

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



United Nations
Peacebuilding

PBF PROJECT DOCUMENT

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

Country (ies): Kyrgyzstan	
Project Title: Promoting Kyrgyzstan's youth cohesion and interaction towards Uzbekistan Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project):	
PBF project modality: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund:
List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc): United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Populations Fund List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental:	
Expected project commencement date¹: 01/01/2019 Project duration in months:² 30/06/2020 Geographic zones for project implementation: Selected provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic in border areas with Uzbekistan	
Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): UNICEF: \$ 670,000 UNDP: \$ 480,000 UNFPA: \$ 350,000 Total: \$ 1,500,000 <i>*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.</i>	
Any other existing funding for the project (amount and source): Project total budget:	

¹ Note: actual commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

² Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

PBF 1st tranche:	PBF 2nd tranche*:		
UNICEF 469,024.	\$ UNICEF 200,976		
UNDP 335,980:	UNDP 144,020		
UNFPA 245,000	UNFPA 105,000		
Total: 1,050,004	Total: 449,996		

By supporting the Kyrgyz authorities in the implementation of cooperation plans between Kyrgyz provinces and their Uzbek counterparts the project aims to improve the social cohesion of border areas and beyond with catalytic effects across the entire country. Activities span from the improvement of cultural exchanges, youth interactions reaching out also to cooperation with Ombudsman institution and the Prosecution office to the further development of such plans with a more inclusive participation of the youth.. The project takes stock of the momentum in the cooperation between the two States and aims at entrenching positive peace factors.

The project was drawn from the State Agency of youth's suggestions and developed based on their inputs. State Agency for Local Self Governance and inter ethnic relations , provincial authorities of Osh, Batken and Jalalabad, as well youth representatives were also consulted throughout the process. At the same time the relevant office of the Presidential Administration has been regularly informed about the proposal receiving support. In addition, consultations were conducted with grassroots CSOs, Women and Youth Committees of Local Crime Prevention Centers and peace-building NGOs as well as those working in border areas.

Project Gender Marker score: 2³

Specify % and \$ of total project budget allocated to activities in direct pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment: \$ 550,000 - 30% of the total budget

Project Risk Marker score: 1⁴

Select PBF Focus Area which best summarizes the focus of the project (*select ONLY one*): 2.3.⁵

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

Priority 2: Good Governance, rule of law, human rights, gender equality

If applicable, **Sustainable Development Goal** to which the project contributes: Goal 5th and 16th

³ **Score 3** for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective

Score 2 for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective

Score 1 for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 15% of budget)

⁴ **Risk marker 0** = low risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes

Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

⁵ **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>Type of submission:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New project</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project amendment</p>	<p>If it is a project amendment, select all changes that apply and provide a brief justification:</p> <p>Extension of duration: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional duration in months:</p> <p>Change of project outcome/ scope: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Change of budget allocation between outcomes or budget categories of more than 15%: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Additional PBF budget: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional amount by recipient organization: USD XXXXX</p> <p>Brief justification for amendment:</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>Recipient Organization(s)⁶ UNICEF in the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Ms. Yukie Mokuo</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title: Representative</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal: September 25, 2018</i></p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities: Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>Name of Government Counterpart:</i> Ms. Mira Karybaeva</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title: Head of Department of Civil Development, Religious and Ethnic Policies</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal: September 25, 2018</i></p>
<p>Head of UN Country Team</p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Ms. Yukie Mokuo</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title: United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i.</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal: September 25, 2018</i></p>	<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p>Title: Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Support Office</p> <p><i>Date & Seal:</i></p>
<p>Recipient Organization(s) UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Ms. Aliona Niculita</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title: Resident Representative a.i.</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal: September 25, 2018</i></p>	<p>Recipient Organization(s) UNFPA in the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><i>Name of Representative:</i> Ms. Giulia Vallese</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p> <p><i>Title: UNFPA Representative for Kazakhstan and Country Director for Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan</i></p> <p><i>Date & Seal: September 25, 2018</i></p>

⁶ Please include a separate signature block for each direct recipient organization under this project.

