

**SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND  
PROJECT DOCUMENT TEMPLATE**



United Nations  
Peacebuilding

**PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT**

<b>Country(ies):</b> Guinea-Bissau	
<b>Project Title:</b> Enhancing the human rights protection system in Guinea-Bissau <b>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):</b>	
<b>PBF project modality:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IRF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRF	<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund (instead of into individual recipient agency accounts):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>
<b>List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed by type of organization (UN, CSO etc.):</b> United Nations Development Programme/UNDP (UN), United Nations Children's Fund/UNICEF (UN), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/OHCHR (UN)	
<b>List additional implementing partners, specify the type of organization (Government, INGO, local CSO):</b> Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (Government), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities (Government), Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity (Government), National People's Assembly (Government), Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights/LGDH (local CSO), Human Rights Defenders Network (local CSO), National Network for the Fight against Violence/RENLUV (local CSO), Coalition of Child Rights Organizations (CODEDIC), Children's Friends Association/AMIC (local CSO), Federation of people with disabilities (local CSO), and National Human Rights Institution (independent state institution).	
<b>Project duration in months<sup>1</sup>:</b> 36 months (estimated project start date is 10 december 2021) <b>Geographic zones (within the country) for project implementation:</b> National coverage	
<b>Does the project fall under one or more of the specific PBF priority windows below:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <sup>3</sup> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	

<sup>1</sup> Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months. Actual project start date is date of first transfer.

<sup>2</sup> Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Gender Promotion Initiative

<sup>3</sup> Check this box only if the project was approved under PBF's special call for proposals, the Youth Promotion Initiative

**Total PBF approved project budget\* (by recipient organization):**

UNDP: \$ 1,790,436.35

UNICEF: \$ 640,587.60

OHCHR: \$ 912,325.87

Total: USD 3,343,349.82

*\*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. In addition for payment of the second tranche, the project will need to submit a finalized M&E Plan, with collected baselines, and a Sustainability/Exit Strategy.*

Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source):

<b>PBF 1<sup>st</sup> tranche (30%):</b>	<b>PBF 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche (40%):</b>	<b>PBF 3<sup>rd</sup> tranche (30%):</b>
UNDP: \$ 537,130.91	UNDP: \$ 716,174.54	UNDP: \$ 537,130.91
UNICEF: \$ 192,176.28	UNICEF: \$ 256,235.04	UNICEF: \$ 192,176.28
OHCHR: \$ 273,697.76	OHCHR: \$ 364,930.35	OHCHR: \$ 273,697.76
Total: \$ 1,003,004.95	Total: \$ 1,337,339.93	Total: \$ 1,003,004.95

**Provide a brief project description (describe the main project goal; do not list outcomes and outputs):**

In Guinea-Bissau, despite fundamental political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights being guaranteed by the Constitution, enjoyment of human rights remains a challenge for the population. In the past, human rights violations have been both the cause and consequence of conflict. Today, the potential for human rights violations to trigger conflict remains real. The project intends to enhance the individual and institutional level capacity of both duty-bearers and rights-holders, in human rights as an essential foundation to build a resilient, peaceful, inclusive and just society. It seeks to do so with full respect for national ownership, by involving both state and non-state actors thus also facilitating dialogue and trust. The project focuses on strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights' systems to sustain peace by establishing an independent national human rights institution, supporting the implementation of the national human rights action plan, engaging with treaty bodies and other human rights mechanisms, supporting human rights civil society organizations and defenders for monitoring and early warning. The project expects to achieve this objective by boosting individual and institutional capacities of both duty-bearers and rights-holders to address human rights challenges identified as structural conflict drivers.

**Summarize the in-country project consultation process prior to submission to PBSO, including with the PBF Steering Committee, civil society (including any women and youth organizations) and stakeholder communities (including women, youth and marginalized groups):**

The promotion and protection of human rights, including the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) and the adoption of a national human rights action plan, is one of the eight peacebuilding priorities identified in the UN conflict analysis, validated by the Government in November 2020. It was highlighted as a priority in consultations with both State and non-State institutions.

The PBF Joint Steering Committee for Guinea-Bissau was recently reactivated in Guinea-Bissau.

During its first meeting (in July 2021) it defined the main priorities for a new round of PBF support. Again, promotion and protection of human rights, including reporting to UN human rights treaty bodies, were among the priorities identified.

The project has been developed following consultations with national authorities, namely the Ministry of Justice, the National Human Rights Commission (currently under the former) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, Members of the National People's Assembly, and with local civil society organizations active in the whole country on the promotion and protection of human rights. The CSOs consulted included the following: the Bissau-Guinean Human Rights League, Human Rights Defenders Network, National Network for the Fight Against Gender and Child-Based Violence (RENLUV), Children's Friends Association (AMIC), Coligação das Organizações dos direitos das Crianças (CODEDIC) and Casa dos Direitos.

The consultation with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights confirmed the commitment to support the transformation of the National Human Rights Commission into a genuinely independent national human rights institution (NHRI), in line with the Paris Principles. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights asked for assistance to implement the national human rights action plan currently being elaborated (with the involvement of the current National Human Rights Commission, operating under the Ministry of Justice). Consultations with the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity, through the Woman and Child Institute (IMC), recognized the need to enhance child rights promotion with more significant participation of children and adolescents, and to improve referral and case management mechanisms to address violence against children and women. CSOs welcomed more support to ensure they could step up their monitoring/reporting efforts, as well as to strengthen protection of human rights defenders, in a context which they described as "shrinking democratic space". All stakeholders acknowledged the importance of Guinea-Bissau engaging with UN human rights mechanisms, in particular, by submitting long overdue reports to treaty bodies.

**Project Gender Marker score<sup>4</sup>: 2**

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

The project allocates 50% of the funds in activities that support gender equality and women's empowerment, especially with regards to girls and women's rights.

**Briefly explain through which major intervention(s) the project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment <sup>5</sup>:**

While enhancing the overall promotion and protection system of human rights, the project will address rooted discriminations against and violations of girls and women's human rights. The mandate of the new NHRI should include the promotion and protection of women rights and gender equality. Capacity-building of its members will also pay particular attention to these issues. Gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE) is expected to be a vital feature of the national human rights action plan that the project is planning to support in its finalization and implementation. Gender considerations will be mainstreamed throughout the preparations of reports to treaty bodies. Support to civil society organizations, including women's rights organizations, will promote gender

<sup>4</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 between 30 and 79% 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>5</sup> Please consult the PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Calculations and Gender-responsive Peacebuilding

equality and contribute to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women.	
<b>Project Risk Marker score<sup>6</sup>: 1</b>	
<b>Select PBF Focus Areas</b> which best summarizes the focus of the project ( <i>select ONLY one</i> ) <sup>7</sup> : 1.2 Rule of law  If applicable, UNSDCF (2022-2026) <b>outcome(s)</b> to which the project contributes: Outcome 1: Transformational and inclusive governance encompassing respect for the rule of law and sustaining peace  <b>Sustainable Development Goal(s) and Target(s)</b> to which the project contributes: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16). Targets: 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (SDG 5). Targets: 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	
<b>Type of submission:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>New project</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Project amendment</b>	<b>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</b>  <b>Extension of duration:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months (number of months and new end date): <b>Change of project outcome/ scope:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Additional PBF budget:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX

<sup>6</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

<sup>7</sup> PBF Focus Areas are:

(1.1) SSR; (1.2) Rule of Law; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

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

(3.1) Employment; (3.2) Equitable access to social services

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

	<p><b>Brief justification for amendment:</b></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
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**PROJECT SIGNATURES:**

<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>8</sup></b></p> <p><i>Tjark Marien Egenhoff</i></p> <p>Signature   United Nations Development Programme  Date &amp; Seal 01/12/2021 </p>	<p><b>Representative of National Authorities</b></p> <p><i>Mamadou Ibra Djaló</i></p> <p>Signature   Minister of Justice and Human Rights  Date &amp; Seal</p>
<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>9</sup></b></p> <p><i>Etona Ekole</i></p> <p>Signature   United Nations Children's Fund  Date &amp; Seal </p>	<p><b>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</b></p> <p><i>Awa Dabo</i></p> <p>Signature   Deputy Head and Officer-in-Charge, Peacebuilding Support Office  Date &amp; Seal 8 December 2021</p>
<p><b>Recipient Organization(s)<sup>10</sup></b></p> <p><i>Eldon Pearce</i></p> <p>Signature   Chief a.i., Programme Support and Management Services  Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  Date &amp; Seal 2 December 2021 </p>	<p><b>Head of UN Country Team</b></p> <p><i>Jean Marie Kipela</i></p> <p>Signature   Resident Coordinator, a.i.  Date &amp; Seal 07/12/2021 </p>

<sup>8</sup> Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

<sup>9</sup> Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

<sup>10</sup> 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**

*Overall human rights context*

In Guinea-Bissau, despite fundamental political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights being guaranteed by the Constitution, the enjoyment of human rights remains a challenge for the large majority of the population. There has been little to no improvement since the last report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Guinea-Bissau to the Security Council (S/2020/755) prior to the closure of UNIOGBIS, in 2020, which had already noted an increase in human rights violations.

Insecurity and human rights abuses, notably against political opponents, continue to be a concern, with reports of arbitrary and illegal arrest and detention, deficits in access to justice and intimidation<sup>11</sup>. While the Constitution provides for freedom of the press, journalists regularly face harassment and intimidation, including pressure regarding their coverage from political figures and government officials, and social bloggers and activists are often targeted. Radio and television broadcasters have at times been occupied and closed, over the course of the past two years<sup>12</sup>.

The rights to association and peaceful assembly have often been suppressed too. Several demonstrations organized by political coalitions or social and youth movements, have been banned resorting to delaying tactics, the deployment of security forces or restrictive interpretations of the law<sup>13</sup>. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have denounced cases of violence against civilians by law enforcement agents and called the authorities to take appropriate measures, including penal and disciplinary measures to stop these abuses<sup>14</sup>.

