PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)
ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: Sri Lanka
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER

Programme Title & Project Number
Programme Title: Participation of Youth and Women in the Peacebuilding Process
Programme Number *(if applicable)*
MPTF Office Project Reference Number:[1] 00105731

Recipient UN Organizations	Implementing Partners
List the organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme: UNFPA, UNV and UN Women	List the national counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations: Government: Ministry of Women and Child Affairs Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs Ministry of Social Empowerment and Welfare Ministry of National Coexistence, Dialogue and Official Languages Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government Directorate of Mental Health of the Ministry of Health Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MoH) Family Health Bureau of Health Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MoH) Health Education Bureau of the Ministry of Health Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MoH) Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance Provincial Ministries of Education Civil Society Organisations: National Forum Against Gender Based Violence

Programme/Project Budget (US$)	Programme Duration
PBF contribution (by RUNO) **Peacebuilding Fund:** **$1,210,000** **Other source:** **UNV 200,000USD;** **UNFPA 91,999 USD;** **UN Women 24,700 USD**	Overall Duration *(months)* 29 months Start Date[2] *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 26 May 2017

[1] The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to "Project ID" on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

[2] The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

Government Contribution *(if applicable)* **None** Other Contributions (donors) *(if applicable)* **100,000 USD (Private Sector for Output 1.1)**	Original End Date[3] *(dd.mm.yyyy)* 15 September 2019 Current End date[4]*(dd.mm.yyyy)* 15 September 2019
TOTAL: 1,626,699	

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	**Report Submitted By**
Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach* ☐ Yes ☐ No Date: Mid-Term Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach* ☐ Yes ☐ No Date:	Name: Neshan Gunasekera Title: National Programme Analyst Participating Organization (Lead): UNFPA Email address: ngunasekera@unfpa.org

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[3] As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.
[4] If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed.

PART 1 – RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1   Assessment of the current project implementation status and results

For PRF projects, please identify Priority Plan outcome and indicators to which this project is contributing:

> *Priority Plan Outcome to which the project is contributing.* Governance - Sri Lankans feel safe, and trust the Government to effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently respond to their needs.
> *Priority Plan Outcome indicator(s) to which project is contributing.*

For both IRF and PRF projects, please rate this project's overall achievement of results to date: on track

For both IRF and PRF projects, outline progress against each project outcome, using the format below. The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes.

Outcome Statement 1: Youth are actively and positively engaged in the peacebuilding process so that their voices are reflected in key policies and decision making processes and outcomes at the national and sub-national levels

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

> *A)* A Civil Society Organisations (CSO) mapping was conducted. 45 local and international CSOs have been assessed on understanding current youth-focused peacebuilding initiatives.
>
> b) Provincial youth dialogues and empowerment continued in Northern Province with over 700 undergraduates participating from University of Jaffna.
>
> c) ToRs have been finalised to recruit consultants that will assist the development of guidelines on prevention and management of Gender Based Violence (GBV).
>
> d) Initial steps taken to engage youth on social change innovation projects.
>
> f) National consultations held on the Progress Study under UNSCR 2250 Youth, Peace and Security. The findings are to be included in the Global Study Report expected to be submitted to UNSG
>
> g) A consultative dialogue was initiated in the Northern Province with young leaders that had participants from all five districts.
>
> h) 24 young people were trained under the Active Citizens Program on Peacebuilding and civic leadership.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers? Is the theory of change that underpins the project design still relevant for this outcome (3000 character limit)?

> The implementation phase of this project has just commenced. It is therefore too early to see results at the outcome level. As the project develops results will be evident on the active participation of youth in the peacebuilding process. Evidence of their voices being reflected in key policies and decision-making processes will also be demonstrated.

> The project is in line with Government priorities. Several consultations have already taken place involving multiple stakeholders and young leaders. These have ensured continuity in engagement and interest. They have also enabled the project and to build on the the youth's shared experiences.

> The UNV Project Implementation Unit was recently established and recruitment of project staff is currently ongoing. The TOC is still relevant.

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

The UNV Project Implementation Unit for Outcome 1 was only set up recently. A Project Manager and Project Associate are in place. Three more National UN Volunteer positions are in the process of being recruited within the next few weeks.

The UNV team has taken measures to address the speed of implementation by ensuring a fast tracked delivery rate within the next few months.

Outcome Statement 2: State decision-making processes are more equitable and inclusive to enable women's meaningful participation and leadership in governance and peacebuilding.

