# SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE



# **PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT**

(Length: Max. 12 pages plus cover page and annexes)

Country (ie	es): The Gambia
processes and advocates for t	n and men as stakeholders in ensuring peaceful democratic the prevention of violence and hate speech 'F-O Gateway (if existing project):
PBF project modality:	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund
□ IRF	(instead of into individual recipient agency accounts):
☑ PRF	☐ Country Trust Fund
	☐ Regional Trust Fund
	Name of Recipient Fund:
List all direct project recipi type of organization (UN, C	ent organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed SO etc):
United Nations Population Fu	and (UNFPA)
United Nations Development	
United Nations Education, So	cientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Government and CSO Part Ministry of Youth and Sports Ministry of Women, Children	/Gambian National Youth Council
Ministry of Information and (	Communication Infrastructure
National Assembly of The Ga	
National Council on Civic Ed	ucation
University of The Gambia	
Gambia Press Union Activista The Gambia	
YMCA The Gambia	
Think Young Women	The state of the s
Gambia National Commission	n for LINESCO
	g partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:
	B1 OUT OUT OUT OUT
<b>Expected project commence Project duration in months:</b>	ement date <sup>1</sup> : November 2020 <sup>2</sup> 24 Months
Geographic zones for project	
Nationwide but with specific	focus on Central River Region; Upper River Region; North Bank
Region and West Coast Region	on

<sup>1</sup> Note: actual commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

# Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below: ☐ 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): UNFPA: \$1,000,000.00 UNDP: \$ 810,500.00 UNESCO: \$ 350,000.00 TOTAL: \$2,160,500.00 \*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account. For payment of second and subsequent tranches the Coordinating agency needs to demonstrate expenditure/commitment of at least 75% of the previous tranche and provision of any PBF reports due in the period elapsed. Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):

UNFPA: \$ 700,000.00 UNFPA: \$ 300,000.00 UNDP: \$ 567,350.00 UNDP: \$ 243,150.00 UNESCO: \$ 105,000.00

Total: \$1,512,350.00 Total: \$648,150.00

PBF 1st tranche (70%):

Two-three sentences with a brief project description and succinct explanation of how the project is time sensitive, catalytic and risk-tolerant/innovative:

PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche\* (30%):

The project is youth-led and its aim is to address the institutional barriers (such as exclusion from decision making) for young people, to strengthen youth capacity for engagement and participation in governance and leadership, and to address hate speech and counter fake news and misinformation of young people through media and local community structures. The project will mobilize young men and women to participate in community dialogue initiatives at intra and intergenerational levels to enhance inclusion, social cohesion and sustainable peace. Through the Ministry of Youth, the project will support the review and revision of statutory legal instruments dealing with young people such as the National Youth Council Act, Strategic Plans and all youth and sectoral policy documents related to youth to reflect young people's engagement in governance and leadership and to enhance their involvement in violence prevention and social cohesion. The expectation is that the project will lead to greater youth involvement in leadership and decision-making processes to promote peaceful co-existence and decreased incidence of hate speech.

This project is a novelty initiative because the youth will be leading the actions, formulating and shaping the narrative on issues that affect them including leading peacebuilding actions, strengthening governance processes and building social cohesion using existing platforms in the country including the use of traditional and new media platforms. It is also innovative as proposed strategies and interventions will address social bullying and hate speech including promoting positive messaging and defining appropriate gateways to ensure social and traditional media becomes a safe space for Gambians, especially young women, given the delicate peace in the country since the change of government in 2016.

Summarize the in-country project consultation and endorsement process prior to submission to PBSO, including through any PBF Steering Committee where it exists, including whether civil society and target communities were consulted and how:

A joint consultation meeting with the various project stakeholders, such as The Gambia National Youth Council, Gambia Press Union, Gambia National Commission for UNESCO, Think Young Women, Activista, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, the University of The Gambia and YMCA The Gambia amongst others, was held on 11th June, 2020. Individual agencies also had bilateral consultations with their respective stakeholders which helped in informing the project direction. The concept note and project ideas are based on discussions organized with counterparts including government ministries, young women-led organisations, media bodies and tertiary institutions. A further virtual brainstorming session was organized to discuss ideas and thoughts on areas of possible youth engagement in peaceful democratic processes, prevention of violence and hate speech and social cohesion efforts on 1st July, 2020. Following the submission of the draft to the PBSO and the incorporation of comments, the second draft was shared with the stakeholders before final submission of the concept note. Further consultation was held with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to support institutional and structural changes of youth related entities in the country.

Project	Gender	Marker	score:	2	3

Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment: \_32.12%\_

\$693,895.00 is allocated towards gender equality and women's empowerment, which constitutes 32% of the programmed costs under this budget.

Project Risk Marker score: \_\_1\_\_4

Select PBF Focus Areas which best summarizes the focus of the project (select ONLY one): 2.2

If applicable, UNDAF outcome(s) to which the project contributes:

Outcome 2.5: Youth and Gender - Women and youth empowerment promoted to reduce gender disparities, gender-based violence, access to decent employment opportunities and ensure effective participation in national development and poverty reduction.

If applicable, Sustainable Development Goal to which the project contributes:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Risk marker 0 = low risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

PBF Focus Areas are:

<sup>(1.1)</sup> SSR, (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

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

<sup>(3.1)</sup> Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services

<sup>(4.1)</sup> Strengthening of essential national state capacity; (4.2) extension of state authority/local administration; (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats)

SDG 5: Gender Equality SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals If applicable, National Strategic Goal to which the project contributes: NDP Strategic Priority 2.8. Reaping the demographic dividend through an empowered youth Type of submission: If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification: **☒** New project ☐ Project amendment Extension of duration: 

Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): Change of project outcome/ scope: □ Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: □ Additional PBF budget: 

Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX **Brief justification for amendment:** Note: If this is an amendment, show any changes to the project document in RED colour or in TRACKED CHANGES, ensuring a new result framework and budget tables are included with clearly visible changes. Any parts of the document which are not affected, should remain the same. New project signatures are required.

## **PROJECT SIGNATURES:**

Recipient Organization(s)6 UNFPA Recipient Organization(s)7: UNDP Gambia Gambia Kunle Adeniyi Aissata De Signature The Gambia Signature Representative, UNFPA Representative, UNDP Date & Seal : 36 10 20 Date & Seal: 30/10/ Recipient Organization(s): UNESCO Representative of National Authorities Dimitri Sanga Mr. Noah Touray Signature Signature Director and Representative, UNESCO Secretary General & Head of the Date & Seal: Date & Seal: **Head of UN Country Team** Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) Seraphine Wakana Oscar Fernandez-Taranco Signature Signature Resident Coordinator, UN System in The Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Gambia Support Office Date & Seal Date & Seal 17 November 2020

Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.
 Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

# I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support (4 pages max)

a) A brief summary of conflict analysis findings as they relate to this project, focusing on the driving factors of tensions/conflict that the project aims to address and an analysis of the main actors/ stakeholders that have an impact on or are impacted by the driving factors, which the project will aim to engage. This analysis must be gender- and age- sensitive.

The Gambia's democratic elections of 2016 produced a peaceful transfer of power through civil discourse and political participation which, for the most part, was a novel experience for the country. For the 22 years prior to the 2016 elections, Gambians had not enjoyed much freedom to publicly express their opinions, even during instances when they had been aggrieved based on political, tribal or religious affiliations and gender. The change of government advanced the expanded use of both traditional and social media, including online radios, televisions and the like. Changes in the media landscape afford opportunities for youth, who are at the forefront of information, media, and technology appropriation, to share all forms of information from personal thoughts, civic engagement, expert opinion to curated content. Almost predictably, for those who had been oppressed for a long time, the newfound opportunities for self-expression created avenues where pent-up frustrations began to be articulated as hate speech.

For better or for worse, young women and men have been the most impacted by the increase in dialogue spaces as these platforms can be used to amplify constructive voices and perspectives just as easily as they can be used to perpetuate and proliferate hate speech and mis/disinformation along political, ethnic and religious lines. The dangers of the latter cannot be overemphasized as its consequences can be far-reaching; affecting society as a whole by further arousing distrust, wilting social cohesion and undermining already strained relationships within and among communities.