The state of emergency, while deemed necessary to curb the spread of COVID-19, constrained and restricted civil liberties and provided an enabling environment for abuses.

Large parts of the population continue to face profound challenges when it comes to economic, social and cultural rights, including the rights to adequate food, adequate housing, education, health, social security, water and sanitation and work. Significant parts of the population, mainly the poor and illiterate and particularly women and children, find great difficulty to access public services, in particular, education and health.

The right to education is affected by the lack of investment in the public sector. Public schools were closed for much of 2018 and 2019 due to ongoing teachers' strikes, and in 2020 also because of COVID-19 restrictions. Not only is the education system poor in terms of access, quality and basic resources, but frequent teachers' strikes pose a severe limitation to the right to education.

Enjoyment of the right to health also remains strongly limited as the healthcare system remains extremely weak, due to lack of planning and investment, and is under severe pressure from the

<sup>11</sup> SG Report on the activities of UNOWAS, S/2020/1293

<sup>12</sup> In July 2020, for instance, armed men smashed equipment and vandalized the property of the privately owned Radio Capital FM station, temporarily silencing the broadcaster. Before the July attack, the station, which had received threats for years, was warned to stop a talk program in which listeners called in to express their opinions. Recently, several bloggers have been abducted and assaulted.

<sup>13</sup> In October 2021 several nurses' Union leaders were briefly arrested following a strike in the health sector

<sup>14</sup> See for instance the press release of the civil society consultation space on 26 October 2021 (<http://www.lgdh.org/2021/10/espaco-de-concertacao-das-organizacoes.html?m=0>)

pandemic. Healthcare personnel often resort to strikes to claim their rights which results in the paralysis of the healthcare system with severe consequences<sup>15</sup>. Recently, as of September 2021, multiple strikes of healthcare professionals led to the complete shutdown of healthcare provision, resulting in a number of deaths. At the same time, unionists demonstrating on those strikes were detained, limiting their right to peaceful assembly.

Women and children, including those living in remote and poorest areas, are particularly affected. Historically, women have been excluded from participation in public life and have faced significant societal discrimination and traditional biases, despite having some legal protections. They generally assume the burden of the care economy and have fewer opportunities for education and employment. More specifically women and girls are often victims of human rights violations such as widespread patterns of domestic violence; sexual and gender-based violence; female genital mutilation; forced marriage; and teenage pregnancy, attributed in some instances to rape, early or forced marriage and human trafficking. Furthermore, women have particularly faced the brunt of impunity, with regard to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and domestic violence as the traditional justice system which is more present though the country perpetuates the belief that women have fewer rights than men.

Bissau-Guinean children remain vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation that occurs, very often, in the household, community and schools. With the weak formal education system many children, particularly boys, are led to attend Koranic School and are subject to begging to provide for their daily life and for the teachers. Young girls particularly in rural areas are subject to early forced marriage. There are also concerns related to child sexual exploitation linked to tourism in the archipelago. The country has not been able to implement and effectuate the child protection system due to the lack of implementation of existing legislation and policies and the absence of a clear case management and child protection data collection systems, among others. Although gaps remain in policies and legislation on children rights, including legislation on protecting children from all forms of violence in all settings, the government and partners have made substantial efforts in the past two years by developing a comprehensive child protection policy (2019) and child protection code (2020), which have defined mandates and responsibilities of child protection stakeholders in prevention and response to violence, abuse, and exploitation of children.

High levels of SGBV in the society and feeble response to prevent and address cases by the judicial sector, traditional justice, and protection service providers, increase lack of trust (including interpersonal trust), frustration, and disappointment by GBV survivors and families. From 2019 to 2020, 114 cases of sexual violence cases against girls occurred and were recorded and followed up, mainly in rural areas, where mental health and psychosocial support continue to be neglected by health and protection services and by community mechanisms for conflict resolutions. Low participation of women and girls in conflict resolutions at community level, especially GBV cases, remain a constraint to address GBV, where mechanisms in place are led by men and, in many cases, reparations are not human rights based.

The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened an already grim situation. Emergency measures taken by the government to limit the spread of the virus involved restrictions on the rights of freedom of expression and of peaceful assembly and the free movement of people, goods and services. CSOs, including women's groups, have raised concerns on how the closure of the markets and small businesses negatively impacted the economy. These restrictions have had serious consequences for the enjoyment of other human rights. Loss of life and livelihood, disruption of education and health

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<sup>15</sup> In September 2021, the nurses' union reported that more than 30 people had died because of a health workers' strike.

services, shrinking of civic space and increased violence – particularly violence against women and other vulnerable groups – have undermined the human rights and dignity of many Bissau-Guineans.

CSOs remain particularly weak and struggle to operate in and cover the whole country. The National Network of Human Rights Defenders (RNDDH), initially with the support of UNIOGBIS and now of UNDP, has been establishing at regional level networks of human rights defenders composed by representatives of human rights organizations, such as the Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights, the Observatory on Human Rights, as well as local organizations, which defend the rights of the most disadvantaged people, especially women, people with disabilities, children and youth. Currently, the RNDDH is working towards the strengthening of the networks by selecting and empowering activists and organizations, supporting their connection and raising awareness on human rights issues among rights holders. In 2020, the RNDDH has also carried out a nationwide survey, identified additional human rights activists within the country, trained them on human rights protection, and supported the set-up of local structures involving activists from all existing organizations, based on the principle of diversity, inclusion, equality and specialty.

The Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights, with UNDP and UNODC's support, operates regional cells throughout the country that seek to engage local authorities in response to (real or imminent) human rights violations. While activists have been identified, the capacities of the regional cells to operate are weak both at the institutional and individual level. Often the cells do not even have the means to communicate with other regions and the capital, nor have the means to move in order to cover the entire region they should be supposed to be monitoring and reporting on.

In order to capitalise on this initial effort by the Network and the various human rights organizations such as the League, it is required to enhance their capacities to act as an early warning mechanism for human rights violation and crisis prevention. Considering that some human rights violations are potential triggers of conflict, and the associated risks of Guinea-Bissau relapsing into conflict, the country would benefit from the establishment of a sustainable system to monitor selected human rights violations for the purpose of early warning and conflict prevention. The capacities should be enhanced to collect and analyse information in relation to specific human rights violations, which will be identified as triggers for conflicts and reprisals as part of an early warning mechanism. Similarly, capacities should be strengthened for the human-rights organizations to be able to identify and recommend strategic options for preventive measures.

A definition of the role and functioning of the network vis a vis the member human rights organizations would also contribute to the improvement of the system to monitor the violations, ensure a proper protection system and act as early warning mechanism. In this regard, the project will consider how to support the clear definition of role and tasks of the network and its members.

At national level the Network will be expected to contribute to prevent and report on human rights violations in collaboration with the national authorities (NHRI, Government). In this perspective, the network will be consolidated with adequate structures and new intervention strategies (denunciations, referral and follow-up of cases) as well as collaboration with the local administrative authorities (traditional leaders, police, among others) and local CSOs.

Guinea-Bissau continues to face serious constraints to implement its human rights obligations and recommendations it received from UN human rights mechanisms, including the public commitments it made in the 3 cycles of the universal periodic review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council (2010, 2015 and 2020) and the recommendations it received from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Guinea-Bissau has also not been able to fulfill its reporting obligations to UN treaty bodies, having only reported to the Committee on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in 2009 and 2012, respectively. Reports are due to the to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (since 1994), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (since 2011), Human Rights Committee (on civil and political rights) (since 2012), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (since 2014), the Committee against Torture (since 2014), the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (since 2016) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (since 2019).

### *Conflict analysis*

The Conflict Analysis, which was carried out by the UN System in 2020 and validated by the Government in November 2020, identified human rights violations and lack of accountability and prosecution as one of the direct root causes and drivers of conflict. "Non-compliance with human rights standards, practices, and absence of a mechanism for the victims and witnesses of human rights violations to seek redress and protection" were considered proximate causes. Over the years, the lack of political will - and hence the absence of mechanisms to deal with serious crimes and human rights violations - has formed the basis of a widespread culture of impunity in Guinea-Bissau, which in turn damages social cohesion, fosters popular discontent and increases the danger of violent confrontation. The generalized lack of respect for the rule of law and violations of human rights and widespread impunity were identified among key drivers of instability in Guinea-Bissau.

The Conflict Analysis highlights the consequences of instability and its impact on the most vulnerable groups of society, namely, women, children, and young people, by aggravating inequalities and consequently "cutting back investments in the human capital of children". The vulnerability of families and communities to cope with shocks, impacts on young people's aspirations. Young women and men are relegated to the informal economy, dropping school to assist their family's income. Girls are the most affected, especially in rural areas, where choices to continue school are limited and, in most cases, they face forced and child marriages.

This assessment remains valid given that the human rights situation has deteriorated (ref. to previous section). For instance, the interference in the enjoyment of the right to peaceful assembly, de facto banning demonstrations organised by political coalitions or social and youth movements, increase distrust and tension between State institutions and citizens. Similarly, the use of violence to solve conflicts, stemming from the limited capacity of the justice system to solve disputes further erodes social cohesion and can result in violent conflicts between communities. Overall, the limited compliance with human rights norms and no functioning mechanism for victims and witnesses of human rights violations to seek remedy and protection contribute to a perception of impunity, undermining the social contract and preventing the development of sustainable peace.

The Conflict Analysis identified peacebuilding entry points, including the followings that are particularly relevant for this project:

- To support the development of a national policy against impunity and national action plan on human rights;
- To strengthen the Human Rights Protection System and the National Human Rights Institution in line with international standards;
- To support civil society actors to establish early-warning and effective coordination mechanisms to improve their capacity to advocate for human rights.

More specifically, the Conflict Analysis identified eight peacebuilding priorities: among others, the *Priority 5: Strengthen judicial capacity and the national human rights protection system to effectively address impunity, promote and protect human rights, including through the adoption of a national policy on human rights, a strategic plan to combat impunity, the adoption of human rights responsive legislation and the establishment of a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles by providing technical assistance to state institutions to implement the reforms, and support the government to ratify the international human rights treaties.*

The Conflict Analysis also identified **stakeholders and peacebuilding capacities**, namely civil society and NGOs, traditional power and religious leaders, media, private sector, political parties and state institutions. Of particular relevance to this project are civil society actors and state institutions.