Rate the current status of the outcome: on track

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

A) Progress related to the outputs of the project is limited as the project only commenced operationally in the 2nd quarter of 2017.

b) Internal administrative processes in operationalising the project are to be completed shortly.

c) A competitive process for the contracting of an implementing partner was initiated and the CSO is expected to be confirmed by November 2017.

d) Preparatory work is being initiated to conduct consultations and dialogues with Government, women's organisations and other related stakeholders once the CSO is on board, ensuring further validation of the project will be carried out.

e) Initial discussions with the Finance Commission of Sri Lanka on including gender-mainstreaming have taken place and been postive. These discussions encompassed the common principle applicable to all 22 sectors of the guidelines issued to Provincial Councils for formulating annual plans and budgets.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers? Is the theory of change that underpins the project design still relevant for this outcome (3000 character limit)?

Since the planning and operationalisation of the project outputs have commenced towards the latter part of the second quarter, it is too early to indicate concrete achievements.

Despite uncertainty related to the outcome of the forthcoming Local and Provincial Government Elections in January 2018, the theory of change remains valid, though strategies to achieve the intended change may have to be revised. This could include changes to activities to suit the changing context that may be proposed by Government and civil society through the validation exercise. For instance, advocacy on 30% quota for women at the nomination level for Provincial Council Elections is no longer necessary as the required legislation has been passed in 2017.

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

Amendments to the Local Government Elections Act were proposed and debated in the 3rd quarter of the year, some of which would restrict and impact the 25% quota for women's representation ensured in 2016. An Amended Act was approved on 25 August 2017, abolishing the preferential voting system, but maintaining the 25% quota for women. However, the new mechanism which operationalises the quota was unclear and not well-articulated, which hindered the ability to conduct pre-election activities, such as candidate and vote awareness on the new mechanism.

As outlined in the risk matrix, Local Government Elections will now be held in January 2018. In accordance with the proposed mitigating strategy, UN agencies and other development partners engaged with relevant Government counterparts, advocating for the continued provision of the 25% women's quota at the local level.

Following the transfer of funds in June 2017, internal administrative procedures related to the selection of an implementing partner - via a tender process - had produced some

commencement delays. These have been identified and rectified. They will have no further impact on the implementation of the project.

Outcome Statement 3:

Rate the current status of the outcome: Please select one

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers? Is the theory of change that underpins the project design still relevant for this outcome (3000 character limit)?

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

Outcome Statement 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome: Please select one

Output progress

List the key outputs achieved under this Outcome in the reporting period (1000 character limit).Outputs are the immediate deliverables for a project.

Outcome progress

Describe progress made during the reporting period toward the achievement of this outcome. This analysis should reflect the above indicator progress and the output achievement. Is there evidence of the outcome contributing to peacebuilding and to the specific conflict triggers? Is the theory of change that underpins the project design still relevant for this outcome (3000 character limit)?

Reasons for low achievement and rectifying measures

If sufficient progress is not being made, what are the key reasons, bottlenecks and challenges? Were these foreseen in the risk matrix? How are they being addressed and what will be the rectifying measures (1500 character limit)?

1.2   Assessment of project evidence base, risk, catalytic effects, gender in the reporting period

Evidence base: What is the evidence base for this report and for project progress? What consultation/validation process has taken place on this report *(1000 character limit)?*	Follow up meetings with youth groups. Youth consultations and onging youth engagement convening regional dialogues in the future ensure continuity in engagement. Results from the workshop on peacebuilding is based on post-assessment questionnaire and list of assistance backing up achievements and learnings.
Funding gaps: Did the project fill critical funding gaps in peacebuilding in the country? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)*	The Peacebuilding Fund therefores fills a critical gap in ensuring that women and youth are engaged in governance, decision-making and peacebuilding processes.
Catalytic effects: Did the project achieve any catalytic effects, either through attracting additional funding commitments or creating immediate conditions to unblock/ accelerate peace relevant processes? Briefly describe. *(1500 character limit)*	Though there is an overarching focus on peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, there is limited focus on women's participation in peacebuilding processes. The PBF also supports the need for more women's participation and engagement at all levels of governance and decision-making, but more critically it aims to ensure that the likelihood of sustaining peace is higher with the meaningful engagement of women.The PPP identifies gender and youth as cross-cutting issues within the 4 Pillars, this project ensures that attention is paid to these areas.
Risk taking/ innovation: Did the project support any innovative or risky activities to achieve peacebuilding results? What were they and what was the result? *(1500 character limit)*	New partnership achieved with the British Council under their Active Citizens programme. Key result: peacebuilding dedicated workshop included in their programme and succesfully implemented by UNV under the framework of this project. Establishment of a network of UN agencies and CSOs to organize the 2250 national consultations. This was the first time that these partners collaborated in a formal consultative process around youth and peace.
Gender: How have gender considerations been mainstreamed in the project to the extent possible? Is the original gender marker for the project still the right one? Briefly justify. *(1500 character limit)*	Implementing UN agencies of this project have ensured gender equality as a principal objective in all its activities. For example, the workshops and consultations conducted thus far has ensured participation of both males and females.
Other issues: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that should be shared with PBSO? This can include any cross-cutting issues or other issues which have not been included in the report so far. *(1500 character limit)*	The political climate, including the postponement of local government elections to next year, has had an impact on the delivery of the project. Coordination could be improved between all stakeholders to achieve maximum impact.