Without a doubt, The Gambia's ability to create, nurture and sustain peace requires real and definitive collaborative efforts across traditionally divided groups such as those resulting from age, gender, geographical region, ethnicity, economic/social/educational status and/ or political affiliation. The Gambia's continuing transition to democracy following the change of government in 2016 has seen an emergence of new conflict triggers due to many reasons. These include the previous regime's poor governance and human rights violations; the public's low awareness of civil, political and social rights; inter-ethnic rivalries along newly competitive political lines; youth limited capacity to critically and ethically engage with media, mainly social media, in the context of the newly acquired freedom of expression; hate speech, misinformation and disinformation through online, print and social media. Some of the current reform processes such as transitional justice and security sector reform pose the risk of creating new social cleavages as these proceedings are being perceived by some as ethnically skewed, with the former President's supporters feeling that they are victims of a witch hunt. A rising tide of ethnic and religious based hate rhetoric on the airwaves and on social media intensifies as the reform processes continue to be viewed in some quarters as non-transparent and obscured, and particularly as diverse young men and women continue to be excluded from the existing older-male-dominated national peacebuilding structures and systems.

The non-performance of youth wings in political parties and other government structures is another illustration of systemic absence of communication and interface between youth and decision-making adults. This is further illustrated by the fact that the Inter-Party Youth Committee, whose set-up was facilitated by the International Republic Institute (IRI), was not directly created by the political parties and by extension not recognised by the Inter Party Committee and as such not well connected with them. Without actively consulting, inviting, and listening to young men and young women's views, needs, national policy-making processes become dangerously unilateral and fail to serve the greatest good of all especially young people to preserve long lasting peace in the country.

The already fragile peace is further threatened by the emergency of Covid-19, which has created new fissures, creating immense socio-economic impacts that have had a significant impact on youth who dominate the country's tourism and MSME sector which has been the hardest hit. The Government response to Covid-19 and issues of accountability around the pandemic have highlighted a process which is predominantly led by male patriarchs with limited engagement of the youth. Also the transitional reform processes such as the drafting and submission of a new constitution, revelations at the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) as well as the impending 2021 presidential elections, have raised the stakes in the political space and have further exacerbated the use of hate speech by people of different political party affiliations against others with different views and the threat of violence against the different ethnic groups and sexual minorities in the country. Recently, the issues of non-inclusion of secularism in the draft constitution, criminalizing/decriminalizing homosexuality etc have generated a lot of anger and misinformation leading to some to advocate to vote out the new constitution because "it promotes and accepts homosexuality." Diplomats, religious leaders and political leaders including women who declared their aspirations for political office have been at the receiving end of hate speech from different angles and, by all indications, the situation will worsen until systematic changes are made.

The youth represent the largest demography in the Gambia, with 65% of the population below 25 years old. Youth, across a gender-spectrum, represent all ethno-linguistic groups, the majority of which feel politically, economically, and socially disadvantaged and marginalized. Adult men and a few older women, with limited representation of young men and women, dominate the executive bodies of most political parties. National leadership across the three branches of government is similarly skewed towards the older cohort, as are top tier jobs in the private sector. Most worrisome to the demography is the lack of informed dialogue, public participation & civic education which the Conflict and Development Analysis (CDA) also identified as a major conflict driver.

Except for ad hoc interactions between the youth and authorities such as opinion leaders or politicians; transparent, routine and productive platforms for informed and participatory dialogue and engagement is disconcertingly absent. Geographical disparities in access to information and dialogue opportunities are extensive and noticeably widening; the Banjul metropolitan area covering Banjul, the Kombos and Brikama have occasional dialogue sessions organised by political structures and Civil Society Organisations in which some youth are engaged whereas youth from rural Gambia (with some of the poorest development indicators) are mostly unaware and disengaged from political processes. Sadly, the opinions and needs of rural youth and youth with disability are often overlooked and minimized as it relates to participation in civil discourse, democratic deliberation and advocacy processes but the inclusion of young women in particular is especially limited.

Although females, particularly young women and girls, constitute 52% of The Gambia's population, this group experiences the most socio-economic and socio-cultural obstacles and are often confronted with active resistance to their inclusion in community and national dialogue processes. The opposition to women and girls' inclusion is often a consequence of deeply held and longstanding cultural beliefs, social marginalization, as well as unsafe, unfriendly and uncollaborative environments amongst others. In The Gambia, women and girls are often relegated to the background due to the dominant patriarchy and the cultural belief that only men should participate in decision making processes. A clear example, especially in the public and political space, was when a woman announced that she would like to contest in the 2021 presidential elections as an independent candidate. There were sexist attacks from different quarters and platforms (radio, social media,) on her looks, her mode of dressing, her marital status with a lot of hate speech directed at her. There was little comment on her educational and leadership qualities to lead, but the fact that she was a woman was enough to get attacked on both social and traditional media. A similar situation occurred some time ago when another young woman made similar proclamations. However, such serious unprofessional personal attacks are not made when men announce their interest to contest for political posts which give them an advantage over women.

Unfortunately, yet expectedly, these prevailing beliefs produce a disempowered and suppressed female population that lacks a minimum control of social, political and financial resources to uplift themselves. In many communities in The Gambia, a boy is twice as likely to complete secondary education as a girl. Social norms and pressures continue to inhibit female participation and even in spaces specially created for youth, young women, especially those with disabilities are often under-represented. There are less than 10 area councils elected out of 115 seats and there are only 6 female head of villages out of 1873 villages and also only 3 elected national assembly members out of 53. For the case of the National Youth Council, as a youth-led and focused platform even though it includes and engages young women in all its programmes and initiatives, its governance structure is predominantly dominated by young men and even when young women are co-opted, it is often tokenistic. The current composition of the Council has only one female out of a total membership of 11 and this like the Council's chairperson is not even an elective position. This further demonstrates that, contrary to popular belief. patriarchal norms are also strongly anchored in the young generation and not only in the older generation. The Gambia is going through rapid change occasioned by many reform and nation building processes, however young people and especially young women, do not feel consulted and they are in fact underrepresented in these processes. It is important to note that there are a number of young women focused and led organisations that seek to ensure that the agenda of young women are articulated and that the youthful female voices are amplified. Such organisations like Think Young Women, The Girls' Agenda and Safe Hands for Girls have made significant headway on issues such as FGM and child marriage and this project will seek to further collaborate with them and offer them tools to expand their participation and outreach into more sectors and issues.

Universities have a very important role in governance and reform processes but also have had a history of being hotspots for violent political confrontations in some African countries. It is therefore important to harness the potentials of university students to not only enhance political participation amongst young people but also serve as important agents against hate speech and violence. University students can also serve as agents for peace and development in their communities.



More recently, youth involvement in political participation has been slowly increasing with some political parties having students' wings in tertiary and secondary institutions including the University of The Gambia. Even with this development, many youths are/remain hesitant to openly contest their non-involvement in the political and transitional justice decision making processes out of socio-cultural respect for customary norms and in some cases due to youth disinterest in such issues. However, the University students are engaged in political processes through the election of the University Presidents and Executive members with campaigns which is a good learning opportunity that can be harnessed when connected with youths outside of the university.

There have been a number of recent violent confrontations around land and basic services, many of which were instigated and carried out by young people between the ages of 15 to 25 years in some communities. Key among these confrontations were the July 2019 demonstrations in Brikama and Serrekunda which turned so violent that it brought the security forces in confrontation with the youth. Both incidents were triggered by what was considered by young people as police brutality against them especially against those considered as "ghetto youth." With these acts of violence, youth are speaking out loudly against systems and institutions which they perceive as being unfairly structured against them. Young people seek spaces for dialogue with one another and with the older generation to ensure participation, inclusion and contribution to nation building.

There are ongoing Peacebuilding Fund projects addressing some of the challenges around youth engagement in decision making processes. The "Young women and men as stakeholders in ensuring peaceful democratic processes and advocates for the prevention of violence and hate speech" project seeks to complement these projects with support to consciously create additional opportunities for intergenerational dialogue between young women and men and relevant stakeholders in the country including local government authorities, party political leaders, government authorities and security forces, with a view to creating solidarity and understanding between them; engendering peaceful and progressive debates on critical issues including cultural barriers to open intergenerational engagements, tolerance, and generate pathways to meaningful participation of young people, especially young women.

b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports existing Governmental and UN strategic frameworks, how it ensures national ownership and how the project builds on any previous phase of PBF support and/or any concrete lessons learned.