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

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

The problematic relations and largely unsettled border demarcation between the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan have been an open issue leading to various levels of conflicts since the dissolvment of the Soviet Union in 1991. All uprisings, taking place in the Kyrgyz Republic, especially the one leading to the June 2010 events included a combination of triggers of economic, social and political reasons. However, a common thread present in major threats to peace and security in the Kyrgyz Republic can be identified. This is the inter-ethnic tensions between the Kyrgyz ethnicity and the Uzbek ethnicity living side by side in the south of the country. In this context, the inter-ethnic tensions between the two groups have been overtly influenced and heavily dependent by the overall difficult relations between the two states, respectively Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

Eight years after the end of the conflict a remarkable progress has been achieved in the entrenchment of peace also thanks to the PBF contributions, by way of illustration conflicts in target localities involving youth decreased from 44 cases in 2014 to five cases in 2016. With the PBF's support UN agencies also piloted strategies of improving access to quality services and outreach as a peacebuilding strategy. Noteworthy, the end-line survey of the first PRF detected increased level of trust in LSGs by 8% and decreased the number of interethnic conflicts from 6.6 cases in 2014 to 1.1 in 2016.⁷

Based on this important bedrock, an important window of opportunity to further consolidate the progress has appeared with the recent changing of leadership in Uzbekistan. The opening of new perspectives in sense of civil and political liberties as well as governance and human rights has had a remarkable impact in the region and let to a series of initiatives at the highest level have taken place in order to set this new trend and overcome the acrimonies of the past. Symbolic reciprocal visits by the presidents have had wide media coverage and are considered the springboard for further improvements. By way of illustration the first state visit since inauguration by the Kyrgyz President Jeenbekov took place to Uzbekistan in December 2017.

At the "lower level", important developments have occurred with issuance of governmental decree in 2017, stipulating approval of the joint action plan with the Uzbek government for 2017-2019. It broadly determines cooperation between different branches and levels of the

⁷Peacebuilding Priority Plan (2014-2016) End-line Study

government including the local self-governances, local state administrations, prosecutor's offices, border services etc. It also instructs to establish economic and trade collaborations across the border. The plan includes an extensive section of cultural and humanitarian cooperation composed of academic and cultural exchanges through conferences, contests exhibitions, concerts, festivals etc. Each of the three southern Provinces bordering on Uzbekistan have their own action plans of cooperation with their bordering peer Province on the other side. These plans follow pretty much similar structure and the content as on the national level featuring adaptation to the local needs. For example, the one for Batken Province of Kyrgyzstan and Ferghana Province of Uzbekistan includes cooperation in health sector among others. Demand for technical support and funding are among the common traits of these provincial action plans. The State Agency for Youth and Sports of Kyrgyzstan has concluded a Memorandum of Understanding and a joint plan with a similar entity in Uzbekistan including youth forums, youth days and thematic exchange visits in that plan. Notwithstanding the strong interest of the youth and the youth State Agency to use this momentum – as also highlighted by the youth and child friendly activities performed within the PBF interventions, the effective implementation of such frameworks has been hampered by the lack of capacities and the difficulties in moving towards uncharted practices unexplored so far. As a matter of fact, while the new emerging opportunities are perceived as a great potential for development, on the other side the absence of previous experience in the practical implementation of activities has greatly limited the fruition of the suitable window of opportunity. The presence of this opportunity and limitation has been highlighted as a key concern in the extensive consultative meetings held by the agencies with national counterparts. By way of illustration consultations were held in all the southern regions and at the central level with youth groups, youth State agency and government authorities.

Such progress was adequately noted in the Global Peace Index for 2018⁸ which precisely highlighted that: “The Kyrgyz Republic's gains were driven by the abatement of tensions with Uzbekistan, with which it has had a long-running border dispute.” At the same time, polls in Kyrgyzstan have shown a remarkable change of attitude by the local population. Notably, while the percentage of Kyrgyz citizens assessing in a positive way the relations with Uzbekistan remained stable from 2011 to 2016 at around 30%, in 2017 this percentage rose up to 78%.⁹ This trend is also confirmed by the staggering increase of border crossings which according to the State Border Service, in June 2018 has reached the peak figure of 18,000 daily compared to the de facto closure occurred in the previous years.

This progress can be associated with the improvement of two recognized key pillars for positive peace such as “Good Relations with Neighbors”¹⁰ and “Acceptance of the Rights of Others”¹¹.

⁸ <http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2018/06/Global-Peace-Index-2018-2.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.iri.org/resource/kyrgyzstan-poll-sustained-optimism-tempered-concerns-over-corruption>

¹⁰ “Peaceful relations with other countries are as important as good relations between groups within a country. Countries with positive external relations are more peaceful and tend to be more politically stable, have better functioning governments, are regionally integrated and have lower levels of organised internal conflict. This factor is also beneficial for business and supports foreign direct investment, tourism and human capital inflows.”

¹¹ “Formal laws guaranteeing basic human rights and freedoms and the informal social and cultural norms that relate to behaviours of citizens serve as proxies for the level of tolerance between different ethnic, linguistic, religious, and socio-economic groups within the country. Similarly, gender equality and worker's rights are important components of societies that uphold acceptance of the rights of others.”