1.3 INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT*: Using the **Project Results Framework as per the approved project document**- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation in the qualitative text above.* (300 characters max per entry)

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 1 Youth are actively and positively engaged in the peacebuilding process so that their voices are reflected in key policy and decision making processes and outcomes at the national and sub-national	Indicator 1.1 % of youth engaged in peacebuilding process who feel that they have been able to positively contribute	0	40%	Survey to be conducted in 2018		Moved to 2018
	Indicator 1.2 Proportion of youth population who feel the peacebuilding process is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	n/a	TBC	Survey to be conducted in 2018		Moved to 2018

levels.	Indicator 1.3 Number of youth engaged by TJ, Reconciliation and Governance mechanisms	150	500	192		
Output 1.1 Increased capacity of youth-led and youth-focused organizations to engage in peacebuildin g processes/ including UNSCR 2250	Indicator 1.1.1 Number of youth-led and youth-focused organizations supported to increase young people engagement in peacebuilding through dialogue, awareness raising and knowledge exchange	1	5	Following national consultation on 2250, in discussion with two youth-focused organizations on next steps to increase young people's engagment peacebuilding	Recruitment on going for the Team for delivering survey	
	Indicator 1.1.2 Number of local youth consulted for policy priority setting disaggregated by gender, georgraphical location ,	150	500	192		

	population group					
Output 1.2 Increased capacity of national, provincial and sub-national level institutions to engage youth in peacebuilding and linkages are created for policy-making and programming.	Indicator 1.2.1 Amount of budget secured within key institutions (specify which institutions) at central, provincial and district level in targeted locations dedicated to youth.	0	4 at Provincial Level	Youth Policy frameworks for two of the Provincial Councils – Northern and Eastern are being finalized	Delay in working with the Eastern Provincial Council as its term ended in October 2017 and elections are due to be held in early 2018	
	Indicator 1.2.2 National Youth Peace Panel established and operational.	0	1	Progressing - Initial discussions underway with young leaders and youth-focused organizations on setting up the panel	Recruitment ongoing for the UNV Peacebuilding Team	
Output 1.3	Indicator 1.3.1					
	Indicator 1.3.2					
Outcome 2 State decision-making processes are more	Indicator 2.1 Number of new Government policies on Gender-Responsive	1	3	Ongoing discussions to introduce gender-mainstreaming principles in guidelines issued	UN Women is currently undergoing a global restructuring process, which has impacted the recruitment of project personnel. This has now been rectified.	

equitable and inclusive to enable women's meaningful participation and leadership.	Budgeting issued at central, provincial and district level.			by FCSL for Provincial Councils on annual budgeting.		
	Indicator 2.2 Number of gender-responsive Provincial plans developed.	0	4	Activities related to this indicator are scheduled for 2018, following the successful inclusion of gender-mainstreaming within FCSL guidelines.		
Output 2.1 Increased capacity among select women political candidates and local leaders (women and men) to promote engagement of women in governance	Indicator 2.1.1 % of targeted women leaders who are aware of key information related to governance and peacebuilding processes and procedures.	0	TBD	Activities related to this output are scheduled for 2018.		
	Indicator 2.1.2 Number of those trained who are able to cite at least one example of	0	At least 50% of trained people	Activities related to this output are scheduled for 2018, following the LG Elections.	Delay in holding Local Government Elections.	

and peacebuilding processes.	applying the training in their work by three months after training.					
Output 2.2 Increased capacity of national and sub-national institutions, including political parties, to ensure policies, plans, and budgets are gender-responsive.	Indicator 2.2.1 Number of institutions that introduce gender responsive tools for governance.	0	TBD	Ongoing discussions with the FCSL to introduce guidelines on gender mainstreaming of Provincial Councils annual budgets/work plans.		
	Indicator 2.2.2 % of people who believe that presence of women in leadership positions leads to improved policy-making.	TBD	TBD	Activities under this output are scheduled for 2018.		
Output 2.3 Women leaders	Indicator 2.3.1 Number of women leaders at national, provincial and	0	25	Activities under this output are scheduled for 2018.		