The Gambia has not yet articulated a national peace building strategy, however the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2021 recognizes peace, security and stability as important to national development. NDP sees peace as a must as without peace there is no sustainable development. One of the key priority objectives of the NDP focuses on the reformation of the security sector and establishment of civilian and democratic oversight mechanisms that guarantee non-recurrence of serious human rights violations by the security forces. This is expected to restore public trust and confidence in the Gambian security to enhance peace, security and social cohesion. The key vision around peace programming is to ensure youth networks are capacitated and entitled to provide inputs and participate as key stakeholders throughout democratic processes.

Additionally, one of the eight strategic priorities of the NDP is to ensure the empowerment of young people as a means of reaping the demographic dividend. The strategic priorities also lay emphasis on youth and gender equality and empowerment. This project aligns with this vision by supporting the creation of platforms for engagement on a range of issues from governance, peacebuilding, positive messaging and peaceful co-existence.

The UN System in The Gambia is currently articulating its support through the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and some of the identified thematic areas under the Common Country Assessment under development support the above Government priorities. At the agency level, the UNDP aims to ensure an enabling role for youth engagement with policy makers to ensure the articulation of effective youth centric policies and fostering peace education in line with UNDP's other initiatives such as the Support Project to the Elections and the Strengthening Democratic processes in the Gambia Project (SPEDG).

The PBF portfolio in the country responds to post transition priorities of transitional justice, security sector reform; emerging issues of migration, land conflicts as well as youth and women's participation in decision making processes. While the existing portfolio, especially the projects addressing returnee migrants and participation in decision making processes, work on youth empowerment, none particularly addresses the intergenerational divide within and between the party political space in the country. Moreover, the current portfolio of the PBF does not specifically respond to the latent yet rising issue of ethnic, political and religious intolerance and hate speech. This project therefore aims to explore the power of young people and the media to enhance resilience and advocate against hate speech at both national and community level.

YouthConnekt is critical in building youth networks as well as develop platforms to share information amongst young people, strategies that this new project will utilise to not only avoid duplication but also ensure scale up of initiatives using an already tested model. Like the YouthConnekt and existing youth programmes and projects, this project is aligned to the priorities of the National Youth Policy and Strategy, the National Development Plan (NDP) and Sustainable Development Goals. YouthConnekt strategies of using ICT and Innovation and positive behavioural and attitudinal change towards national development, and promotion of citizenship and leadership will be adopted to counter hate speech as well as create safe space for young women in leadership, participation and decision-making processes. The already established youth networks, forums and mechanism will be used to strengthen the efforts of the project

The project will also strengthen linkages with the women and youth in decision making PBF project and will specifically target communities and constituencies that were not previously engaged in interface and intergenerational dialogues. This project will link with the PBF project on support to strengthening inclusive citizen engagement for more accountable governance in The Gambia in engaging the Inter Party Committee (IPC) which was previously found difficult. Inclusion of new parties and reinvigoration of its functions with focus on youth participation will be prioritized. Strategies will be utilised for an acknowledged engagement of young people through the party structures and thereafter advocate for inter party youth engagement for the acknowledgement and creation of the IPYC within the IPC memorandum.

Targeted populations will include young people who are mostly ignored in programme implementation as a result of their non-involvement in structural youth programming but are mostly in the lead when confrontation happens with authorities. The project will also create linkages with the returnee migrants PBF project, which has components on community engagement but limited focus on enhancing the engagement of returnees in the political decision making spaces including dialogue with political leaders. Furthermore, a linkage will be made with the Security Sector Reform project by creating dialogue and interface sessions to enhance peace and understanding.

In addition, The Government, which perceives media and information literacy as not only critical for preserving freedom of expression and fighting hate speech, but also important for civic and peace education, has an on-going initiative towards articulating media and information policy in The Gambia. An initiative aimed, among other objectives, at stimulating youth civic engagement in democratic and hate-free discourses.

This project will facilitate the strengthening of existing spaces and provide catalytic support to core corps of young persons with the capacity to define and analyze priority youth issues and needs and formulate policy position papers for effective advocacy and engagements. Topics of priority focus will include issues of national identity vs. ethnic/religious identity; ongoing reforms including constitutional and transitional justice especially models for substantive engagement of youth in reform processes; intimidation of young women who want to step out of traditional roles and challenge the norm.

The PBF Secretariat coordinates and provide quality assurance of PBF funded projects in the Gambia which is expected to continue in 2021. Its current budget is situated within the TJHR project which will come to an end in June 2021. To cover for the budgetary gap for the PBF Secretariat for 2021, an output and a small budgetary allocation is embedded in this project under outcome 2 as activity 2.2.6 in the results framework.

c) A summary of existing interventions in the proposal's sector by filling out the table below.

While there are a number of existing and completed projects including PBF-funded on youth participation and empowerment which this project complements, it is important to note that this project is unique and innovative as its interventions will not only focus on consolidating structures that strengthen youth participation in politics at all levels including party political level but also helping to address social bullying and hate speech including use of technology, promoting positive messaging and defining appropriate gateways to ensure social and traditional media becomes a safe space for Gambians, especially young women. Greater emphasis will be placed on young women's involvement through holistic capacity building including strengthening the already existing mentorship platforms and the establishment of a network of young women politicians as a support group.



Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current
Gambia YouthConnekt 2018 – 2021	USD – 2 million UNDP core contribution – 400,000 Gap – 1.6 Million	Contribute towards the creation of enabling environment and conditions for youth empowerment, civic participation and employment creation for the youth in Gambia through the implementation of the successful YouthConnekt Model	The YouthConnekt initiative is greatly complementary to this project as its major focus is to support empowerment of youth and strengthen their engagement in the civic space. YouthConnekt strategies of using ICT and Innovation and positive behavioural and attitudinal change towards national development, and promotion of citizenship and leadership will be adopted in this project to counter hate speech as well as create safe space for young women in leadership, participation and decision-making processes. The already established youth networks, forums and mechanism will be used to strengthen the efforts of the project
	USD – 1.3 million	Contribute towards	A major focus of this project especially from the political participation and governance angle and the intergenerational and intragenerational dialogues at community and party political levels will be strengthened by building on the lessons learnt from the YouthConnekt project.  The Women and Youth
Youth participation in decision-making and as agents of conflict prevention 2018-2020	PBF	the participation of women and young people in political decision-making processes.	participation which focuses on enhancing the capacities of women and youth complements this project which also has a component on youth capacity strengthening and will fill the gaps on strengthening intergenerational dialogue between youth and older people especially within the

Support strengthening inclusive citizen engagement for more accountable governance in The Gambia 2020-2021	USD - 1.65 million PBF	Contribute towards civic engagement, youth and women participation and engagement and ensuring accountability and trust between national leadership and the population	party political space within and between parties. Youth and the media will also be utilized as agents of positive messaging to counter hate speech  The project seeks to achieve an increased youth and women inclusion, political participation and engagement amongst political parties which has synergies with this project which will try to go beyond engagement at the Inter-Party Committee to bring attention and focus to the need for youth engagement within and between partners and advocacy at the IPC for the acknowledgement of the IPYC
Strengthening sustainable and holistic reintegration of returnees in The Gambia 2018-2020	USD – 1.3 million PBF	Contribute towards reintegration of youth who have returned from irregular migration through community engagement	The returnee migrants project has components on community engagement and this project will enhance the engagement of returnees in the political decision making spaces including dialogue with political leaders
UNFPA Gambia core and non-core resources 2019-2020	3.7M USD	UNFPA core resources UNFPA Supplies Joint Programme PBF Projects	Some of these core interventions focus on empowering women and girls and breaking down barriers and addressing social norms. They will complement this project by addressing the gaps and strengthening linkages especially where PBF funds might not be applicable to address issues being addressed.
UNESCO	130,000 USD	Community media	The project "Development of
Project Development of Media and Information Literacy in The Gambia 2019- 2022	(SIDA, Sweden)	sustainability and Media an information literacy policies development	Media and Information Literacy in The Gambia" is complementary to this as it focuses on raising awareness of duty bearers on MIL policy development necessary for government commitment towards MIL mainstreaming in the country.

- II. Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy (4 pages max Plus Results Framework Annex)
- a) A brief description of the project content in a nutshell, what are the main results the project is trying to achieve, the implementation strategy, and how it addresses the conflict causes or factors outlined in Section I (must be genderand age- sensitive).