The Conflict Analysis noted that a strong civil society, including **women's organizations**, had been gaining ground in the country. It observed that **civil society organizations (CSOs)** were taking a more prominent stance [1] in advocating for the interests of the local population, environmental protection, and human rights. It also noted that **young and educated urban populations** were contributing to increasing public debate on good governance and political issues, demanding greater participation in political life and in decision-making for better basic service delivery to the population.

Concerning **women's participation**, the Conflict Analysis noted that it was greater in the field of civil society. At the political level, despite their recognized participation in the construction of the State (including during the National liberation struggle), women do not have a strong presence in national institutions, and in political decision-making. Women's participation is limited and conditioned by factors linked to culture and tradition, reinforced by values inculcated through education from a young age.

The Conflict Analysis reviewed the peace capacities of several state institutions. It noted that the justice system in effect underscored the **inability of the State to promote and protect human rights**. It nevertheless concluded that "it is feasible to create the conditions [2] to broaden the political space to enhance the participation of women and youth, strengthen the independence of the judiciary, and the protection of human rights."

b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**<sup>16</sup>, how it ensures **national ownership**. If this project is designed in a PRF country, describe how the main objective advances a relevant strategic objective identified through the Eligibility Process.

This project will support Guinea-Bissau's efforts to uphold its human rights obligations as enshrined in the **Constitution** (Chapter II on "Fundamental Rights, Freedoms, Guarantees and Duties") and in the international human rights treaties it has ratified, as it ultimately aims at improving enjoyment of all human rights by all, as a prerequisite for sustaining peace.

The proposal is aligned with national priorities, as defined in the **2020-2023 Programme of the Government of Guinea-Bissau**, which includes four objectives, among them, to contribute to peace and social cohesion through, inter alia, the protection of fundamental rights. In particular, it is

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<sup>16</sup> Including national gender and youth strategies and commitments, such as a National Action Plan of 1325, a National Youth Policy etc..

aligned with the intention by the government to strengthen the institutional capacity to promote and to protect human rights and gender equality.

Alignment can also be found with **other national strategic frameworks** such as the Justice Sector Priority Plan, the National Policy and Action Plan for Gender Equality and Equity, the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Resolution 1325, (2020) the National Youth Policy, the National Child Protection Policy and its Plan of Action and the Child Protection Code.

The project will also support the implementation of **recommendations made by the universal periodic review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council** and other human rights mechanisms such as the CRC and the CEDAW Committees. In the context of the UPR only, Guinea-Bissau committed to establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, to develop a national human rights action plan and to submit overdue reports to treaty bodies.

The project is aligned to one of the peacebuilding priorities identified in the **UN Conflict Analysis document** that was validated by the Government in November 2020, that reads: Strengthen judicial capacity and the **national human rights protection system** to effectively address impunity, promote and protect human rights, including through the adoption of a **national policy on human rights**, a strategic plan to combat impunity, the adoption of human rights responsive legislation and the establishment of a **national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles** by providing technical assistance to state institutions to implement the reforms, and support the government to ratify the **international human rights treaties**.

The importance of human rights promotion and protection for an improved rule of law and justice system has been identified as one of the priority areas in the Capacity Assessment carried out in the context of the UN transition (2019-2020) and later in the UN Common Country Assessment (2020). The eight peacebuilding priorities served as a basis for the elaboration of the recently adopted **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022-2026)**. This project, in particular, contributes to Outcome 1 related to "Transformational and inclusive governance encompassing respect for the rule of law and sustaining peace", in particular to Output 1.4 - Access to quality justice services, especially for vulnerable people, and the promotion and protection of human rights and gender equality are enhanced.

More broadly, the project will support implementation of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** which seeks to "realize the human rights of all" (preamble). It will directly contribute to the implementation of SDG 16 as an enabler for the whole 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in part also to SDG 5 on gender equality, by promoting girls and women's rights and monitoring discrimination and violence against women and girls.

The project is also aligned with the **UN Sustaining Peace Agenda**, as spelled out in twin resolutions A/RES/70/262 and S/RES/ 2282, which emphasized "the importance of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, particularly through the prevention of conflict and addressing its root causes (...) including through (...) accountable institutions, gender equality and respect for, and protection of, human rights and fundamental freedoms." Because this project is funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund and supports the implementation of various UPR recommendations, it also has the potential to encourage Member States participating in the next universal periodic review of Guinea-Bissau to consider the human rights dimensions of peacebuilding, as requested in paragraph 11.

In particular, the project is fully aligned with the **PBF strategy (2020-2024)** according to which the fund is to "Act as a catalyst for integrated approaches to support the Secretary-General's vision on

reorienting the UN's work around prevention, and to contribute to balanced approaches across peace, development, human rights and security.”

Finally, the project is also aligned with the **UN Secretary General Call to Action for Human Rights**. Of particular relevance are the pledges to “increase our support to Member States, including through enhanced capacity-building efforts to national and regional human rights institutions and mechanisms” and to “support Member States and other stakeholders in making better use of the Universal Periodic Review outcomes, as well as of reports of the treaty bodies in national development planning, and in follow-up and reporting”.

b) A brief explanation of how the project fills any strategic gaps and complements any other relevant interventions, PBF funded or otherwise. Also provide a brief **summary of existing interventions** in the proposal's sector by filling out the table below.

The project addresses several strategic gaps left by the closure of UNIOGBIS on 31 December 2020, while expanding on the support provided by UN AFPs, including through past PBF projects.

Over the years, the UN and other international development partners have provided support to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights in Guinea-Bissau, specifically by enhancing the capacities of rights-holders and duty-bearers. The work carried out by the **UN special political mission over the past 20 years, through their human rights sections (including OHCHR)** in particular, laid the ground for various efforts that this project seeks to continue. For example, UNIOGBIS and its previous iteration (UNIOBIS) deployed significant efforts to advocate for the establishment of a genuinely independent human rights institution. Such efforts were, however, compromised by lack of political will and persistent political instability. UNIOGBIS also assisted Guinea-Bissau to report to the UPR, and was behind the creation of the Network of Human Rights Defenders, among others.

More recently, in order to fill the gap left by the closure of UNIOGBIS, the UNDP, through the **UNDP Global Programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development**, and in collaboration with OHCHR, started supporting with seed funds only the transformation of the existing National Human Rights Commission into a genuinely national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles. The project, which will end in December 2021, is serving to quick-start a process that this PBF project will support. Similarly, this UNDP project is also supporting the development of a national human rights action plan, and providing support to the Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights and the Human Rights Defenders Network. The PBF project will capitalize on these initial efforts, the space for dialogue created by this small project, and take advantage of the current political interest to expand this effort and possibly materialize the enhancement of a human rights protection system, in line with international standards.

UNICEF is currently supporting the government and civil society organizations to design and implement a functional referral and case management system as well as improve the information management system **to address violence, abuse, and exploitation against children**. The project will support major steps of this work. It will also strengthen capacity development of child rights stakeholders to monitor progress towards the realization of child rights, including national reporting to human rights treaty bodies and commissions, and increase awareness of right holders, especially children and adolescents, on the rights of the child. The new NHRI will be inclusive of child rights as per the latest recommendation from the CRC Committee, where it is urged that this institution “should

have a mechanism accessible to children and be provided with an adequate mandate as well as human, technical and financial resources to receive, monitor and investigate complaints from or on behalf of children on violations of their rights and recommend remedies”.

The project also builds on the **activities carried out in the framework of other PBF projects** such as the project “Supporting political and institutional stabilization of the justice sector for peace consolidation” (UNDP and UNICEF, 2017-2020) and the project “Political dialogue and stabilization through confidence building measures” (UNDP, UNFPA and WFP, 2020-2021). The first provided substantial support to harmonize national legislation on child rights and supported the development of a new Integrated Child Protection Code. The second supports the civil society organizations in the implementation of the Common Agenda for Peace and Development, which includes human rights as a key component.

The project will capitalize on partnerships with local civil society organizations that over the years the UNDP, UNICEF and UNIOGBIS/OHCHR, have been nurturing, including with the Bissau-Guinean League for Human Rights, AMIC, OGD, six NGOs members of the National Committee for the Abandonment of Harmful Practices, CODEDIC, as well as the support to RENLUV and the Human Rights Defenders Network.