promote increased civic engagement on issues related to governance, reconciliation and TJ.	local level in target locations who use social media platforms to engage with the public.					
	Indicator 2.3.2 Number of social media advocacy campaigns designed and supported.	1	4	Activities under this output are scheduled for 2018.		
Outcome 3	Indicator 3.1					
	Indicator 3.2					
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1					
	Indicator 3.1.2					
Output 3.2	Indicator 3.2.1					
	Indicator 3.2.2					
Output 3.3	Indicator 3.3.1					
	Indicator 3.3.2					
Outcome 4	Indicator 4.1					

	Indicator 4.2					
Output 4.1	Indicator 4.1.1					
	Indicator 4.1.2					
Output 4.2	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
Output 4.3	Indicator 4.3.1					
	Indicator 4.3.2					

PART 2: LESSONS LEARNED AND SUCCESS STORY

2.1 Lessons learned

Provide at least three key lessons learned from the implementation of the project. These can include lessons on the themes supported by the project or the project processes and management.

Lesson 1 *(1000 character limit)*	The sensitivities in involving and engaging young people in post-war areas were highlighted during each of the consultative sessions. Given numerous processes by Government, UN and Civil Society agencies, young people have communicated a certain level of frustration. Lessons learnt was to invest in better coordination and communication mechanisms and include key leaders from this community within all phases of the project in the future - preparation, implementation, M & E.
Lesson 2 *(1000 character limit)*	
Lesson 3 *(1000 character limit)*	
Lesson 4 *(1000 character limit)*	
Lesson 5 *(1000 character limit)*	

2.2 Success story (OPTIONAL)

Provide one success story from the project implementation which can be shared on the PBSO website and Newsletter as well as the Annual Report on Fund performance. Please include key facts and figures and any citations (3000 character limit).

PART 3 – FINANCIAL PROGRESS AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 Comments on the overall state of financial expenditure

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, slightly delayed, or off track: on track

If expenditure is delayed or off track, please provide a brief explanation (500 characters maximum):

Please provide an overview of expensed project budget by outcome and output as per the table below.[5]

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[5] Please note that financial information is preliminary pending submission of annual financial report to the Administrative Agent.

Output number	Output name	RUNOs	Approved budget	Expensed budget	Any remarks on expenditure
Outcome 1: Youth are actively and positively engaged in the peacebuilding process so that their voices are reflected in key policy and decision making processes and outcomes at the national and sub-national levels.					
Output 1.1	Increased capacity of youth-led and youth-focused organizations to engage in peacebuilding processes/ including UNSCR 2250	UNV UNFPA	USD 250,000 USD 236,000	8163.77	Expenditure reflects basic first steps being taken after UNV project team being recruited in October 2017
Output 1.2	Increased capacity of national, provincial and sub-national level institutions to engage youth in peacebuilding and linkages are created for policy-making and programming.	UNFPA UNV	USD 174,000 USD 50,000	USD 25,031	
Output 1.3					
Outcome 2: State decision-making processes are more equitable and inclusive to enable women's meaningful participation and leadership.					
Output 2.1	Increased capacity among select women political candidates and local leaders (women and men) to promote engagement of women in governance and peacebuilding	UN Women	USD 250,000	USD 98,077 (approximate)	Includes USD 75,000 as the first disbursement to CSO implementing partner due in November 2017.

	processes.				
Output 2.2	Increased capacity of national and sub-national institutions, including political parties, to ensure policies, plans, and budgets are gender-responsive.	UN Women	USD 200,000	0	
Output 2.3	Women leaders promote increased civic engagement on issues related to governance, reconciliation and TJ.	UN Women	USD 50,000	0	Activities scheduled for 2019.
Outcome 3:					
Output 3.1					
Output 3.2					
Output 3.3					
Outcome 4:					
Output 4.1					
Output 4.2					
Output 4.3					
Total:			1,210,000	108,771.77	

3.2   Comments on management and implementation arrangements

Please comment on the management and implementation arrangements for the project, such as: the effectiveness of the implementation partnerships, coordination/coherence with other projects, any South-South cooperation, the modalities of support, any capacity building aspect, the use of partner country systems if any, the support by the PBF Secretariat and oversight by the Joint Steering Committee (for PRF only). Please also mention if there have been any changes to the project (what kind and when); or whether any changes are envisaged in the near future (2000 character maximum):

During the reporting period, UNV implemented a global decision to nationalise its offices. this resulted in a leadership change in the UNV Sri Lanka field unit, where the Programme Officer post has been vacant since June 2017. This together with significant delays in recruitment of a national officer to lead the UNV Field Unit impacted the implementation of this project. Part of the UNV/PBF project team recruitment completed in October 2017, while

few posts remain to be filled before December 2017. Although this delayed a few initial activities, it is anticipated that the year end will be on target. A more coordinated approach between the three agencies and that of the wider UN Country Team is envisaged in the month ahead. Young leaders representing all stakeholders will be included within the M & E and implementation framework in the future.