The project is youth-led and its strategic objective is to enhance youth participation in governance and peaceful democratic processes and strengthened capacities as advocates against hate speech to prevent violence. This will be done through addressing the institutional barriers that impede young people's participation in leadership and decision making platforms at community and national level including in political parties. It will seek to build capacity and strengthen youth engagement with party political leadership, traditional community and religious leaders and, by leveraging on the inherent capacity of young people and media (including community radios and traditional communicators) as well as influential religious and traditional champions who advocate for youth inclusion in decision making, responding to hate speech and countering fake news and misinformation. The project will also advocate for the revision of the Independent Electoral Commission Framework and the Inter-Party Committee memorandum of understanding to acknowledge the Inter-Party Youth Committee. Strong consideration will be given to identifying the specific need for space for young women but also engaging young men on the importance of political participation for their female counterparts and the different needs of young people for programming purposes. In this endeavour, an intergender conversation would provide a platform for young women political aspirants or leaders to narrate first-hand, the challenges that they face. Such a platform would create an avenue where young women would give accounts of their struggles and provide recommendations on how their male counterparts can support them in the political space. Whilst acknowledging the importance of engaging men to support women in politics, it is most ideal that women give their own accounts and narration rather than through a third party. This project will place emphasis on holistic capacity building of young women to occupy their space in the political field. Aside capacity building on campaigning, leadership, fundraising, personal branding and communications, networking, the project will also create linkages with the mentorship programme designed under the women and youth PBF project to connect the young women with older women to mentor.



The young women will be paired with older women in their parties for those who are part of political parties. The project will also support getting young women together in a support group, the goal of which is to build a community among themselves and provide support and encouragement amongst one another in the event of backlash for example.

Given that UNDP is also the in-country lead UN Agency supporting the Electoral Cycle project, this project's interventions in strengthening youth engagement in electoral process and all corresponding interventions will be aligned to the recommendations of the Electoral Needs Assessment Mission's (NAM) recommendation, and in sync with the electoral cycle project, in consultation with the Chief Electoral Officer/ EAD.

# Outcome 1: Young people increasingly participate in governance and decision-making processes at national, regional, community and political party levels

This outcome seeks to enhance the capacity of young people for engagement in governance, decision-making and leadership at community and national levels. The project will also use the inter and intra party engagements to advocate for amendment of political party regulations to commit to youth participation in leadership of their structures. Aligned with the PBF Governance project, this will be done through facilitation of platforms for inter and intra party youth engagement, including intergenerational engagement with party leaderships as well as dialogue with community structures. The project will also leverage on influential traditional and religious elders to serve as champions/influencers for active youth engagement and involvement in leadership at local, regional and national level including in the political party space. Capacity of youth led organizations will be strengthened to integrate Media Information Literacy (MIL) in their daily operations, policies, and strategies. The intervention will also include capacity building of leaders of youth associations as active global citizens and agents of change for sustainable peace in their community that favours constructive and peaceful political participation by young people.

This outcome will support documentation and dissemination of inclusive messaging using various platforms, strategic engagement of young men on the importance of political participation of their female counterparts and the review, revision and implementation of programmes around youth statutory legal instruments to ensure a reflection of young people's engagement in governance and leadership and institutionalize their role as peace enablers to maintain community peace. The involvement of youth networks in governance processes will be emphasized through in person and media actions.

A Youth Peace and Security Situation Room will be established as a peacebuilding initiative that will empower youth to be the leading force for democratic and peaceful elections in The Gambia. The situation room under The Gambia National Youth Council will mobilise, harness and tap into the expertise and experiences of young people to act to mitigate potential conflict, leading to violence that could emerge before, during and after elections. Specifically, young people will be trained as election observers/monitors and to prevent violence. These young people will be recruited from potential conflict hotspots. The situation room, led and managed by young people, will be a centre of innovation on peace and security and will empower young women and men to play an active and direct role in peace and security efforts, and to engage in peace processes and conflict prevention mechanisms.

\$-

Their continuous engagement with governance structures, party political leaders and involvement in policy decision making process will strengthen their meaningful political participation.

In addition, young men and women will be supported to promote peace and positive messaging especially in the context of Covid-19, by strengthening the capacities of youth leaders and youth-based organizations to prepare knowledge-based products and generate information and evidence-based policy recommendations from a youth perspective, including on specific needs of young women. In collaboration with the Security Sector Reform Project, an interface platform between young people and state security agents will be established to create mutual understanding and peaceful co-existence.

The project will use mentorship and apprenticeship to support generation of data/evidence to guide policy, peaceful and constructive engagement by national assembly members. This strategy will use, in equal numbers, young women and men from the university and other relevant tertiary institutions as interns to support national assembly members to generate and analyze data that will guide them during national discussion sessions as well as equip young people with knowledge and skills to develop interest in leadership and participate in political decision-making spaces. More significantly, these young women and men will thereafter serve as peer mentors to other young people in their regions.

# Outcome 2: Young people engage in community mediation efforts and serve as advocates against hate speech

Under this outcome, young people will be capacitated as champions of positive messaging to counter hate speech, gender abuse/violence, fake news and misinformation and disinformation at both structural and community level to ensure that youth see themselves as peace ambassadors and community change makers. This will be enhanced with the establishment of a youth-led national internet radio station as a strong tool to amplify the voices of youth in maintaining peace and social cohesion and building resilience against violence including hate speech. The radio will develop podcasts on various thematic areas that will enhance positive messaging and strengthen social cohesion. Young people, with specific focus on young women, will be mobilized to reduce tensions relating to inflammatory/ hate speech. Safe spaces for young women will be initiated to identify strategies that address hate speech and online harassment that women and girls face. Both print and electronic media will be utilised as a strong ally to debunk disinformation and hate speech by promoting positive messaging.

The project will also support a multi-stakeholder mechanism for the mitigation of disinformation phenomenon. In partnership with the Gambia Press Union and modelling on the YouthConnekt structures, a network of monitors composed of young journalists and CSOs with representation from across the country will be established to identify potential threats of disinformation and hate speech and serve as an early warning and mitigating mechanism. The project will support the use of online software for social media analysis to monitor hate speech and disinformation, the provision of verification methodology feeding into a national database on disinformation, and the proposal of action plans to mitigate impacts of misinformation. Young people in rural and urban communities, particularly in hotspots for violence, will be trained on positive messaging as a way to counter hate speech and disinformation.



Online review and assessment of prevalence of hate speech on Gambian internet portals and platforms will be undertaken. Strategies and interventions will be developed to address social bullying and hate speech including promoting positive messaging, addressing sexual and general gender abuse and online harassment and defining appropriate gateways to ensure social and traditional media becomes a safe space for Gambians, especially young women.

The project will initiate innovative approaches of building youth capacities as community peace mediators, advocates against hate speech and misinformation and provide seed funding to youth from conflict communities to implement conflict mediation and positive messaging initiatives that will address root causes of conflicts in their areas and ensure lasting peace and social cohesion.

b) Provide a **project-level 'theory of change'** – i.e. explain the type of change envisaged by the project and how do you expect the project interventions to lead to results and why have these interventions been selected. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on?

(Note: Change may happen through various and diverse approaches, i.e. social cohesion may be fostered through dialogue or employment opportunities or joint management of infrastructure. The selection of which approach should depend on context-specific factors. What basic assumptions about how change will occur have driven your choice of programming approach?)

The Conflict and Development Analysis (CDA) highlights that "A more stable Gambian transition calls upon counter-balancing forces and new forms of dialogue and deliberation involving key social groups such as women and youth, supported by conditions and sustainable processes that social, civic and religious leaders can enable. Furthermore, the 2019 updated CDA highlights as a peace engine inter party youth platforms for their potential to engage young people in non-partisan debate and dialogue around issues of political violence prevention, tolerance, and peaceful party cohesion.

More significantly, the CDA also identifies misinformation and hate speech using various mediums, to promote ethno-political divisions, leading to greater social division and highlights the significant role of the media as both a source of conflict and a key driver for peace and conflict prevention.

The project seeks to identify and address the institutional barriers for young people including young women, enhance their participation in governance processes, strengthen their engagement with political and community leaders and leveraging on the inherent capacity of young people and media (including community radios and traditional communicators) to address hate speech and counter fake news and misinformation.