Brief on ongoing interventions related to this project:

Project name (duration)	Donor and budget	Project focus	Difference from/ complementarity to current proposal
Strengthening Human Rights Systems for Sustaining Peace in Guinea Bissau (2021)	UNDP/The Netherlands, \$100,000 USD	Strengthening of national capacities to uphold and promote Human Rights	The project will capitalize on the work initiated in 2021 by this project.
Rule of Law and Justice (2017-2021)	UNDP, AfDB +/- \$10,000,000 USD	Strengthening of the institutional and human capacity of the rule of law and justice sector, contributing to its modernization and reform.	The project focuses on the enhancement of the justice sector, including the improvement of access to justice. This PBF project will ensure the link to this effort through the implementation of the HR plan.
Strengthening the justice and security sector response to drug trafficking and transnational organized crime to reduce insecurity in Guinea-Bissau (2020-2021)	PBF, \$2,000,900 USD	Strengthening the justice and security sector response to drug trafficking and transnational organized crime to reduce insecurity in Guinea-Bissau	The project mainly focuses on the strengthening of the state response to counter the traffic of drugs and other transnational organised crimes.
Civil Society	UNDP, Global Initiative	Civil society engagement	The project supports

Observatory of the Illicit Economy (2020-2022)	against Transnational Organized Crime, Government of United Kingdom \$700,000 USD	and monitoring on the impact of transnational organized crime and the illicit economy in communities	local civil society organizations in analysing the impact of the illicit economies in communities. While it also considers the link between illicit economies and violation of human rights, the project does not foresee the enhancement of the human-rights system.
Child Protection System Strengthening (2020-2022)	Thematic funds- UNICEF \$80,000 USD (remain for 2022)	Enhance Social Service workforce in referral and case management and improve data gathering on violence against children and GBV.	The current project proposal will ensure that government and CSOs working on the prevention and response to violence against children will jointly develop a clear referral and case management strategy and SOPs to refer and address child rights violations that cause community and family conflicts and are feebly addressed by both traditional and formal justice systems.
GBV prevention and response during covid-19 (2021)	Flexible Covid-19 funds \$68,000 USD	Strengthen digital platforms to increase adolescent girls' access to information on GBV prevention and referrals as well as anonymous reporting.  Develop a pilot to improve GBV data gathering and management, through ICT tools in target areas.	The project proposal will complement the current pilot intervention and ensure the expansion of interventions by involving a larger number of human rights actors, using innovative solutions to reach adolescents and young women.
Strengthen national policy and legal frameworks in line with Child rights instruments. (2018-2021)	Non-Grant Thematic funds- PBF 140,000 USD	In line with CRC country recommendations, develop a clear child protection policy and child protection code,	The proposed project will ensure dissemination of the Child Protection Code, including through a set of training packages and

		fully harmonized with the CRC and other relevant child rights instruments ratified by Guinea-Bissau.	awareness tools targeting different audiences, including communities and young people. Likewise, the proposed project will increase awareness of young people on the rights of the child through different approaches where children will be key actors.
Deployment of UN Senior Human Rights Advisor	Multi-Donor Trust Fund to support the implementation of the 2012 undg strategy for the deployment of new human rights advisers.	Support to RC and UNCT, as well as other stakeholders, with a focus on conflict prevention and human rights-based approach to development cooperation.	The SHRA is first and foremost deployed to support the RC and UNCT, while the current proposal seeks to directly support rights-holders and duty-bearers. The potential for complementarity is huge, as the project addresses key human rights challenges.
PAPEV (OHCHR WARO)	3 500 000 USD for a project 2018-2022. 182 000 USD budget for staffing and activities in Guinea Bissau. 5 000 000 USD for second phase is under approval.	Senegal, Niger, Mali, GB, Guinee, Gambia.	The PAPEV project focuses on children rights (in particular the situation of <i>talibé</i> children). The PBF project can build on results achieved and relationships developed with certain actors, both rights-holders and duty-bearers.
TBCB Programme (OHCHR WARO)	Staffing and USD 40 000 for activities in the region.	Western Africa.	This project will benefit from the support of the TBCB Programme in terms of technical advise, training materials, etc. It should also facilitate sharing of experiences.

Emergency Response Team	Staffing and USD 30 000 for activities in the region.	Western Africa	This project will cooperate with the ERT of OHCHR WARO to benefit from experience and lessons learned in other countries.
OHCHR Regional Office for Western Africa	USD 140 000, core budget for 2021	Western Africa	OHCHR WARO includes regional expertise such as a regional women rights advisor, who can also be a resource person for this project.

## II. Project content, strategic justification and implementation strategy (4 pages max Plus Results Framework Annex)

### a) A brief description of the project focus and approach

The project addresses several peacebuilding challenges identified in the UN Conflict Analysis document and other assessments of the situation in Guinea Bissau in the context of the UN transition. Its **overarching goal** is to strengthen key elements of the national system to promote and protect human rights so that the State can more effectively address violations and abuses with a focus on those that might trigger conflict and that particularly affect the confidence between the population and the State. It does so by engaging both the “demand” and “supply” sides of the equation, thus avoiding the pitfall of supporting only right-holders or duty-bearers, in line with a human rights-based approach that postulates that capacities of both types of stakeholders should be strengthened.

The project will build on past efforts - including the existing National Human Rights Commission - to support the establishment of an **independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Peacebuilding Priority 5)**. In the past, efforts supported by UNIOGBIS did not result in the creation of an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles. However, advocacy by UN human rights mechanisms, including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, have continued. The current collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, led by the UNDP in collaboration with OHCHR, has opened up opportunities to move in this direction, even if a stronger engagement by the National People's Assembly and a transparent, inclusive and participatory process, involving relevant stakeholders, is still required.

The establishment of a NHRI will bear in mind the vital role that such an institution can play in sustaining peace, namely by promoting the establishment of peacebuilding mechanisms among representative communities; and by encouraging efforts to deal with underlying human rights issues that may be at the root of the conflict. The implementation strategy will also focus on the process (as important as the outcome) to ensure that it is transparent, inclusive and participatory. Establishing the NHRI should provide a platform for dialogue and trust-building between stakeholders, which should continue once the institution is created.

The project will also engage existing national institutions, namely the judiciary and other governmental institutions, such as the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Woman, Family and Social Solidarity, through the Woman and Child Institute, with a responsibility to implement various commitments enshrined in the **National Human Rights Action Plan (Peacebuilding Priority 5)** currently in the making. The rationale is that, as the population is more aware of its rights, and civil society organizations effectively channel their grievances, the "supply" side is equipped with stronger institutions to respond to such claims. It will be the first national human rights strategy that the country will adopt and, as such, it can launch a national debate on human rights and once again facilitate dialogue between stakeholders.

Through supporting the preparation of **reports to various treaty bodies (Peacebuilding Priority 5)** the project engages right-holders and duty bearers simultaneously, as it will support the Government to fulfill its reporting obligations while, at the same time, encouraging and facilitating the participation of civil society organizations, including children and young people (through the participation of child organizations, such as the National Child Parliament, Child and Young Journalists, among others in consultations on the national reports and the preparation of alternative reports, as well as in the follow up on the implementation of recommendation). This component of the project will not only strengthen the capacity of stakeholders, it should also facilitate dialogue and cooperation between various actors. As such it will also contribute to addressing the challenge of lack of trust and dialogue diagnosed in the Conflict Analysis.

Guinea-Bissau's civil society, including peacebuilding and human rights organizations, has been developed over the years, with international support including from UNIOGBIS. The project will continue to **support human rights non-governmental and civil society organizations**, raising the challenge to the next level, by establishing an early warning mechanism. The mechanism would facilitate the identification of possible violations in relation to triggers specific to the locality, and alert CSOs and project partners about the possibility of violations or reprisals. This would ensure that CSOs and project partners can support appropriate early, concrete preventive action that would diffuse tensions and build a more cohesive society. An early identification of possible violations of rights will also facilitate coordinated action to prevent violations and limit the escalation into conflicts.

Support to civil society organizations involved in human rights work cannot overlook **protection of human rights defenders** themselves. This approach has become all the more urgent for Guinea-Bissau where incidents of threats or actual attacks on human rights defenders (including child rights defenders involved in serious cases of child marriage, female genital mutilations, sexual crimes, and children accused of witchcrafts) have been recorded in recent years. Prior to its closure, UNIOGBIS (OHCHR) supported the drafting of a law to protect human rights defenders, which has yet to be approved. It was also behind the establishment of the Human Rights Defenders Network, with the main goal of protecting human rights defenders themselves. The Network needs support to fulfill its potential.

*How is the project gender and age responsive?*

As noted in the Conflict Analysis, civil society, including organizations representing children, youth and women, has been increasingly vocal in denouncing human rights violations, including violations that have taken place or were exacerbated in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (such as violations of the rights to education, health, protection and an adequate standard of living) and that have particularly affected children, women and youth.

**The voices of children, youth and women will be guaranteed throughout the process of establishing a national human rights institution** (first component) as it should be transparent, inclusive and participatory. The institution should also include a solid mandate to promote and protect the rights of children and women since both groups should be paramount “clients”. Indeed, it should be recalled that roughly half the population is under 18 years old and half the population is estimated to be female. If a collective model of an institution (such as the National Human Rights Commission) is adopted, its composition should also strive for gender parity. Gender parity should be guaranteed by its founding statute.

The second component of the project will support the implementation of the first national human rights action plan. In prioritizing commitments to be supported under this strategic plan, **special consideration will be given to those that will benefit children and women’s rights and gender equality**, given Guinea-Bissau’s population profile and the particular burden borne by these groups, which the Covid-19 pandemic aggravated.

**The situation of children and women should be mainstreamed throughout reports to other treaty bodies** (beyond the CRC and CEDAW), the preparation of which this project will support. National institutions will be encouraged to provide, as much as possible, gender-disaggregated data. In doing so, the project will support implementation of a recommendation by the CEDAW which called on Guinea-Bissau “to give priority to the systematic collection of comprehensive data disaggregated by sex and measurable indicators to assess trends in the situation of women and the progress towards de facto equality”.

Young people can increasingly be found among human rights activists. Bissau-Guinean female human rights defenders can also be found working on various organizations from those with a broad mandate such as the Liga to those focusing on girls and women rights. Again, activities to support civil society organizations should systematically encourage the **participation of youth, children and female defenders**. Support for the Rede will consider the actual or potential challenges faced by female human rights defenders, including girls that are actively involved in SGBV.

b) Provide a **project-level ‘theory of change’** – explain the assumptions about why you expect the project interventions to lead to changes in the conflict factors identified in the conflict analysis. What are the assumptions that the theory is based on? Note, this is not a summary statement of your project’s outcomes.

The theory of change underpinning the project is built on the assumptions that:

*Firstly*, to build inclusive and peaceful societies, all human beings should live **in dignity and without discrimination**, based on race, sex, language or religion, and have equal access to opportunities;

*Secondly*, the promotion and protection of human rights are a **prerequisite for conflict prevention and peacebuilding** as they cement the bond between individuals, between citizens and state institutions and promote peaceful coexistence;

*Thirdly*, positive change in the field of human rights can only be achieved through strengthening the capacities of **both duty-bearers and right-holders** (“supply” and “demand”);

*Fourthly*, change, particularly in human rights and peacebuilding, is a **non-linear and highly dynamic process**.

Therefore, one cannot predict or control peacebuilding outcomes by simply applying the laws of cause and effect.