Against this backdrop a clear cause and effect link can be concluded as follows:

- The better the relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are the better inter-ethnic cohesion thrives.
- The better inter ethnic cohesion thrives the more peaceful and stable Kyrgyzstan is.

The present project specifically aims at supporting the transition between the cause and the effect by facilitating the sudden increasing opportunity of exchanges between the two sides and by mitigating the arising problems owing to the new landscape. By way of illustration rows are now more frequently emerging in respect of access to services, economic trades as well as marriages, family unifications and provision of documentations.¹² [5]. In this context, youth and in particular young women in border areas represent the key target group to invest on and transfer the positive momentum into a sustainable and prolonged consolidation of inter-ethnic relations. Noteworthy, demographically youth represents 27,1% of the registered population living in border regions of the country. Such figure, however doesn't consider seasonal migration. As a matter of fact during summer periods youth ratio among overall population can reach up to 60%.

As noted by the peacebuilding priority plan and supporting researches the representation gap and marginalization of youth and in particular women is one of the most critical elements creating triggers for unrest especially if exacerbated by ethnic divisions. Uncertainty, lack of confidence and trust in the sustained peace in the inter-ethnic border communities are also among key drivers for families arranging marriage of their under-age daughters. The available data also shows that forced and child marriages persist in the country with 35-45% of marriages resulting from abduction, and 12.7% of women reporting having married before the age of 18. Adolescent fertility rate is increasing, and is almost 2 times higher among Uzbek minorities, which is a proxy for child marriages given the context of strong stigma attached to out-of-marriage births. Forced and child marriages are egregious violations of human rights depriving young women from opportunity to fulfil themselves and participate in developing their communities and sustaining peace. The present project therefore is carefully crafted within the peculiar setting and opportunities available in the country aiming to reach improved cooperation across borders through youth engagement penetrating into primary groups dismantling the concept of an alien "other group" to ostracize and confront leading to an innovative tool to sustain and thrive peace.

- b) A brief description of how the project aligns with/ supports **existing** Governmental and UN **strategic frameworks**, how it ensures **national ownership** and how the project complements/ builds on any other relevant interventions in this sector/area, including any lessons from previous PBF support.

The strength of the present project is its entrenchment with the undertaking of supporting the implementation of the national plans of cooperation and the regional ones between Batken, Osh and Jalalabad regions with their counterparts across the border. These plans have been identified as the key national strategic document that in more details formulates the intention

¹²

<https://kloop.kg/blog/2018/08/09/eurasianet-mezhdu-uzbekistanom-i-kyrgyzstanom-protsvetaet-chelnochnaya-torgovlya-no-dolgo-li-eto-prodlitsya/>

of investing in the creation of positive peace with the Uzbek counterpart and to have a positive in country effect within ethnic communities. The project also conforms with the notions and analysis formulated in the current Peacebuilding Priority Plan (2017-2020) highlighting the importance of working with marginalized fragments of the population and by stressing the need of investing in the youth and young women, particularly in border areas.

Within the UN strategic framework the project is informed on the concept of Sustainable Development Goal 16 in the understanding that a durable peace can be achieved through an effective justice and accountability vis a vis all sections of the population. At the same time the project is enshrined within the main messages of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2250 of 2015 and 2419 of 2018 recognizing the critical and positive role that young people play in preventing violence and building peace.

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

- a) A brief **description of the project content** – in a nutshell, what results is the project trying to achieve, and how does it aim to address the conflict analysis factors outlined in Section I (must be gender- and age- sensitive).

Based on the request of the Youth State Agency and ensuing discussions with all regional authorities, UNICEF as a leading agency, together with UNDP and UNFPA, plans of using the already existing national and subnational mechanisms such as the “ Memorandum of Understanding between youth-related government agencies of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan” and the Action plans of cooperation between Osh, Batken and Jalalabad provinces with their respective neighbor regions in Uzbekistan as a springboard to improve inter-ethnic relations and therefore provide support to peacebuilding efforts in the country.

According to the project’s vision the activities will from one side support the institutions entrusted to implement such plans, e.g. the duty bearers, and from the other side support the youth of border areas in using the available mechanism for accessing their rights on issues pertaining to relations with Uzbekistan and to engage in interactions with the other side of the border. An important target group will be young women which are at higher risk of being deprived of their rights and being subject of violence including forced marriages. In the long run, the project will also aim at the consolidation of the current cooperation framework by institutionalizing them with a more inclusive participation of youth based on their proposal so to ensure sustainability.