If opportunities are provided to young women and men in targeted conflict prone areas to acquire the skills on mediation, positive messaging and intra and intergenerational consultations;

If the media engages in accurate and ethically presentable information, producing conflictsensitive journalism, supporting youth involvement in public debate on issues of their interest, while promoting media and information literacy (MIL) skills;

If young women and men in the political party space understand diversity and view each other as partners in nation building and understand the importance of bipartisan consultation and collaboration,

And intergenerational understanding and solidarity is improved through identification and removal of structural barriers to ensure the inclusion of young women and men in the planning and decision-making process by the older generations.

Then young men and women will begin to have the space, voice and support to make informed decisions on matters of public interest and demonstrate resilience against disinformation, misinformation, and messages inciting hatred or violence, ultimately contributing towards overall citizen participation and ensuring more inclusive policy making and implementation processes that strengthen the national governance system which result in improved social cohesion and peace outcomes.

- c) Project result framework, outlining all project outcomes, outputs, activities with indicators of progress, baselines and targets (must be gender- and age- sensitive).
   Use Annex B; no need to provide additional narrative here.
- d) Project targeting and sequencing strategy provide justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, expected number and type of beneficiaries and justification, timing among various activities, any measures to ensure coherence and connection between outcomes, and any other information on implementation approach (must be gender- and age-sensitive). No need to repeat all outputs and activities from the Result Framework.

Partner organizations include umbrella civil society organizations such as ACTIVISTA, YMCA, University of The Gambia, The Gambia National Youth Council, Gambia Press Union, National Commission for UNESCO will lead the community implementation of this project and they will engage a diverse group of young people taking into consideration gender and age to facilitate dialogue, build capacity on positive messaging to counter hate speech and misinformation. The key partners for implementing interventions on hate speech will be the Gambia YMCA leveraging on their advantage as a leader in digital innovation, The Gambia Press Union as the umbrella body for all media houses and journalist, The Gambia National Youth Council as coordination and advisory body on all youth-related issues in the country. The youth wings of political parties will be engaged for both intra and inter party engagement and the Inter-Party Committee, which represents all registered political parties will also be used as an entry point to facilitate intergenerational political dialogues to enhance and improve youth participation in democratic processes.



Aligned with the project on Security Sector Reform, the relevant structures such as the police high command and the National Youth Council will be used as entry points to initiate interface dialogue between the youth and security forces to foster peaceful dialogue and coexistence, diffuse tension and enhance social cohesion.

Target communities that are currently undergoing conflict or are potential hotspots as identified in existing PBF project community assessments will be engaged. The profile of youth to be targeted will be youth in politics at both community and national levels, young women at risk of hate speech and online harassment and out-of-school youth including those unemployed and disillusioned and frustrated by their situations and are at higher risks of being alienated.

The project will be implemented nationwide but with more specific focus on Central River Region; Upper River Region; North Bank Region, Kanifing Municipal Council and West Coast Region. The regions are carefully selected based on the needs and increasing violent conflicts among the communities. In URR, CRR and NBR for example, are witnessing community tensions over natural resources but assessments done have also realised that tribal and caste sentiments are at the centre of those disputes and youth involvement as community peace mediators is critical to maintaining peaceful co-existence. The urban and semi-urban areas of KMC and WCR respectively and more habited by young people and prone to political manipulation.

Overall, this project will ensure the meaningful engagement and participation of 6,340 young women and men directly in communities and party political space, allowing them to benefit from the engagement with the older generations including community opinion leaders, party political leaders and national assembly members. Indirectly, through mass media and social media interventions, the project targets over 200,000 people as part of the general public. Of these direct beneficiaries 40% will be young women and girls.

Central River Region – This region has been selected due to its centrality in-country and also tensions and conflicts have arisen in this region as a result of an ancient system of caste which has resurged and seeks to segregate certain families in specified roles and status. It is the most diverse region in the country in terms of ethnic group mix, therefore harbouring different value systems within same localities. This has also led to hate speech as evidenced by a recent assessment done by WFP, UNFPA and ITC as part of the Climate Change Project. Some communities are beginning to demonstrate xenophobic tendencies by calling other communities "foreigners" who are not entitled to land or other privileges. Being the primary rice growing region in the country, ensuring social cohesion within this region is critical. As the Central River Region is the largest region by size, split into north and south and has some of the poorest development indicators, the target group will be a slightly bigger size of 1600 and will ensure a minimum of 40% female participation of the total (1040 youth and 460 elder cohort).

\$-

Upper River Region – This region is affected by similar issues, as above and the project will target 1000 persons along the same criteria as outlined above including encouraging at least 40% female participation.

North Bank region – The North Bank region is one of the poorest regions in the Gambia. Issues of social caste and environmental degradation has fueled irregular migration to Europe and rural-urban migration from this region, economic opportunities. Pressures from family have been a push factor for youth out of the region. It is the region with the highest number of youth migrants to urban and finally Europe. The result has been a dearth of young men to support farming activities and is contributing to a rising social crisis as there are fewer and fewer men of marriageable age. As per the regions above, 1000, youth will be targeted as per the criteria above including gender representation.

West Coast Region – The West Coast Region is the most populated region within the Gambia with the largest cohort of youth and a microcosm of all the issues within the Gambia. It has also been a hotspot for violence and key among this was the confrontation between youth and the paramilitary leading to death; The confrontations between the ECOMIG soldiers and community member of Kanilai amongst others. Given the population a total of 2000 will be targeted (1300 youth and 700 elders). Within the youth and elder cohort the project will ensure a minimum of 40% female participation for a total of 800 (520 youth and 280 elder cohort). At least 30% of the youth involved are out of school youth.

Greater Banjul Area – The project has a strong focus on working with University Students as well as both traditional and new media including the establishment of an online radio to strengthen public discourse on youth leadership and participation but also countering disinformation, misinformation and enhancing positive messaging to address hate speech. The interface dialogues between youth and security will mainly be around the greater Banjul areas including Kanifing Municipality. In terms of mass media, the project will target reaching about 60,000 people, mainly out of school youth. The project will ensure a minimum of 40% female participation and engagement.

#### Summary Table of Beneficiaries by output

This project has a total of two outcomes and six outputs. Whilst the general target is young people, various outputs target different categories of young people. For example, output 1.1 specifically targets young women and men in politics whilst output 1.2 is targeting community youth leaders as well as young people from conflict hotspots and strategically, output 2.1 targets the same group of young people. The focus of output 1.3 is mainly young people out of school and unemployed who are at risk of engaging in violence and output 1.4 is purely focusing on students in tertiary and secondary schools in the various regions. With output 2.2 focusing on young people in the media, the diversity in the target groups in meeting the goal of this project is attained.

\$-

Project Output	Beneficiaries	Type of Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries by type	Location
Output 1.1 Youth leadership and participation increased in political decision making	Party political leaders Youth	Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries	Direct Beneficiaries	Greater Banjul Area
processes at party executive and national level	political leaders		600 young people in politics (at least 40% young	CRR URR
level	Community and religious		women)	WCR
	leaders		70 political party executives	NBR
			30 community and religious leaders	
			Indirect Beneficiaries 40,000 people	
Output 1.2 Youth mobilized as key actors to engage in community dialogue initiatives to	Young community leaders	Direct and indirect beneficiaries	162 election monitors	Nationwide NBR
enhance inclusion and sustainable peace including prevention of	Young election monitors		community leaders	CRR
electoral violence	Youth peace volunteers		100 youth (at least 40% young women)	URR WCR
Output 1.3 Improved intergenerational dialogue to maintain	Security personnel	Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries	Direct Beneficiaries	Nationwide
community peace and understanding	Young women and men		120 security personnel	
	Traditional and religious leaders		480 young people (at least 40% young women)	
Output 1.4 Increased student capacities through assistanceship/mentorship to generate data/evidence	National Assembly Members	Direct and indirect beneficiaries	56 Tertiary students (50% young women)	Nationwide
and policy briefs information for public discourse on youth	Tertiary Students	\$	1120 community mentees	
participation and	Central and local		56 NAMs and NA Staff	