The project's theory of change states that by enhancing the individual and institutional level capacities of non-governmental organizations and state institutions to promote and protect human rights in a fragile context like Guinea-Bissau, **rights-holders will be able to claim their rights and duty-bearers to comply with their obligations**, more effectively.

It expects that right-holders can claim their rights and more effectively protect themselves from violence, abuse and reprisals, all stakeholders will contribute to **conflict prevention, peacebuilding and other violence reduction processes**, by engaging duty bearers in the fulfillment of their human rights obligations, and by supporting civil society, in particular youth, women and children.

By supporting participatory processes in implementing the national human rights action plan, and by increasing the number and type of stakeholders engaged in the promotion, protection and fulfillment of human rights, the project will **increase awareness on human rights, facilitate dialogue and build trust**.

By supporting the establishment of a truly independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, Guinea-Bissau will be equipped with **an institution that plays a crucial role in a sound national human rights architecture**, most importantly, one that can facilitate dialogue between rights holders and duty bearers, enhancing the social contract.

By strengthening Guinea-Bissau's engagement with UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies, **awareness on the state's international human rights obligations, dialogue between stakeholders on human rights issues, and state institutions' accountability** will increase. Furthermore, Guinea-Bissau will receive expert guidance in recommendations, to inform future work on human rights.

By monitoring human rights violations, especially those that can trigger conflict, civil society organizations will contribute to early warning, allowing through their information-sharing and advocacy with state institutions for **human rights violations and abuses to be prevented or addressed promptly**.

Connecting the promotion and protection of human rights with the sustaining peace agenda offers a unique, strategic entry point to help diminish grievances and build trust between state and citizens, thus reducing the risk of further instability and the country relapsing into conflict.

c) **Provide a narrative description of key project components** (outcomes and outputs), ensuring sufficient attention to gender, age and other key differences that should influence the project approach. In describing the project elements, be sure to indicate important considerations related to sequencing of activities.

**Use Annex C to list all outcomes, outputs, and indicators.**

**Outcome 1: The national system for promoting and protecting human rights in Guinea-Bissau more effectively protects human rights and addresses human rights challenges**

The project aims to strengthen the national system for promoting and protecting human rights in Guinea-Bissau, to effectively address several human rights challenges that can endanger peacebuilding. The project aims to enhance the capacity of the state to respect, protect and fulfill its human rights obligations. It also aims at empowering rights-holders to claim their human rights and contribute with solutions.

**Output 1.1: Improved national capacities to establish and operationalise National Human Right Institution, in line with the Paris Principles**

The project will initially accompany the process of transforming the National Human Rights Commission into a legally based independent National Human Rights Institution, in full compliance with the Paris Principles, through a process involving all relevant national stakeholders. It will do so by raising awareness on the role of NRHIs for the protection and promotion of human rights, including in peacebuilding contexts (A.1.1.1) and by supporting a transparent, inclusive and participatory selection process of the members of the NHRI, based on the principles of fairness, integrity and gender parity (A.1.1.2). Once the selection process is completed and the institution created, the project will equip NHRI members and staff with knowledge, skills and tools to operate, through technical assistance and capacity development, including on gender equality and the rights of women and children (A.1.1.3). It will also ensure the elaboration of a strategic plan that will include the promotion of the new NHRI and resource mobilization (A.1.1.4). This support will be coupled with the provision of equipment and material to quickly start its functioning (A.1.1.5). While the project will only be able to support the creation and the initial set up of the NHRI, institutional human and technical capacities will be created for the NHRI to operate beyond the project's duration, tapping into existing opportunities for partnership and resource mobilization.

**Output 1.2: Strengthened national capacities to develop and implement a National Human Rights Action Plan.**

The project will support the finalization of a National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP), that the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights has started elaborating and for which an inclusive participation of stakeholders is required, including women, rural communities and young people (A.1.2.1). It will support the presentation and dissemination of the plan, while raising awareness of human rights commitments undertaken by Guinea-Bissau, with a specific focus on children, youth and women's rights and gender equality (A.1.2.2). The project will then support the plan's implementation, including monitoring by state institutions of human rights violations and abuses, among others of child and gender-sensitive cases, accountability of security forces, protection of journalists, among others. (A.1.2.3.) In particular, to strengthen the monitoring, referral and case management of critical women and child rights violations (including violence, abuse, child marriage, FGM, sexual violence and other gendered human rights abuses) the project will support the elaboration of a clear case management system, where the role of the justice sector (including the new social service workforce and prosecutors) to address women and child related cases will be enhanced. Target regions will test its implementation. (A.1.2.4). Under the NHRAP the project will also provide technical and financial support for the revision of parts of the human rights legal framework in line with international standards and the dissemination of new legislation, including relevant provisions to be considered in the context of the ongoing revision of the Constitution, the new Child Protection Integral Code, covering critical child rights violations, such as sexual violence, but also promoting restorative justice to handle cases of children and adolescents in conflict with the law (A.1.2.4). The project will support the implementation of other recommendations from the UPR and other human rights mechanisms as incorporated in the NHRAP (A.1.2.5).

**Output 1.3: Increased capacity of duty-bearers and right-holders to engage with UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies for increased State accountability for human rights protection**

The project will support engagement with UN human rights mechanisms, through advocacy and awareness-raising. Bearing in mind Guinea-Bissau's poor record of treaty body reporting, it will focus on strengthening the capacity of national actors to monitor and report on human rights obligations enshrined in UN human rights treaties ratified (A.1.3.1). This initiative will be followed by technical advice and support to be provided to individuals/working groups tasked to draft (initial and cumulative) state reports to the various treaty bodies, which should cover issues identified as critical for peacebuilding. (A.1.3.2). The project will facilitate inclusive and participatory consultations with civil society organizations, including CSOs working on peacebuilding, on draft state reports, supporting them to critically engage with state institutions on human rights issues (A.1.3.3.). Building on this experience the project will also support the engagement, coordination, consultation and information management capacities of a national mechanism for reporting, implementation and follow-up (A.1.3.4). The project will enhance the capacity of civil society actors to engage with UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies, by preparing their own reports and advocating for certain recommendations and pushing for greater state accountability and commitment (A.1.3.5). The project will also support UNCT's interaction with the UN human rights system, including treaty bodies, in line with the Secretary-General's Call to Action (A.1.3.6.).

**Output 1.4: Enhanced capacity of human rights organizations to monitor and report on human rights violations, including reprisals against human rights defenders, among others**

The project will enhance civil society organizations' capacity to promote and protect human rights, including child and women's rights and gender equality and also those rights of most direct relevance to peacebuilding and reduction of conflict potential. Women and youth organizations, and child-rights focused organizations will be prioritized, with appropriate mechanisms to promote women's rights, prevent and address GBV and child rights violations (A.1.4.1). The project will support selected human rights civil society organizations to be fully operational in Bissau and in the regions, including with the provision of transport and communication means (A.1.4.2). In particular, the project will build the capacities of human rights actors to monitor and report human rights violations and abuses for the purpose of early warning and conflict prevention. Community radios will be strengthened to play an important role in human rights awareness raising and become actors of conflict prevention. Advocacy to an increased response to prevent and address SGBV and gendered human rights abuse will be strongly promoted and capacity of girls and women rights defenders', to prevent and refer conflicts and violations strengthened. Country regions with high rates of SGBV and reported cases of sexual violence by SCOs will be targeted. (A.1.4.3) Support will be provided to establish an early warning mechanism, building on the work of existing regional cells. This mechanism will be developed in consultation with regional human rights organizations, including child-rights focused organizations and women and youth organizations, and will learn from regional experiences and other tools, developed and tested by ECOWAS and WANEP (A.1.4.4). The project will also support the development of skills and tools to enhance the protection of human rights defenders, in a context that could lead to shrinking democratic space and support the participation of human rights defenders to national fora in order to raise their profile (A.1.4.5).

**d) Project targeting**

The project ensures country-wide geographic coverage. While several activities target institutions and stakeholders located in the capital city of Bissau, the project intends to involve human rights **civil society organizations**, including women and young people's organizations/child-rights focused

organizations, located outside of the capital. Among others it will support human rights non-governmental organizations to function in all regions of the country. Support to civil society organizations will strengthen their presence in the regions, particularly their regional cells, which are often disconnected and isolated from the capital city.

Consultations related to establishing an **independent national human rights institution** will seek to facilitate the engagement of civil society organizations from the regions. Support for the implementation of the **national human rights action plan** will include activities in the various regions of the country. The preparation of **reports to treaty bodies** will also involve actors outside the capital Bissau.

The project will benefit a broad range of **beneficiaries**. Among duty-bearers, it will help public officials of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights as well as personnel of the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity, Institute of Women and Child and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which also were consulted for the project development.

Among right holders, it will support human rights defenders, both in the capital and in remote regions. It will directly support individual organizations, such as the Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights and National Network for the Fight against Violence (RENLUV), AMIC, as well as coalitions such as the Human Rights Defenders Network, the Coalition of Child Rights Organizations (CODEDIC), the National Child Parliament and the Child and Young Reporters network, which will ensure that the project reaches out a broad number of beneficiaries. The project will benefit children and women, through activities directly promoting or protecting their rights, and by encouraging female participation across activities. The sensitization of communities on human rights, including women's rights, will also seek to encourage male understanding and respect of women's rights, tapping into their agency to become champions of women's rights. It will also seek to consider the rights of people with disabilities and other groups at risk of marginalization, who are often victims of violence.

As part of the implementation of the national human rights action plan and the support to human rights organizations, the project will also seek to work with traditional and religious leaders in order to raise awareness and understanding of human rights. To note that this will be ensured in coordination with other interventions that UNDP is carrying out as part of its rule of law programming, promoting human rights and building linkages between traditional and formal justice mechanisms. The collaboration with media outlets, especially community radios, will ensure a wide outreach and sensitization of human rights standards and practices.