All activities would take place within the Kyrgyz side of the border and facilitate the bridging towards Uzbekistan and improve the inter-ethnic peacebuilding process. If relevant the project will support attendance of Kyrgyz youth and relevant duty bearers to Uzbek led initiatives.

- b) **Project result framework**, outlining all project results, outputs, activities with indicators of progress, baselines and targets (must be gender- and age- sensitive). Use **Annex B**; no need to provide additional narrative here.

- c) Provide a **project-level ‘theory of change’** – i.e. how do you expect these interventions to lead to results and why have these interventions been selected. Specify if any of these interventions are particularly risky.

If Kyrgyzstani young women and men and the local governance institutions build inclusive dialogue and cooperation with their counterparts across the Uzbek border **and if** grass-roots positive cross-border interactions amass, supporting and expanding the on-going inter-governmental collaboration efforts, **then** interethnic cohesion improves within the border areas and beyond, **because** the more positive interactions there will be the less the perception of “the other” among the different groups will exist.

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

- d) Project implementation strategy** – explain **how** the project will undertake the activities to ensure most effective and efficient achievement of results, including justification for geographic zones, criteria for beneficiary selection, timing among various activities, coherence between results and any other information on implementation approach (must be gender- and age-sensitive).

The project will work to achieve the outcome stated below through the following outputs and activities:

Outcome 1: Kyrgyzstani youth and relevant government agencies collaborate and further develop cooperation plans for improving positive interactions with their Uzbek counterparts.

Output 1.1.: Kyrgyzstani young women and men in selected border locations have improved knowledge, skills and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with Uzbek counterparts.

1.1.1. Build young people’s leadership, problem solving skills and promote positive attitudes of peaceful coexistence through collaborative participation in developing local action plans and contributing to the cooperation plans including issues concerning the youth;

- Young people from different background in the bordering communities will build their social and civics skills by attending Leadership and Innovation Academy (LIA). The learning program will include researching and analyzing conflict issues pertinent to their localities as well as project developing for peace. LIA participants will contribute to building an open, inclusive and diversity friendly environment by encouraging these values in schools, communities as well as in to local parenting practices.
- The project will facilitate youth-led research and analysis of social issues including access to services and access to justice which cause grievances in the borderland. Young people will themselves both opportunities and challenges and come up with solutions, which will be further addressed through Small Grants Facility (see details

in activity 1.2). Their analysis and findings will feed into the national and subnational cooperation plans as well as to those of the border municipalities, where possible being aligned with UNSCR 2250. Sports, economic exchange, public campaigns and events, media outputs will be supported to engage larger number of people and create a demand for widened cooperation

1.1.2. Facilitate youth-led innovative grass-roots solutions to border and cross-border challenges as well as those moving forward regional cooperation across the communities.

- The project will implement Small Grant Facility to help addressing some of the issues identified by youth in research and analysis, especially those pertaining the grass-roots, and cross-border cooperation. First, they will be validated, prioritized and distilled turned into solutions through wider consultations within the communities and where possible across. This will also serve to the purposes of inter-generational dialogues, improve civic participation and peer-to-peer diplomacy across the border. The project will encourage proposals addressing , GBV, rights violations in border crossing,¹³ tolerance and friendship both in border and cross-border areas and innovative approaches.
- Then youth proposing best meaningful solutions will attend Social Impact Workshops to develop solutions together with adult mentors into full-fledged community projects, which will be further co-funded and implemented through this project and/or community private and public resources i.e. local action plans and inter-oblast plans of two countries.
- Youth-led ‘Design Thinking’ platforms will be supported in the Osh to expand and sustain youth engagement, skill building, experience exchange and innovating for cross-border cooperation and inter-cultural ties

1.1.3. Organize national and sub-national events and initiatives of youth organizations in multiple fields and formats jointly with the national youth-related government agencies of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan (conferences, forums, exhibitions, technology quests, Make-thons etc).

These are a set of springboard cross-border activities mostly included in the cooperation plans of the two countries, however not funded. Besides providing technical and financial support, the project will bring groups, individuals and topics normally left out of mainstream and reach. Youth from smaller towns and rural areas including the LIA and Social Impact Workshops will be brought to exchange and ideate on for example strategies of making education and science relevant to labor market or jointly identify innovative solutions to common social disparities in the two countries. The project will work to institutionalize this exchange patterns the relevant cooperation plans.