Project Output	Beneficiaries	Type of Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries by type	Location
inclusion in decision- making activities	governments structures			
	Young people in communities		444	
Output 2.1: Young people as champions of positive messaging and community change makers	General public Out of school young people	Indirect Beneficiaries	200,000 beneficiaries General public	Nationwide
Output 2.2: Media practitioners and youth mobilized and engaged as	Media Practitioners Media Houses	Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries	Direct Beneficiaries	Greater Banjul Area
community peace mediators and advocates	Youth-led organisations		60 media practitioners (at	Lower River Region and
against hate speech at party political and all levels	General public		least 30% young women)	Upper River Region
	Pacare		4 youth-led organisations (at	
		1 1 2	least one young women-led)	
			15 media houses	
	Bar II		(at least 4 women-led)	
			Indirect Beneficiaries	
			60,000 people	



# III. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

a) Recipient organizations and implementing partners — list direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local know-how and existing capacity. Also fill out the table below for each recipient organization:

Agency	Total budget in previous calendar year	Key sources of budget (which donors etc)	Location of in- country offices	No. of existing staff, of which in project zones	Highlight any existing expert staff of relevance to project
UNFPA	3.7M USD	UNFPA core resources UNFPA Supplies Joint Program me PBF Projects	Banjul	18 1 International	A PBF Programme Manager has been hired to coordinate the project. The Programme Analyst Adolescent and Youth will provide overall programme leadership and guidance. Advocacy and visibility will be enhanced and supported by the Programme Analyst Partnership and Advocacy and the Communication Analyst supported by a Communication Programme Associate
UNDP	9.8M USD	Global Environm ent Fund Peace building Fund UNDP core resources GIZ	Banjul	51 staff 5 international	1 Programme Specialist Poverty and Inclusive Growth has mandate that covers youth and has relevant undertaken trainings.  A Programme Analyst and Associate with expertise in governance are available to support
UNESCO	2.4M USD	SIDA (Sweden), India, KOICA and UNESCO Core resources	Banjul	3 (2 under recruitment)	implementation  1 Deputy project coordinator



UNFPA will be the lead and convening organization for this project because of its mandate as the lead UN agency for issues of young people and women's empowerment. It works globally to promote gender equality and ensure every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA chairs the UN Working Group on Youth. The National Youth Council and affiliated youth groups such as Activista, Think Young Women will be driving the project implementation and undertaking key activities related to dialogue facilitation and analysis. These will be undertaken in collaboration with the National Assembly of The Gambia, the University of The Gambia, The National Council for Civic Education and Inter-Party Youth Committee given that many issues of inter-generational concern are socio-cultural and political.

UNDP has a mandate on peace and social cohesion issues in the UN and plays a key role in promoting and supporting youth as positive agents of change in development and peace and contributes to all priority pillars of the UN Youth Strategy (Youth2030). In the Gambia, the UNDP co-chairs the Development Partner Group Governance and Peacebuilding technical working group. A Peace and Development Advisor is co-located within the UNDP and UN Resident Coordinator's Office to provide policy advisory support to UN programming. The UNDP also works specifically to ensuring an enabling role for youth engagement with policy makers to ensure the articulation of effective youth centric policies and fostering peace education in line with UNDP other initiatives such as the Gambia Youth Connekt Initiative- youth empowerment and Support Project to the Elections and the Strengthening Democratic processes in the Gambia (SPEDG). UNDP has a strong role, expertise and partnership in youth and gender empowerment and mainstreaming. The UNDP youth global programme is available to support as needed too.

Having been working in the field of Media and Information Literacy (MIL) for close to 40 years, UNESCO is the UN leading organization in promoting MIL, promoting freedom of expression and combating hate speech offline and online. In the Gambia, UNESCO has an ongoing partnership with the Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure (MOICI) to support, among other objectives, the development of a national policy on MIL. UNESCO collaborate also with regional organizations such as African Centre for Media and Information Literacy (AFRICMIL), to support local and national youth organizations in the integration of MIL in their strategies. Regarding fact-checking skills, UNESCO has developed tools to help train journalists on fake news and disinformation. It collaborates with Africa-Check and International Fact Checking Network (IFCN) to build national capacity of media organizations and professionals while also ensuring that young journalists and young leaders of youth organizations participate in the process.

b) Project management and coordination – present the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements and ensure link with PBF Secretariat if it exists. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in Annex C and attach key staff TORs.



The Project will have a Steering Committee to be co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Youth and Sports and the UNFPA Representative and will include a select group of national partners including National Youth Council, young women's representative as well as the Representatives of UNDP and UNESCO. The Steering Committee will provide overall project guidance.

A Project Technical Committee will be co-chaired by the Director of Planning Ministry of Youth and Sports and the UNFPA Assistant Representative and will include the technical staff of the three agencies working on this project and the representatives of the government and CSO counterparts. It will be responsible for project implementation and technical guidance. The RCO/PBF Secretariat and the Focal Point for PBF at OP will be represented at these meetings to provide technical support as per the PBF guidelines and ensure coherence with government intervention.

The UN Programme Team comprising a local PBF Programme Manager already hired by UNFPA will coordinate the project in collaboration with the staff of UNDP and UNESCO. The team, mainly locally recruited staff, includes the UNFPA Programme Analyst Adolescent and Youth who will dedicate 30% of time to the project and provide overall programmatic and technical leadership and guidance, UNDP Programme Specialist with 25% of time dedicated to the project to be assisted by an Admin Assistant/Programme Associate with 75% time allocated to the project and UNESCO Adviser for Communication and Information with 15% of time dedicated to the project. The team will be responsible for Project Quality Assurance to ensure the project is implemented as per agreed prodoc and any deviation are reported to the steering committee and approval sought with PBSO. They will ensure independent project oversight and monitoring functions as well as facilitate Project Support for project administration, management and technical support to the UNFPA PBF Project Manager who will coordinate the entire project. Project staffing support will be provided for key implementing partners under the project to enhance their capacity to deliver the programme objectives. A full time staff will be recruited for Activista for full concentration on implementation of the project. Technical expertise will also be procured through staffing/ consultancies to support the project for the integration of technology and media outputs.

c) Risk management – assess the level of risk for project success (low, medium and high) and provide a list of major project specific risks and how they will be managed, including the approach to updating risks and making project adjustments. Include any Do No Harm issues and project mitigation.



Overall risk level for the project is low as issues under discussion though difficult are for the most part not contentious

Risks to the achievement of PBF outcomes	Likelihood of occurrence (high, medium, low)	Severity of risk impact (high, medium, low)	Mitigating Strategy (and Person/Unit responsible)
Socio-cultural inhibitions of the youth will deter meaningful discussions with older cohort	Medium	High	Undertake leadership training for the youth as an integral part of project strategy to capacitate engagement of the youth. Also continuous engagement and education of the older generation through sensitization and raising awareness on meaningful involvement of young person during the dialogue.
Passive participation off youth especially those who are unemployed especially when project offers not prospect for jobs	Medium	Medium	Ensure that youth and facilitators from the communities where these youth live conduct project interventions. Project will also engage such youth in their own safe spaces e.g. "Ataya vous"
Risks of harm to youth leaders if they are seen as putting pressure on Government/ community leaders to make changes which are not supported by the leaders.	High	High	Ensure the creation of collaborative engagement amongst youth leaders to diffuse partisan tension and reduce risk of harm to youth leaders
Lack of interest/ incentives in older generation/ established leaders to make substantive space for young voices	Medium	Medium	The project will identify adult champions and role models (there are already existing mentors but this will be expanded upon) including respected religious and other opinion leaders to support advocacy for creation of space for young people
The young women feel less confident to participate and engage in meaningful dialogue	Medium	Medium	The project will ensure purposeful engagement of young women across all the levels. Training and leadership development will be carry out for a cohort of young women to enhance her engagement
Probability of electoral violence	High	High	Continuous engagement of youth on different platforms including nonformal platforms such as "Ataya vous" on their critical roles in ensuring peaceful electoral processes.  Mechanisms for open dialogue and



Lack of technical capacities within the IP to implement project activities	Medium	Medium	space for youth engagement will be implored to avoid any misunderstanding and misconception which normal lead to violence and mistrust.  - Hire a dedicated core team to implement the project - Close monitoring and supervision by UNFPA/UNDP/UNESCO CO of activities as they are implemented - Regular technical meetings to review plans and activities- support from UNFPA/UNDP/UNESCO regional networks
extent of / lack of internet coverage	Medium	Medium	<ul> <li>Conduct more community engagement interventions and one-to-one advocacy</li> <li>Utilise community radios to transmit messages</li> <li>With current ongoing investment, internet coverage is likely to improve throughout the country.</li> </ul>
Delays in procurement related activities e.g. recruitment, outsourcing, contracting	Low	Medium	<ul> <li>Map out procurement procedures clearly ahead of time in order to expedite processes</li> <li>UNDP to potentially provide backstop if required</li> </ul>
Decision making and /or activity implementation delayed	Medium	Medium	<ul> <li>easy access to senior management in order to get quick feedback</li> <li>at least bi-annual project steering committee meetings</li> </ul>
Delay in programme implementation as a result of Covid-19	Medium	Medium	<ul> <li>Align programme implementation in line with national and government guidelines</li> <li>Provide resources for adhering to guidelines and taking precautions to implement interventions</li> <li>Implement programmes remotely where applicable as part of a phased approach to programme implementation</li> </ul>

d) Monitoring and evaluation – What will be the M&E approach for the project, including M&E expertise in the project team and main means and timing of collecting data? Include a break-down of M&E budget that the project is putting aside, including for collection of baseline and end line data for indicators and for an independent evaluation, and an approximate M&E timeline. Ensure at least 5-7% of the project budget is set aside for M&E activities, including sufficient funds for a quality independent evaluation.



