමු කරන්න', 'ආරම්භය', 'නාම යෝජනා කළුවීම', and 'විලිසුම් ක්‍රමවේදය'. A large 'V Awards 2018' logo is in the center. Contact information for the Secretariat is provided: 'මමර අම්පත වැවිදුර පොරාපුර, 07 556 556 දුරකථන ආංකය, ඔබගේ ලබාගත හැකිය, V.Awards.lk'. There are also photos of award ceremonies and a QR code for more information.