Output 1.2.: Youth relevant government agencies in Kyrgyzstan have improved knowledge, skills, opportunities and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with their Uzbek counterparts

¹³ Interview with the civil society representatives in Osh and Jalal-Abad found that mostly youth involve in conflict and violence out of little awareness about rights and relevant border legislation

- 1.2.1. Build the capacity of the youth relevant government agencies on inclusive, gender and conflict sensitive youth work in the field and facilitate exchange meetings with related youth serving Uzbekistan government counterparts;
- The project will support participatory research and a cross-country forum by the youth government agencies to self-assess their role in establishing the youth work, which then will feed into the joint work plan, with an incremental approach to neighboring countries. The research findings will accommodate the grass-roots perspective brought through field youth analysis mentioned above in the first output.
 - A comprehensive analysis will follow on the availability and effectiveness of youth policy / youth plans for border areas with focus on demography; access to services, justice; rights and freedoms; education; social elevators; migration; development prospects; security. Based on the assessment and analysis findings government officials will be trained on youth specific, gender and conflict-sensitive RBM-based planning of cross-country cooperation initiatives, including implementation of UNSCR 2250
- 1.2.2. Build capacities of service providers, justice, rule of law and ombudsman institutions (Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken branches) and strengthen the complaint mechanism to enhance young women's and men's access to services, justice and increase trust, with learning from the collaborative arrangements of similar institutions
- The project will build capacities of law enforcement and security agencies, rule of law, human rights, justice institutions, and relevant service providers based on the results of research, analysis and ensuing feedback from the youth and wider population on access to justice, to vital registration, SRH and GBV-related services (Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken branches). The intervention will have a focus on cross-country exchange between relevant structures as well as strengthening the complaint mechanism which are meant to improve access to justice especially for young women and increase mutual trust; improve age and gender-sensitive investigation procedures;

2. Project management and coordination (4 pages max)

- a) **Recipient organizations and implementing partners** – list direct recipient organizations and their implementing partners (international and local), specifying the Convening Organization, which will coordinate the project, and providing a brief justification for the choices, based on mandate, experience, local know-how and existing capacity.

UNICEF is the lead Agency for this project with a mandate and capacity to support the realization of the rights of children, adolescents and youth. Based on its equity agenda, UNICEF addresses equity gaps in realization of children's rights in the country through helping key stakeholders to provide age and gender sensitive services in social and justice sectors. UNICEF in particular works to ensure more boys and girls have access to quality and inclusive education. UNICEF supports the Government to develop and implement programmes promoting peace and tolerance. Providing opportunities to learn skills and knowledge both in the mother tongue and the state language is an important part of

UNICEF's strategy to improve learning outcomes of children, leading to better participation in the community and the labour market and thus enhancing overall societal cohesion. Building functional literacy and developing core skills and competences is in the focus of UNICEF's education and adolescent programmes, as they are also critical conditions to build peaceful and prosperous societies. UNICEF's Country Office has been engaged in joint programming and projects with other UN agencies, including in implementation of multiple PBF funded interventions under PRF and IRF. It has successful experience of implementing the joint UN project funded by PBF to promote trust and strengthen cross-border cooperation for sustainable peace and development in areas along the Kyrgyz-Tajik border. It has a presence in the south of the country and strong monitoring and evaluation as well as institutionalized result-based management approaches. UNICEF Country Office employs around 50 staff members and on average manages an annual budget of more than USD 7 million.

UNDP in cooperation with other UN agencies and with support of the UN PBF and other donors has developed and implemented a number of peacebuilding initiatives across the country, including the post-conflict interventions in the south of the country and the number of initiative aiming at sustaining peace and development in cross-border areas including those between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. While geographic location and the substantive priorities of these initiatives differ from those specified in this project application, these initiatives enhanced considerably UNDP knowledge and expertise on conflict prevention matters in cross-border areas. The initiatives also provided UNDP staff with intimate knowledge of the border regions and types of issues that generate conflict and tension among border communities. Thus, UNDP brings to this project its unique experience in building dialogue, strengthening linkages and cooperation between justice institutions, security providers, local authorities and communities to reduce violent incidents and increase mutual trust. UNDP's ability to implement proposed project activities is enhanced by the existence of UNDP office in Osh, which institutionalizes UNDP's strong presence in the target area.

UNFPA has a fully functional Country Office in Kyrgyzstan with sufficient human resources and dedicated programme staff supporting implementation of peacebuilding projects. UNFPA has a role to play to support women and young people to build sustainable peace based on its comparative advantage of working with and for women and young people in development and humanitarian settings. UNFPA is positioned to highlight specific issues affecting women and young people promoting their leadership and participation throughout the peacebuilding, humanitarian and development continuum. As part of its peacebuilding efforts, UNFPA has worked with women, young people, local self-governments, religious leaders and religious institutions to build trust, prevent conflicts and sustain peace in the country. UNFPA has been partnering with other UN agencies and has successfully implemented several peacebuilding projects in Kyrgyzstan.