Effective and timely monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the project will be ensured by the M&E officers of UNFPA, UNDP and UNESCO (these positions are not funded under the PBF but will dedicate time and expertise to overall programme implementation) in collaboration with PBF Secretariat M&E staff and the government based on the performance indicators as included in the Results Framework below. A specific M&E Plan will be developed within the first three months of the project based on the project's Results Framework. The M&E Plan will identify how the various indicators will be tracked, stating clearly who is responsible for what and when. At the beginning of the project, the M&E personnel of the three agencies will develop a joint monitoring and evaluation tool to ensure that the reporting and data generation for the project is aligned and standardized. An initial baseline assessment will be carried out specifically using secondary data as well as relevant results of the baseline study on Women and youth in decision making and end line surveys to determine the results achieved. Periodic monitoring of the project will be carried to ensure we are on track with implementation. Community reflection sessions will be jointly conducted together with the PBF Secretariat to find out how project participants are utilizing knowledge and skills acquired from the project in enhancing participation, strengthening dialogue and mediation efforts, promoting positive messaging and inclusion and preventing violence in their communities.

An independent final evaluation of the project will be supported as part of the overall project monitoring and evaluation strategy through an allocation of 5% of the overall project budget for routine and general monitoring interventions and a special allocation of US\$30,000 for the evaluation. This gives a total budget of US\$110,000 for all M&E interventions including routine surveys, data collection and analysis and regular field support and monitoring visits.

e) Project exit strategy/ sustainability — Briefly explain the project's exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do concretely and proactively to try to ensure this support from the start. If relevant, what are project links to any existing platforms or partnerships?

A project sustainability plan will be developed within the first six months of project implementation in collaboration with project beneficiaries. Existing and planned initiatives will be strengthened and institutionalized. The University of The Gambia wants to develop an internship programme for its students and this project will be used as a catalyst to that effect and use the achievements as advocacy for sustained government and private sector funding for the continuation of the initiative. The UNFPA in The Gambia also plans to develop a youth leadership and fellowship programme which can build on the success of this initiative and ensure its sustainability.



At the community and grassroots level, capacity strengthening initiatives of the structures and leveraging on existing programmes will be the cornerstone of this project to effectively deliver sustainable inter and intra generational dialogue and engagements.

In addition, the project will engage key donors such as the European Union and KOICA that works with UNESCO during the project implementation process and invite them to attend key activities where feasible and share key project reports with them. This is expected to raise their awareness on the project to motivate them to support some of the project initiatives of the project. The project will be implemented using existing structures and platforms, building and strengthening the capacity of already existing government structures like the national peace architecture and the early warning systems at the communities' level to ensure there is a sustainability of peaceful dialogues.

#### IV. Project budget

The budget will be provided in two tranches with the second tranche being released upon demonstration by the project (by the Coordinating Agency on behalf of the project and through the Resident Coordinator's Office or PBF Secretariat) that the first tranche has been expensed or committed to at least 75% between the recipients and upon completion of any regular PBF reports due in the period elapsed. Additional tranches or conditions may be added depending on the project context, implementation capacity, and level of risk.

Fill out two tables in the Excel budget Annex D.



## Annex A.1: Project Administrative arrangements for UN Recipient Organizations

(This section uses standard wording - please do not remove)

The UNDP MPTF Office serves as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the PBF and is responsible for the receipt of donor contributions, the transfer of funds to Recipient UN Organizations, the consolidation of narrative and financial reports and the submission of these to the PBSO and the PBF donors. As the Administrative Agent of the PBF, MPTF Office transfers funds to RUNOS on the basis of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between each RUNO and the MPTF Office.

#### **AA Functions**

On behalf of the Recipient Organizations, and in accordance with the UNDG-approved "Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi Donor Trust Funds and Joint Programmes, and One UN funds" (2008), the MPTF Office as the AA of the PBF will:

- Disburse funds to each of the RUNO in accordance with instructions from the PBSO. The AA will normally make each disbursement within three (3) to five (5) business days after having received instructions from the PBSO along with the relevant Submission form and Project document signed by all participants concerned;
- Consolidate the financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions
  provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF annual consolidated progress
  reports to the donors and the PBSO;
- Proceed with the operational and financial closure of the project in the MPTF Office system once the completion is completed by the RUNO. A project will be considered as operationally closed upon submission of a joint final narrative report. In order for the MPTF Office to financially closed a project, each RUNO must refund unspent balance of over 250 USD, indirect cost (GMS) should not exceed 7% and submission of a certified final financial statement by the recipient organizations' headquarters);
- Disburse funds to any RUNO for any costs extension that the PBSO may decide in accordance with the PBF rules & regulations.

# Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

Recipient United Nations Organizations will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

Each RUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent from the PBF account. This separate ledger account shall be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures, including those relating to interest. The separate ledger account shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to the RUNO.

5-

Each RUNO will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Semi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

## Financial reporting and timeline

Timeline	Event
30 April	Annual reporting — Report Q4 expenses (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
Certified fina	l financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project
closure	

UNEX also opens for voluntary financial reporting for UN recipient organizations the following dates

31 July	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250, at the closure of the project would have to been refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.



## Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in the RUNO undertaking the activities. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the RUNO shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

## **Public Disclosure**

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (http://unpbf.org) and the Administrative Agent's website (http://mptf.undp.org).



# <u>Annex A.2</u>: Project Administrative arrangements for Non-UN Recipient Organizations

(This section uses standard wording - please do not remove)

# Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient Non-United Nations Organization:

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each recipient in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

The Recipient Non-United Nations Organization will have full responsibility for ensuring that the Activity is implemented in accordance with the signed Project Document;

In the event of a financial review, audit or evaluation recommended by PBSO, the cost of such activity should be included in the project budget;

Ensure professional management of the Activity, including performance monitoring and reporting activities in accordance with PBSO guidelines.

Ensure compliance with the Financing Agreement and relevant applicable clauses in the Fund MOU.

#### Reporting:

Each Receipt will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Bi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	Convening Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist



		1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the
peacebuilding ar			PBF Steering Committee, where it
progress report (			exists or Head of UN Country Team
allocations only)	-		where it does not.
may contain a rec			
additional PBF al			*
if the context requ	lires it		

### Financial reports and timeline

Timeline	Event
28 February	Annual reporting - Report Q4 expenses (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
30 April	Report Q1 expenses (January to March)
31 July	Report Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Report Q3 expenses (January to September)

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to been refunded and a notification sent to the Administrative Agent, no later than three months (31 March) of the year following the completion of the activities.

## Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the Recipient Non-UN Recipient Organization will be determined in accordance with applicable policies and procedures defined by the PBSO.

### **Public Disclosure**

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (http://unpbf.org) and the Administrative Agent website (http://unpbf.org)

#### Final Project Audit for non-UN recipient organization projects

An independent project audit will be requested by the end of the project. The audit report needs to be attached to the final narrative project report. The cost of such activity must be included in the project budget.