To note that for the development of the project, local human rights organizations, active in the whole country, even if with limited capacities, have been consulted with the aim of better understanding ongoing efforts and main challenges to be addressed. Similarly, all relevant state institutions have been consulted to ensure national ownership and the development of a project that fully responds to the current needs.

## **I. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)**

### **a) Recipient organizations and implementing partners**

UNDP supports human rights for development as part of its commitment to human development, sustaining peace and achieving the SDGs. Since 2009, UNDP has supported Guinea-Bissau in the rule of law, including with regards to the promotion and protection of human rights. The UNDP has supported the development and adoption of a National Justice Reform Programme for 2015-2019,

and since then, it has provided technical assistance for the implementation of the Justice Reform with the creation of a Reform Support Unit within the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. As PBF funding recipient since 2008, UNDP has helped design and implement several PBF funded projects covering thematic domains such as rule of law and justice, in particular access to justice for women, and strengthening of the justice and security sector. The in-house UNDP's Chief Technical Advisor for the Rule of Law, in coordination with the Head of the Governance cluster of UNDP, will devote a part of his time to provide overall guidance for the project's implementation. Additionally, an in-house programme analyst and a gender specialist of UNDP will contribute to the project to ensure gender-sensitive project implementation. The project will count on the wide UNDP Global Policy Network of experts, including a human rights expert for West Africa, based in Dakar, and multiple human rights and conflict prevention experts at regional and HQ level. UNDP will act as the convening organization for the project, ensuring overall coherence and coordination of the project.

UNICEF has the mandate to safeguard the rights of all children, everywhere. That mandate is rooted in the CRC Child (CRC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNICEF/Guinea-Bissau programme, strengthens the country's national child protection system, including laws, policies, regulations, services and capacity across relevant social sectors and informal systems. UNICEF promotes active stakeholder involvement in upstream support for adoption of a National Child Protection Policy and a Child Protection Code harmonized with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and aligned with the National Agenda for Children. UNICEF has led the support provided to the country's efforts to fulfil its obligation under the CRC, including reporting obligations and dissemination of the recommendations from the Committee on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF works at a central and decentralized level, with a range of government and CSOs and CBOs, as well as child rights movements. The Country office Child Protection programme (1 CP Manager and 1 CP Officer) will devote part of their time to manage UNICEF interventions within the current project with the contribution of the communication officer and gender focal point.

OHCHR is the leading UN entity on human rights. OHCHR supports the work of United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the treaty bodies established to monitor State Parties' compliance with the core international human rights treaties – a key component of this project. OHCHR acts as the Secretariat of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and its Sub-Committee on Accreditation and leads in providing expertise on the Paris Principles – another component of the project. OHCHR has developed expertise and guidance on Human Rights Risk Assessment and Early Warning making it best placed to train civil society organizations and help establish a human rights early warning mechanism in Guinea-Bissau. OHCHR (together with UN Women) has also been leading UN efforts to promote and protect civic space and civil society. OHCHR has experience in providing direct technical expertise on the development of National Human Rights Action Plans and their implementation, including through its work on human rights indicators. Finally, in line with its Gender Equality Policy and its internal implementation plan and the Organizational Effectiveness Plan on Diversity and Gender, OHCHR has taken concrete steps to advance gender equality in both its institutional setting and the work it does.

OHCHR was present in Guinea-Bissau between 1999 and 2020, as an integrated component in two successive peace missions (UNOGBIS and UNIOGBIS). Following UNIOGBIS closure in December 2020, OHCHR started covering Guinea-Bissau from Dakar (WARO) and Geneva (Desk Officer based at Headquarters). In end August 2021, a Senior Human Rights Advisor was deployed and embedded at the RCO, based on an EC decision 2020/05 requesting OHCHR to advise on its future footprint and the RC/UNCT request. This project will benefit from strategic guidance by the Senior Human Rights Advisor to the RC/UNCT, who will also be a member in the project steering

committee (see below). The Senior Human Rights Advisor will seek to maximize opportunities offered by the project by exploring entry points for advocacy and further engagement, and to ensure complementarity with other UN efforts on human rights (under the SG's Call to Action). OHCHR will provide technical support through its Regional Office and from Headquarters, including through its National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section, its Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme, its Civic Space Unit and its Methodology, Education and Training Section.

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
<b>Convening Organization:</b>  <b>UNDP</b>	23,000,000 USD at country level	Vertical funds (GEF, GF, PBF), bilateral donors (Japan, Canada, the Netherlands, Italy), European Union, GI-TOC	Bissau, Guinea-Bissau	95 staff in Guinea-Bissau	Besides the CO, which counts on a CTA for the rule of law and various experts related to peacebuilding, governance, gender and rule of law, as well as other areas related to this project, the UNDP counts on a global policy network gathering senior experts and advisors on human rights (including a regional human rights advisor for WA), gender equality, and other topics relevant to this project. The experts of the Global Policy Network of UNDP have expertise in the various areas
<b>Implementing partners:</b>  Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (Government), Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights/LGDH (local CSO), Human Rights Defenders Network (local CSO), National Network for the Fight against Violence/RENLUV (local CSO), Children's Friends Association/AMIC (local CSO), Federation of people with disabilities (local CSO), National Human Rights Institution					

					covered by this project, especially in terms of human rights and peacebuilding.
<b>Recipient Organization:</b>  <b>UNICEF</b>	\$ 8,609,340 USD at country level	UNICEF National Committees (France, Portugal, Italy).  Thematic Funds.  Global Fund. European Union (Multicounty funds)FGM JP Italian gov. funds	Bissau, Guinea-Bissau	45 staff in Guinea-Bissau	The Country Office Child protection team will manage the UNICEF component of the project. The CP Manager will guarantee overall guidance and implementation of UNICEF project components, supported by the CP officer, the gender focal point, communication officer and M&E specialist. A National UNV will be responsible to ensure closer implementation and monitoring of the planned activities. UNICEF Regional Office Child Protection and Gender units, as well as HQ human rights and peacebuilding experts will assist project implementation
<b>Implementing partners:</b>  Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (Government), Ministry of Woman, Family and Social Solidarity - Institute of Women and Child (Government), National Assembly (State institution), Judicial (courts/women and child police services), Bissau-Guinean League of Human Rights/LGDH (local CSO), National Network for the Fight against Violence/RENLUV (local CSO), Children's Friends Association/AMIC (local CSO), National NGOs working on GBV prevention - members of the National Committee for the Abandonment of Harmful practices - CNAPN.					

<b>Recipient Organization:</b> <b>OHCHR</b>	USD 10,000,000 at the regional level (OHCHR WARO) of which 182,000 USD are for GB Staffing and activities.	Regular budget and projects. Earmarked funding: PBF, Italian cooperation, Dutch cooperation, Danish cooperation, France and Canada.	OHCHR Western Africa Regional Office is located in Senegal, Dakar.	One staff dedicated to the PAPEV project.	OHCHR is the leading UN entity on human rights. Its staff at HQ and in WARO have expertise on all issues covered by the project. In addition, there are OHCHR publications, tools, training packages and other materials on all issues covered in the project.
Implementing partners: national authorities, civil society organizations, NHRIs, judiciary, UNCTs.					

**b) Project management and coordination**

A Project Management Team comprising UNDP, UNICEF and OHCHR will be established in Guinea-Bissau.

The day-to-day management of this joint project rests with a **Human Rights Officer (P4)** hired by OHCHR, who will act as Project Manager. The recruitment will be done as per applicable UN rules and regulations, involving UNDP and UNICEF in the recruitment process. The Project Manager will be placed in the Bissau's office of UNDP, together with other project staff, and will work under the guidance of the three recipient agencies. The project manager will have two reporting lines, one to OHCHR and one to UNDP. This position is required in order to coordinate, manage and monitor project activities, and to ensure consistency within the project and to strengthen synergies with parallel exercises. The Project Manager will have direct responsibility for ensuring a) project management and quality oversight and b) advisory and substantive support to the project and all its components. Given the nature of the work, deployment of a staff with the required expertise will be a better solution than recruiting consultants on an ad-hoc basis. The Project Manager will also coordinate efforts to monitor progress and to prepare the reports covering all components of the project. The reports will be circulated to the technical units providing technical support to ensure completeness and accuracy and will be cleared through regular UNDP, UNICEF and OHCHR procedures before transmission.

OHCHR will also hire a national **Human Rights Officer (NOB)** to ensure (1) quality implementation of OHCHR activities (2) timely provision of technical advice on human rights to UNDP and UNICEF activities, and (3) a continuous and solid transfer of expertise to national stakeholders during the duration of the project.

UNDP will hire a **Project officer** (International United Nations Volunteer), with human rights and peacebuilding expertise, to ensure the implementation of project activities under outputs 1, 2 and 4, and to accompany and coordinate the effort between national institutions and local CSOs. UNDP

will also hire a **Project Assistant (ICSC6)**, who will support the project team in the implementation of the agreed project activities, supporting the team to ensure that objectives are reached as set out in the project document. A **Procurement Assistant (ICS5)**, working on a part time basis for the project at 50% will be hired in order to ensure implementation of operational strategies, support procurement processes and ensure provision of logistical services.

A **Child Protection Office (national UNV)** will be hired by UNICEF to ensure (1) quality implementation of the child rights component in the project, (2) articulation with joint interventions in the various phases of planning, implementation and monitoring with child rights stakeholders and right holders and, (3) provide dedicated support to the child protection data management system strengthening. The in-house Child Protection Manager and Child Protection Officer, along with the communication officer and gender focal point will contribute to the project's implementation.

The project personnel recruited through this project will have a dual reporting obligation: to the hiring agency and to the Project Manager (P4).

The in-house Chief Technical Adviser for the Rule of Law, together with the Head of Governance, a Programme Analyst and a Gender Specialist of UNDP will contribute to the project's implementation. Similarly, the M&E officers of UNDP and UNICEF will contribute to the development and implementation of the M&E framework.