UNFPA is currently engaged in implementation of 3 peace building/PVE projects funded by PBF and acts as the leading agency for two of them. One is "Women and girls as drivers for Peace and Stability" (UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF and UNODC) that address issues of radicalization leading to violent extremism the second - "Addressing social disparity and gender inequality to prevent conflicts in the new settlements of Bishkek city" (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC).

The main recipients and partners of the Project will be the State and Municipal institutions of power, as well as Civil Society Organizations that have the mandate and functional tasks to work with youth in the border area.

Policy development and decision-making institutions:

- Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Office of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic

Government Partners:

- State Agency for Youth, Physical Education and Sport
- State Agency for Local Self Governance and Interethnic Relations
- Prosecutor General's Office
- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Ministry of Labor and Social Development
- State Registration Service
- Regional and district state administrations
- Local LSGs
- Ministry of Health
- Institute of the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyz Republic

Civil Society institutions:

- Experienced and authoritative youth and women's NGOs working in the field of peacebuilding, advocacy, leadership development and innovation
- Grass root youth and women's committees, as well as local NGOs

All the above-mentioned organizations and institutions have a direct interest in the development of the socio-economic and legal situation in the bordering areas of Kyrgyzstan with Uzbekistan. The presented four-level approach of cooperation and partnership allows to realize the principle of synergy and mutual benefit. At the same time, all these organizations and institutions are both recipients of project's support and partners. On the one hand, the project will contribute to improving the institutional capacity of organizations, on the other hand, support is to be provided in the performance of their direct functional responsibilities.

The cooperation model provides comprehensive coverage of different spheres and levels of interaction, from decision-making and coordination of interventions; implementation; involvement of Civil Society Institutions; to raising additional funds from other international donors, or at least gaining experience from other international organizations that have already worked in the border areas, or transferring new experiences to them.

- b) **Project management and coordination** – present the project implementation team, including positions and roles and explanation of which positions are to be funded by the project (to which percentage). Explain project coordination and oversight arrangements. Fill out project implementation readiness checklist in **Annex C**.

UNICEF: As the leading agency, UNICEF will implement the project with a coordinated intervention of the Programme Officer on Adolescent Development and the Osh Zone Office under the overall guidance and advise of the Chief of Child Protection. Field specialists, upon

need will be hired specifically to support this project with implementation of project activities in the target clusters. Administrative-finance assistant will provide logistical, financial and administrative support to the project.

UNFPA: UNFPA will hire the Project Manager and Project Assistant to be funded 100% percent from the project (100%). Project Manager will be responsible for successful project planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting. Project Assistant will be responsible to provide programmatic, administrative and financial support to the project. Due to the fact that the project sites are located in the border areas, the project staff need to travel in an office car for to safety and security reasons. Therefore, UNFPA will hire a driver on 50% cost sharing basis with another project.

UNDP: The project will be implemented by the UNDP through its Osh Area-Based Development Office under the overall leadership, guidance and management by the Peace Advisor place in Bishkek Project Management Unit. International PDA and SDG16 Team Leader will provide strategic advice, oversight and quality assurance to project staff. The Peace Advisor will be responsible for project planning, quality and timely implementation, monitoring, and reporting as well as coordinating project activities with relevant Government institutions and other stakeholders at national level while Osh ABD Manager will be responsible to coordinate with authorities at the local and provincial levels. Field specialist will be hired specifically to support this project with implementation of project activities in the target clusters. Administrative-finance assistant will provide logistical, financial and administrative support to the project.

Project Coordination:

The current Joint Steering Committee (JSC) was established in 2017 and co-chaired by Head of Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) in the Kyrgyz Republic. With the launch of three PVE projects in Kyrgyzstan within the frames of Peace Building Priority Plan (PPP) from January 2018, the composition of JSC was updated and regular meetings are being organized. The project will be presented to JSC in the starting phase; in addition, midterm and results will be presented as well. The Project Steering Group (PSG) will be established to oversee implementation, participate in the monitoring of the project and provide recommendations to improve the project strategies. The PSG will be represented by representatives of State Agency on Youth, State Agency on Inter-Ethnic Relations and Local Self-Governance, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken Province Administrations, Assembly of the Peoples of Kyrgyzstan, civil society experts and others. PSG meetings will be organized quarterly and members will participate in project monitoring. The project budget will not contribute in any way to the PDA salary.