#### Special Provisions regarding Financing of Terrorism

Consistent with UN Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism, including UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and 1267 (1999) and related resolutions, the Participants are firmly committed to the international fight against terrorism, and in particular, against the financing of terrorism. Similarly, all Recipient Organizations recognize their obligation to comply with any applicable sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council. Each of the Recipient Organizations will use all reasonable efforts



to ensure that the funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement are not used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime. If, during the term of this agreement, a Recipient Organization determines that there are credible allegations that funds transferred to it in accordance with this agreement have been used to provide support or assistance to individuals or entities associated with terrorism as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime it will as soon as it becomes aware of it inform the head of PBSO, the Administrative Agent and the donor(s) and, in consultation with the donors as appropriate, determine an appropriate response.

#### Non-UN recipient organization (NUNO) eligibility:

In order to be declared eligible to receive PBF funds directly, NUNOs must be assessed as technically, financially and legally sound by the PBF and its agent, the <u>Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO)</u>. Prior to submitting a finalized project document, it is the responsibility of each NUNO to liaise with PBSO and MPTFO and provide all the necessary documents (see below) to demonstrate that all the criteria have been fulfilled and to be declared as eligible for direct PBF funds.

The NUNO must provide (in a timely fashion, ensuring PBSO and MPTFO have sufficient time to review the package) the documentation demonstrating that the NUNO:

- > Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation
- Has a current valid registration as a non-profit, tax exempt organization with a social based mission in both the country where headquarter is located and in country of project implementation for the duration of the proposed grant. (NOTE: If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project, in order to receive subsequent funding tranches)
- > Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant
- Commissions audited financial statements, available for the last two years, including the auditor opinion letter. The financial statements should include the legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the country of implementation, if applicable) as well as the activities of the country of implementation. (NOTE: If these are not available for the country of proposed project implementation, the CSO will also need to provide the latest two audit reports for a program or project based audit in country.) The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is part of the nationally qualified audit firms.
- ➤ Demonstrates an annual budget in the country of proposed project implementation for the previous two calendar years, which is at least twice the annualized budget sought from PBF for the project<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Annualized PBF project budget is obtained by dividing the PBF project budget by the number of



- > Demonstrates at least 3 years of experience in the country where grant is sought
- ➤ Provides a clear explanation of the CSO's legal structure, including the specific entity which will enter into the legal agreement with the MPTF-O for the PBF grant.

Annex B: Project n	Annex B: Froject Results Framework (MUS) Include sex- and age disaggregated data)	age disaggregated data)		
Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of	indicator milestones
11、人生は人中人			Verification/	
			frequency of	
	TO THE PERSON OF	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	collection	A TO THE REAL PROPERTY.
Outcome 1: Young		Outcome Indicator 1 a: Percentage	IP Activity	3 months:
people increasingly		of political parties with regulations	Reports	consultations with
participate in		allocating at least 20% of their		Party Political
governance and		executive positions to young people	Assessment	Leaders
decision-making		(40% being young women)	Report	
processes at national,			•	12 months: Party
regional, community		Baseline: 0		regulations make
and political party		Target: 50%		necessary allocation
levels				
		Outcome Indicator 1 b: Percentage	IP Activity	
		of young people (m/f) who engage	Reports	
		in leadership dialogue and	•	
		consultation with community and	Survey	
		opinion leaders	Renorts	
			a la	
		Baseline: TBC		
		Target 35% (40% woung women)		
		ranger: 55 /4 (10 /0 ) curing womens)		
		Outcome Indicator 1 c: Reduced	Survey reports	6 months: complete
		involvement of young people in		baseline
		political violence in targeted	Security Reports	
		regions		18 months: Activities
			CSO and	completed
			International	
		Baseline: TBD	Organisation	
		Target: TBD	Transparency	
			Reports	
	Output 1.1 Youth leadership and participation	Output Indicator 1.1.1: The	IPC MoU	3 months:
	increased in political decision making processes at	National Inter-Party Committee		Consultations with
	party executive and national level	Memorandum of Understanding		IEC, IPC and
		revised to recognize the Inter-Party		Political Party leaders



Outcomes





building young spenie and women norticination in	indicators	Verification/ frequency of collection	indicator innestones
			completed
support youth led local policy analysis	Output Indicator 1.2.3: NYC situation room and early warning	D A cell in the second	6 months: situation room established
	crisis response centre functional.  Baseline: No	IF Activity Report	12 months: situation
nation room and early	Target: Yes		room functional
warning crisis response centre	Output Indicator 1.2.4: Percentage of young people (m/f) in conflict	IF Activity Reports	o months: Volunteers identified
Activity 1.2.4: Strengthen the capacities of youth	hotspots trained as election observers that participate in 2021		12 months:
pur	elections.		volunteers trained
agents of change for sustainable peace in their Ecommunity.	Baseline: 0 Target: 60%		
	Output Indicator 1.2.5: % of	Training Reports	6 months: youth
٠	trained youth association leaders	di Lio	leaders identified
young community leaders on M1L to foster their varicipation to peaceful and democratic public	who have conducted activities promoting peace in their	M&E Reports	12 months. Trainings
	community	Community	conducted
		Reports	21 months:
			community
			consultations and
			conducted
Improved intergenerational dialogue to	Output Indicator 1.3.1: Percentage	IP Activity	6 months:
	of traditional and religious leaders	Reports	Intergenerational
t	that attend intergenerational		dialogues conducted
	dialogue sessions and serve as	M&E Reports	
	advocates for youth involvement in		18 months:
	leadership at community, regional		community





4



42



indicator milestones	21 months; 20 materials produced	3 months: capacity assessment 9 months: 2 organisations capacitated 18 months: 4 organisations capacitated	3 months: training content developed, facilitators identified, participating individuals and organisation identified 12 months: 30 individuals trained
Means of Verification/ frequency of collection		IP Activity reports Assessment Reports	Training Reports
Indicators	Target: 20 (30% by young girls)	Output Indicator 2.2.1:  Number of youth-led organizations, per region, whose capacities are enhanced to integrate MIL in their operations, with a focus on tackling hate speech at community level  Baseline: 0  Target: 4 (at least 1 women-led organization)	Output Indicator 2.2.2  Number of media professionals, and media houses, that have developed fact-checking skills and are contributing to fact-checking platform  Baseline: 0  Target: 60 prof. (30% of women) / 15 media houses (at least 4 women-led media house)
Outputs	Activity 2.1.3: Implement interventions that address social bullying and hate speech and define appropriate gateways to social media becomes a safe space for Gambians, especially young women.  Activity 2.1.4: Crowd-source and promote youth-created local content (audio and video) in English and local languages on various MIL topics to stimulate tolerance and hate-neutral speech	Output 2.2: Media practitioners and youth mobilized and engaged as community peace mediators and advocates against hate speech at party political and all levels  Activities:  Activity 2.2.1: MIL competencies Gap assessment Activity 2.2.2: Media professionals' capacity building for conflict-sensitive journalism and hate	speech  Activity 2.2.3: Support to youth organizations for mainstreaming MIL into their policy and strategies  Activity 2.2.4: Media professionals' capacity building on debunking disinformation (fact-checking)
Outcomes	A ST.	O E E A A A A	v. ◀ æ ◀ Þ 13

indicator milestones	18 months: 60 individuals trained 3 months: technical specification and content for online platform developed 12 months: online platform functional	
Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	IP Activity Reports	
Indicators	Output Indicator 2.2.3: Increase number of fact-check reports posted on the platform Baseline: No Target: Yes	Output Indicators: PBF projects are coordinated and quality reports submitted on time.
Outputs	Activity 2.2.5: Establish a national fact-checking online platform to help curb disinformation and misinformation and to enable youth involvement	Activity 2.2.6: PBF Secretariat coordinates and support projects to submit quality reports on time.
Outcomes		



# Annex C: Checklist of project implementation readiness

3	Question	Yes	0/	Comment
	<ol> <li>Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline</li> </ol>			
5	Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Plz attach to the submission			
3.	Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline			
4.	Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on			
	the existence of the project? Please state when this was done or when it will be			
	done.			
14	5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing			
	activities been done? If not, what analysis remains to be done to enable			
	implementation and proposed timeline?			
6.	Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and			
	timeline.			The second secon
7	7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts			
	relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?			
∞.	Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between			
	project recipient organizations?			
6	What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project	Ż	N/A	
	implementation can begin and how long will this take?			

Annex D: Detailed and UNDG budgets (attached Excel sheet)