UNDP and UNICEF will use the in-country respective capacities for the operational aspects of the project. OHCHR staff will be located at UNDP and will receive full operational support by UNDP that, based on OHCHR request for services will provide OHCHR staff with an office space (one office fully furnished), IT (computers and printer), communications (phone and internet), transportation (through a driver available full-time for the project needs), stationery, etc. as included in the project budget (total of 93,700 USD). OHCHR staff will be fully supported by the project assistant and procurement assistant (half-time) to be hired by UNDP, under this project.

To note that the allocation of funds to the CSOs will occur through Low-Value Grant Agreements. This payment modality will ensure, not only engagement and proper implementation in all identified communities, but also continuous monitoring and evaluation of the activities, through the establishment of measurable targets and implementation-based disbursements.

At project level there will be a project management committee composed by the project staff that will meet frequently at least once a month to coordinate the project implementation. The project will coordinate with and provide information on project progress to the PBF secretariat, which could be invited to participate in the project management meeting.

At the technical level, there will be a **Technical Committee (TC)** composed of the project staff, representatives of the main beneficiaries and PBF secretariat that will meet quarterly to plan, review progress of project delivery and address any bottlenecks that will arise in project implementation. All the project documents and relevant information will be shared on a regular basis with the Justice and Human Rights Thematic Group, set up by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including donors.

The project will have a **Steering Committee (SC)** composed by senior staff of recipient agencies, the main beneficiaries (Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, selected human rights organizations) and the Senior Human Rights Advisor to the RC and UNCT, under the project that will meet biannually to plan, receive progress reports and advise on the way forward to ensure effective project

delivery, as well as to approve minor changes to the project which do not require a formal project revision, as per the PBF Guidelines.

c) **Risk management**

<b>Project specific risk</b>	<b>Risk level (low, medium, high)</b>	<b>Mitigation strategy (including Do No Harm considerations)</b>
Political instability could affect the achievement of certain outcomes	High	While the political instability could limit the adoption of the law for the creation of the NHRI, the work with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, as with civil society at grassroots level will allow to deliver on other expected outputs despite possible political instability at national level
Lack of political will by the authorities and concerned stakeholders to establish a NHRI, compliant with Paris principles could limit the achievement of the first output	Medium	Ensure national ownership and participation of relevant stakeholders such as the Ministry of Justice and the ANP.  Ensure UNCT-wide advocacy on the importance of establishing an independent NHRI. Rally support from other actors, such as member states/ donors that recommended the establishment of an NHRI in the context of the UPR.
Limited capacity of targeted stakeholders to fulfill their tasks	Medium	The project foresees technical support and capacity development of targeted beneficiaries, which in turn are expected to contribute to results such as a law, an action plan, reports to UN treaty bodies, etc. As part of its mitigation strategy the project foresees close follow-up and support to the various tasks under the responsibility of stakeholders. Support with external consultancies will allow working on the strengthening of skills and capacities and contribute to strongly building

		institutional and local capacity for a long term impact, beyond project's duration.
CSOs and activists targeted for support by this project can suffer intimidation and reprisals, including because of gender-based discrimination, which may come in the form of threats or actual violence against themselves, especially against women, their families or their organizations.	Medium	Mitigation measures will include: a careful, joint assessment of the risks to the safety and security of people involved, in which potential targets and vulnerable persons are clearly identified; a shared risk mitigation strategy to reduce risks where possible; partnering with other local or international organizations who may be able to provide support or expertise.
The COVID-19 pandemic could limit the realization of activities	Medium	The activities will be implemented respecting the health and social measures to limit the contagion and spreading of COVID-19. The project will limit the movement across the country.

#### d) Monitoring and evaluation

Upon approval, the project will develop a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. 7,17% of the project budget (128,400 USD) will be put aside for Monitoring and Evaluation activities, including for the collection of baseline and end line data for indicators and a final independent evaluation. A rigorous monitoring plan will track and measure progress made toward achieving outcome and output level indicator targets. Baseline and end-line data will be collected in a timely manner. Baseline will be conducted within three to six months of the project initiation, through data collection by in-house UNDP and UNICEF M&E officers and end-line will be carried out within three months before project completion in order to use these data for a final independent evaluation.

The project manager will work closely and count on the involvement of the M&E officers of the UN Agencies, tasked with undertaking joint monitoring of the project through the implementation period. The project will also benefit from the support of the PBF Secretariat's M&E officer. Monitoring activities will include questionnaires, carried out in partnership with selected local CSOs with past experience in running local surveys, interviews and field visits. The final evaluation will be managed by UNDP as a convening agency, in collaboration with UNICEF and OHCHR. As per the project's budget, 50,000 USD have been reserved for the final independent evaluation.

In addition, participating agencies will also be using their own monitoring mechanisms. In the case of UNDP, key indicators, baselines and targets are selected from the performance framework and set up in ATLAS under the project. The results will be tracked systematically, per semester through the risk-based management (RBM) platform and ATLAS. As part of its integrated results and resources

framework (IRRF) reporting, UNDP will also have a quality assurance process, which includes the social and environmental screening process, and an annual report card for development performance that provides an overview of development results. All cash transfers and engaged partnerships will be aligned with the UNDP Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) procedures and the modality for selecting Responsible Party Agreements.

UNICEF internal monitoring mechanisms and tools will be applied for quality assurance of project implementation. Project activities, indicators and baselines/targets will be integrated in the SAP/VISION internal system as well as in the annual work plans signed with the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity to ensure full accountability of national stakeholders on the monitoring of project implementation. UNICEF's programme performance management and reporting platform (RAM) will facilitate tracking and reporting of project results per semester. The Grant amount transferred to UNICEF will be monitored on a quarterly basis, (monthly basis in the last year of the project implementation), particularly fund commitments and expenditure rate, as well as PBF budget categories. All cash transfers and engaged partnerships will be aligned with the UNICEF Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) procedures, including regular programmatic monitoring visits to implementing partners and spot checks. The Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and the Accountability to affected populations (AAP) focal points will ensure that UNICEF project interventions will ensure feedback from, and participation of beneficiaries, through a complaints feedback mechanism that is being developed.

In OHCHR's case, this means monthly reporting against outputs, through its online Performance Monitoring System. With the support of its Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service at Headquarters, OHCHR will also contribute to the independent evaluation at the end of the project.

To ensure accountability and transparency, beneficiaries will be able to provide feedback on project performance through community participatory monitoring mechanics. M&E findings will be shared with implementing partners continuously.

The project will build the capacity of implementing partners, in particular local CSOs receiving funds, to monitor their own work and context in a clear manner, ensuring 'do no harm' principles, to ensure monitoring and learning enhances programme strategies for empowerment and sustainability of the project results.

**e) Project exit strategy/ sustainability**

The sustainability of the project will be ensured through the direct engagement of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, the National Human Rights Commission and other human rights organizations that, in line with their mandates, should ensure the continuity of work started beyond project duration.

The capacities created at the level of the NHRI to activate partnerships and mobilize resources will allow for the institution to operate beyond the project's duration and despite possible lack of funds at the national level.

By supporting both right-holders and duty-bearers, the project will have a long-term impact on the capacities of knowledge and skills of all main human rights actors.

The modality of support to local CSOs through Low-Value Grants will allow for increased autonomy of local CSOs and thus an increase in project ownership and sustainability. UNDP and UNICEF will remain committed to provide capacity development support to local partners to strengthen long-term implementation of the activities.

Reporting to treaty bodies will produce recommendations (in the form of concluding observations) on various human rights instruments, which should guide future work of human rights actors in Guinea-Bissau.

The project will support a dialogue between stakeholders that should continue beyond the project duration.

In order to ensure the sustainability of the interventions supported by the project, the project team will develop a sustainability plan in the first six months of operation.

## **II. Project budget**

Provide brief additional information on projects costs, highlighting any specific choices that have underpinned the budget preparation, especially for personnel, travel or other indirect project support, to demonstrate value for money for the project. Proposed budget for all projects must include sufficient funds for an independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit. Fill out **Annex A.2** on project value for money.

For this project, PBF will transfer project funds in three tranches, releasing second and third tranches upon demonstration that performance benchmarks have been met. The following two standard performance benchmarks will be required for both tranches 2 and 3: 1) at least 75% of funds from the first tranche have been committed, and 2) all project reporting obligations have been met. In addition to these standard benchmarks and depending on the risk rating or other context-specific factors, two additional benchmarks will be required for the release of the second tranche: 1) submission of detailed M&E Plan with collected baselines and 2) submission of project Sustainability and Exit Strategy.

Please specify below any context-specific factors that may be relevant for the release of second and third tranches. These may include the successful conduct of elections, passage of key legislation, the standing up of key counterpart units or offices, or other performance indicators that are necessary before project implementation may advance. Within your response, please reflect how performance-based tranches affect project sequencing considerations.

Fill out two tables in the Excel budget **Annex D**.

In the first Excel budget table in Annex D, please include the percentage towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) for every activity. Also provide a clear justification for every GEWE allocation (e.g. training will have a session on gender equality, specific efforts will be made to ensure equal representation of women etc.).