UNICEF Kyrgyzstan will serve as lead agency for the coordination of the project and will coordinate the process of joint planning of the project as well as joint monitoring and reporting. Joint Monitoring Framework will be developed to ensure that activities are planned and implemented in a manner that based on a joint nature of the project and excludes duplication. UNICEF will organize systematic coordination meetings with participation of RUNOs as well as Implementing Partners of the project (at least once in 2 months). The project will closely coordinate with UN Peacebuilding (YPI and GPI) and PVE projects

within frames of PPP implementation, to discuss best practices and lessons learnt. The RUNOs will coordinate implementation of activities with other peacebuilding projects in the project locations including Search for Common Ground, Global Partnership for Prevention of Armed Conflicts, Saferworld, International Alert, Helvetas, Internews and other partners working in the area of peacebuilding and PVE.

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

Risk	Likelihood	Severity	Mitigation strategy
1. Political and social unrest	Medium	High	The RUNOs will constantly work with government partners, UN Agencies, donors and civil society to monitor the situation on the ground.
2. Absence of support on project activities from Uzbek side	Medium	High	RUNOs will closely work with National partners from Kyrgyz side to ensure participation of young people and relevant authorities from Uzbekistan. Moreover the project will focus on support of the “Plan of activities between the Governments of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan on extending of cooperation in border areas”, which was signed by the Governments of two countries. The major part of project interventions will be held on the territory of Kyrgyzstan.
3. Deterioration of relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan	Medium	High	Close monitoring of the situation, necessary adjustments of project interventions depending on the political and socio-economic context.
4. Lack of inclusive and enabling spaces for youth to engage	Medium	High	Maintain ongoing coordination and consultation with key stakeholders on the role of youth and importance of youth meaningful involvement into the positive dialogue and peaceful development. The project will work with parents and adults to ensure that they are supportive of youth engagement.
5. Selection of youth groups	Medium	High	Active and wider civic outreach as well as showcase project benefits to young women and men in targeted communities
6. Low interest from young people in the project activities	Medium	High	The project interventions’ content will be elaborated based on the results of close consultations with youth (and adolescents) and other main stakeholders.

In order to ensure Do No Harm approach systematic context analysis and project monitoring will be conducted. Project monitoring will include monitoring of project assumptions and risks. Systematic project monitoring will ensure introduction of adjustments to the project based on the existing situation and project results. Context analysis will help to identify

factors contributing to peace and to conflicts; the project respectively will work to strengthen the factors of peace and addressing factors of conflicts.

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

The total budget allocated for M&E is \$ 120,500, which meets the abovementioned demand for 5-7 per cent of the total project budget. Projected cost of the final evaluation is \$ 40,000

Project monitoring framework will be developed together with Implementing Partners with detailed analysis of the project strategic output and outcome assumptions, examples of evidences (eg. evidences for behavioral changes) and risks.

Based on the Monitoring Framework, the project will develop Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan, which will include:

- Baseline assessment (perception survey)
- Systematic working meetings with RUNOs and implementing partners to discuss the project indicators and progress, challenges in measuring the progress
- Joint development of monitoring tools
- Joint systematic monitoring with reflection
- Discussion of monitoring reports
- Mid-term validation work to assess evaluability of assumption and interventions. Adaptation of project interventions as the according to the results of the validation and project monitoring
- Development of database of project beneficiaries
- A final independent evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project.

All interventions will be monitored and analyzed in order to assess their short-term impact on the situation with special emphasis on young women and men. Such analysis will reveal interactions among various project outputs, their real interconnections, and adjustments that may need to be made. Results of monitoring and analysis will be discussed (monitoring reports will be developed) and appropriate follow-up measures will be identified during RUNOs coordination meetings.

- e) **Project exit strategy/ sustainability** – Briefly explain the project’s exit strategy to ensure that the project can be wrapped up at the end of the project duration, either through sustainability measures, agreements with other donors for follow-up funding or end of activities which do not need further support. If support from other donors is expected, explain what the project will do to try to ensure this support from the start.

Kyrgyz-Uzbek relations are experiencing a period of revival. The change of political leadership in Uzbekistan has contributed to this and continues to develop in the spirit of

good-neighborliness and strategic partnership. This progress , however , appears to be fragile and unstable. The project intends to use the existing momentum and the present framework of cooperation as a springboard by supporting its implementation institutionalization and further development through a more significant involvement of the youth. Such process, in turn is expected to produce positive results in terms of improved interactions across the border and facilitation economic exchanges , leading to the State interest in maintain and further sustain the cooperation mechanisms.

3. Project budget

Please provide a brief justification for the proposed budget, 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 funds for independent evaluation. Proposed budget for projects involving non-UN direct recipients must include funds for independent audit.

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

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

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

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

AA Functions

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

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

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

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

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

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

f report	nen	ted by
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annual project progress report		ing Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
project progress report	ember	ing Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
project report covering entire project duration	three months from the operational project closure (it can be submitted instead of an annual report if timing coincides)	ing Agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/ quality assurance by PBF Secretariats, where they exist
strategic peacebuilding and PBF progress report (for PRF allocations only), which may contain a request for additional PBF allocation if the context requires it	mber	ecretariat 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 (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Administrative Agent's website (<http://mptf.undp.org>).

Reporting:

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

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

Financial reports and timeline:

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

Annex B: Project Results Framework (MUST include sex- and age disaggregated data)

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Me Verit frequ col
Outcome 1: Kyrgyzstani youth and relevant government agencies collaborate and further develop cooperation plans for improving positive interactions with their Uzbek counterparts.		Outcome Indicator 1 a % youth in the targeted communities who believe that diversity is an added value to their community (disaggregated data by age, sex, location) Baseline: TBD Target: 10% increase over baseline	Baseline 4 th quarter Endline s 2nd quarter Project m reports
		Outcome Indicator 1 b % of Kyrgyzstani youth that assesses positively the relations with Uzbekistan (segregated data by age, sex, location) Baseline: TBD Target: 10% increase over baseline	Baseline 4 th quarter Endline s 2nd quarter
		Outcome Indicator 1c Youth proposals are included and implemented in the national and subnational cooperation plans with Uzbekistan Baseline: not inclusive Target: inclusive	Baseline 4 th quarter Endline s 2nd quarter
	Output 1.1. Kyrgyzstani young women and men in selected border locations have improved knowledge, skills and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with Uzbek counterparts. List of activities under this Output: 1.1.1. Build young people's leadership, problem solving skills and promote positive attitudes of peaceful coexistence through collaborative participation in developing local action plans and contributing to the cooperation plans including issues concerning the youth; 1.1.2. Facilitate youth-led innovative grass-roots solutions to border and cross-border challenges as well as those moving forward regional cooperation across the communities. 1.1.3. Organize national and sub-national events and initiatives of youth organizations in multiple fields and formats jointly with the national youth-related government agencies of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan (conferences, forums, exhibitions, technology quests, Make-thones etc).	Output Indicator 1.1.a. # of youth with a sense of empowerment, knowledge and skills to participate in and lead collaboration initiatives, disaggregated by sex and age Baseline: 0 Target: 200 (at least 50% are girls and women)	Monitorin Reports f Implemen Partners Baseline survey
		Output Indicator 1.1.b. # of success stories/practices produced by the project Baseline: 0 Target 30	RUNOs o
		Output Indicator 1.1.c. # of youth participating in cooperation and trust building initiatives with project support, disaggregated by sex and age Baseline: 0 Target: 500 (at least 50% are girls and women))	RUNOs o Monitorin Reports f Implemen Partners

	Output 1.2: Youth relevant government agencies in Kyrgyzstan have improved knowledge, skills, opportunities and capacities to interact and develop cooperation to create positive dialogue with their Uzbek counterparts	Output Indicator 1.2.a # of municipalities with increased number of interactions Baseline: 0 Target: 5	RUNOs a municipa
	1.2.1. Build the capacity of the youth relevant government agencies on inclusive, gender and conflict sensitive youth work in the field and facilitate exchange meetings with related youth serving Uzbekistan government counterparts;	Output Indicator 1.2.b. # of items of national and subnational Kyrgyz-Uzbek action plans implemented Baseline: 0 Target: 10	RUNOs a municipa
	1.2.2. Build capacities of service providers, justice, rule of law and ombudsman institutions (Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken branches) and strengthen the complaint mechanism to enhance young women's and men's access to services, justice and increase trust, with learning from the collaborative arrangements of similar institutions	Output Indicator 1.2.c # of youth received legal aid Baseline: 0 Target: 500	RUNO ar data

Annex C: Checklist of project implementation readiness

Question		No	Pa
1. Have all implementing partners been identified?		x	Pa
2. Have TORs for key project staff been finalized and ready to advertise?	x		
3. Have project sites been identified?	x		
4. Have local communities and government offices been consulted/ sensitized on the existence of the project?	x		
5. Has any preliminary analysis/ identification of lessons learned/ existing activities been done?	x		
6. Have beneficiary criteria been identified?	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?	x		
9. What other preparatory activities need to be undertaken before actual project implementation can begin and how long will this take?		N/A	

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