# **Annex A.1: Checklist of project implementation readiness**

Question	Yes	No	Comment
<b>Planning</b>			
1. Have all implementing partners been identified? If not, what steps remain and proposed timeline	X		
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise? Please attach to the submission		X	Working in progress.
3. Have project sites been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline	X		
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.	X		
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	X		The findings of past PBF-funded projects have been considered for the project development.

timeline?			
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified? If not, what will be the process and timeline.	X		
7. Have any agreements been made with the relevant Government counterparts relating to project implementation sites, approaches, Government contribution?		X	
8. Have clear arrangements been made on project implementing approach between project recipient organizations?			Working in progress.
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?	N/A		
Gender			
10. Did UN gender expertise inform the design of the project (e.g. has a gender adviser/expert/focal point or	X		

UN Women colleague provided input			
11. Did consultations with women and/or youth organizations inform the design of the project?	X		
12. Are the indicators and targets in the results framework disaggregated by sex and age?	X		
13. Does the budget annex include allocations towards GEWE for all activities and clear justifications for GEWE allocations?	X		

## Annex A.2: Checklist for project value for money

Question	Yes	No	Project Comment
1. Does the project have a budget narrative justification, which provides additional project specific information on any major budget choices or higher than usual staffing, operational or travel costs, so as to explain how the project ensures value for money?	X		
2. Are unit costs (e.g. for travel, consultancies, procurement of materials etc) comparable with those used in similar interventions (either in similar country contexts, within regions, or in past interventions in the same country context)? If not, this needs to be explained in the budget narrative section.	X		
3. Is the proposed budget proportionate to the expected project outcomes and to the scope of the project (e.g. number, size and remoteness of geographic	X		

zones and number of proposed direct and indirect beneficiaries)? Provide any comments.			
4. Is the percentage of staffing and operational costs by the Receiving UN Agency and by any implementing partners clearly visible and reasonable for the context (i.e. no more than 20% for staffing, reasonable operational costs, including travel and direct operational costs) unless well justified in narrative section?		X	
5. Are staff costs proportionate to the amount of work required for the activity? And is the project using local rather than international staff/expertise wherever possible? What is the justification for use of international staff, if applicable?	X		
6. Does the project propose purchase of materials, equipment and infrastructure for more than 15% of the budget? If yes, please state what measures are being taken to ensure value for money in the procurement process and their maintenance/ sustainable use for peacebuilding after the project end.		X	

7. Does the project propose purchase of a vehicle(s) for the project? If yes, please provide justification as to why existing vehicles/ hire vehicles cannot be used.		X	
8. Do the implementing agencies or the UN Mission bring any additional non-PBF source of funding/ in-kind support to the project? Please explain what is provided. And if not, why not.	X		OHCHR will bring additional funding/in-kind support to various activities planned in this project. UNDP will contribute to this project with in-house capacities including through a CTA for the rule of law, and experts in the area of peacebuilding, governance and gender. UNDP will also benefit from in-kind operation support.

## **Annex B.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 cost 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.

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)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure</i>	

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 be 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 ([www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund)) and the Administrative Agent's website ([www.mptf.undp.org](http://www.mptf.undp.org)).

#### **Annex B.2: 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

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.
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#### Financial reports and timeline

Timeline	Event
<b>28 February</b>	Annual reporting – Report <b>Q4 expenses</b> (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<b>30 April</b>	Report <b>Q1 expenses</b> (January to March)
<b>31 July</b>	Report <b>Q2 expenses</b> (January to June)
<b>31 October</b>	Report <b>Q3 expenses</b> (January to September)
<i><b>Certified final financial report to be provided at the quarter following the project financial closure</b></i>	

Unspent Balance exceeding USD 250 at the closure of the project would have to be 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 ([www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund)) and the Administrative Agent website ([www.mptf.undp.org](http://www.mptf.undp.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 [Multi Partner Trust Fund Office \(MPTFO\)](#). 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:

- Ø Has previously received funding from the UN, the PBF, or any of the contributors to the PBF, in the country of project implementation.
- Ø 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).
- Ø Produces an annual report that includes the proposed country for the grant.

Ø 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.

Ø 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.[1]

Ø Demonstrates at least 3 years of experience in the country where grant is sought.

Ø 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 C: Project Results Framework (MUST include sex- and age-disaggregated targets)**

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection	Indicator milestones
<p>Outcome 1: The national system for promoting and protecting human rights in Guinea-Bissau effectively protects human rights and addresses human rights challenges</p> <p>SDG Targets:</p> <p>16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere</p> <p>16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children</p> <p>16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all</p> <p>16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</p> <p>16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels</p>		<p>Outcome Indicator 1a Existence of an independent NHRI, in line with Paris principles</p> <p>Baseline: No independent NHRI in line with Paris principles</p> <p>Target: 1 independent NHRI compliant with Paris principles (composition, nomination, level of autonomy, existence of a budget)</p>	<p>Draft law elaborated and submitted to the National People's Assembly Agenda of the NPA</p> <p>Official Journal</p>	<p>A consultative process on the set up of an independent NHRI developed and implemented by end of year 1</p> <p>A draft law presented and commented by State and non-State institutions by end of year 2</p>
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1b # of UPR recommendations, including on gender equality and women and children's rights, implemented</p> <p>Baseline: No recommendations have been implemented</p> <p>Target: 5 UPR recommendations implemented (NHRI, NRHAPlan, etc).</p>	<p>Review of the UPR recommendation/evaluation level of implementation</p>	

<p>16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</p> <p>5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere</p> <p>5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation</p> <p>(Any Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights (UPR) recommendation that this Outcome helps to implement and if so, year of UPR)</p>				
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1c: Level of attacks on human rights defenders and journalists (number and type)</p> <p>Baseline: TBC in 2021 (precise number of be identified)</p> <p>Target: -20% Decreased levels of attacks to HRD and journalists</p>	Monitoring reports to be produced by CSOs through the project	

	Output 1.1 Improved human and technical capacities of the National Human Right Institution established in line with the Paris Principles.	<p>Output Indicator 1.1.1: Draft law establishing an independent NHRI in line with Paris principles presented to the National People's Assembly (ANP)</p> <p>Baseline: No independent NHRI</p> <p>Target: 1 draft law establishing an independent NHRI, in line with Paris principles presented at the ANP</p>	Draft law	
		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2: # of dialogues with relevant stakeholders (disaggregated per gender and per type of stakeholder) on the NHRI establishment process, including at least five human rights organizations and five women's rights organizations and youth groups</p> <p>Baseline: One dialogue in October 2021 with the participation of relevant stakeholders on the NHRI establishment process</p> <p>Target: At least 5 dialogues with relevant stakeholders (disaggregated per gender and per type of stakeholder) on the NHRI establishment process including at least five human rights organizations and five women's rights organizations and youth groups</p>	List of participants and minutes of the dialogue	

		<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3: # of NHRI members and staff, including women, with enhanced skills and capacities on human rights standards and on the principles of independence, pluralism and accountability in order to perform as member NHRI</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 100% of NHRI members and staff (at least 40% women) demonstrate increased levels of understanding and knowledge</p>	Survey to be carried out pre and post capacity building activities	
	Output 1.2 Strengthened national capacities to develop and implement a National Human Rights Action Plan.	<p>Output Indicator 1.2.1: % of key actions of the national human rights action plan implemented</p> <p>Baseline: No plan</p> <p>Target: 30% of National human rights action plan implemented, including key components on gender equality</p>	Action plan	
		<p>Output Indicator 1.2.2: # of relevant institutions, including women's rights organizations, consulted for the elaboration of the Human Rights Action Plan</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 30 institutions, including at least 10 women-led or women's</p>	List of presence in consultations	

		rights organizations		
		Output Indicator 1.2.3: # of cases of violence against children recorded and investigated  Baseline: 459 recorded and investigated (2020)  Target: 1,912 recorded and investigated (2024)	Cases reported by the Ministry of Woman, Family and social Solidarity (IMC)	
	Output 1.3 Increased capacity of duty-bearers and right-holders to engage with UN human rights mechanisms for increased State accountability for human rights protection.	Output Indicator 1.3.1: # of reports submitted to UN treaty bodies  Baseline: all reports are overdue: ICCPR (since 2012), ICESCR (1994), CERD (2011), CEDAW (2014), CAT (2014), CRC (2019) and CRDP (2016).  Target: 1 Common Core Document and 5 reports elaborated	Reports presented to UN treaty bodies	

		<p>Output Indicator 1.3.2: Existence of a common core document</p> <p>Baseline: No common core document</p> <p>Target: 1 common core document prepared</p>	Common core document	
		<p>Output Indicator 1.3.3: # of consultations with civil society on draft state reports</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 5 (1 consultation per report)</p>	Activity report	
	<p>Output 1.4 Enhanced capacity of human rights organizations to monitor and report on human rights violations, including reprisals against human rights defenders, among others through an early warning mechanism,</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.4.1: # of reports on human rights violations disseminated by civil society organizations supported by the project through CSOs own platforms to raise awareness and advocate for human rights issues</p> <p>Baseline: ad hoc reporting</p> <p>Target: 1 report every four months (9 reports in total)</p>	Reports from CSO activities	

		<p>Output Indicator 1.4.2: Perceived effectiveness of early warning mechanism by relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Baseline: No mechanism in place</p> <p>Target: At least 70% of stakeholders report increased perceived effectiveness of the early warning mechanism</p>	Perception survey to be applied yearly	
		<p>Output Indicator 1.4.3: Perception of how human rights defenders are treated</p> <p>Baseline: To be collected</p> <p>Target: At least 40% of human rights defenders report to decreasingly fear of aggressions and violations</p>	Perception survey to be applied yearly	

Annex

For MPTFO Use

Totals			
	Recipient Organization UNDP	Recipient Agency 2 UNICEF	Recipient Agency 3 OHCHR
1. Staff and other personnel	\$ 296,005.00	\$ 144,000.00	\$ 852,641.00
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	\$ 205,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 74,000.00	\$ -
4. Contractual services	\$ 440,000.00	\$ 76,000.00	\$ -
5. Travel	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ -
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 193,000.00	\$ -
7. General Operating and other Costs	\$ 72,300.00	\$ 50,680.00	\$ -
Sub-total	\$ 1,673,305.00	\$ 598,680.00	\$ 852,641.00
7% Indirect Costs	\$ 117,131.35	\$ 41,907.60	\$ 59,684.87
Total	\$ 1,790,436.35	\$ 640,587.60	\$ 912,325.87

Performance-Based Tranche Breakdown				
	Recipient Organization UNDP	Recip Agency 2 UNICEF	Recip Agency 3 OHCHR	Tranche %
First Tranche:	\$ 537,130.91	\$ 192,176.28	\$ 273,697.76	30%
Second Tranche:	\$ 716,174.54	\$ 256,235.04	\$ 364,930.35	40%
Third Tranche:	\$ 537,130.91	\$ 192,176.28	\$ 273,697.76	30%
TOTAL	\$ 1,790,436.35	\$ 640,587.60	\$ 912,325.87	100%