

1 June 2022

Excellency,

Building on the recommendation to continue strengthening synergies between the Peacebuilding Fund and the Peacebuilding Commission as contained in the report on the Peacebuilding Commission's tenth session, I am pleased to provide the list of projects approved by the Peacebuilding Support Office during the fourth quarter of 2021 and the first quarter of 2022.

In compliance with the PBF's Terms of Reference and Guidelines, all submissions have been reviewed by the UN system-wide Peacebuilding Project Review Group and recommended for approval by PBSO's Project Appraisal Committee. Please note the amount indicated below is the total project budget approved. Typically, these amounts are disbursed in two or more tranches linked to performance conditions and contingent on availability of funds in the PBF. In addition, given some administrative conditions, some fund transfers remain pending.

In **Burkina Faso**, PBSO approved the project "*Appui au processus de réconciliation nationale au Burkina Faso*" (\$2,000,000) which will support the development of strategic instruments to guide the national reconciliation process and the establishment of lasting peace in Burkina Faso. The project will be implemented by UNDP and OHCHR and will support the inclusive participation of women, youth (15-35 years), internally displaced persons (IDPs) and affected communities in national reconciliation initiatives.

In **Burundi**, PBSO approved the project "*The Kibira Peace Sanctuary*" (\$3,000,000). This project uses an innovative blended finance and public-private partnership approach to support peacebuilding and conservation interventions in the Kibira National Park in Burundi. It aims at bringing peace dividends to local communities and enabling private sector investments into the park that generate profits and enable the financial sustainability of community security and livelihoods for local communities in and around the park and, ultimately, at national level. UNCDF is the implementing partner.

In **Cameroon**, PBSO approved two projects: (i) "*Peace through Health: peacebuilding and violence reduction in communities in the Far-North, through inclusive health and social interventions*" (\$2,562,043). This project aims to use health interventions as an entry point to support national entities and local communities to engage in dialogue on security issues and to strengthen trust and social cohesion in the Far-North region. The project will help deliver shared healthcare and health services as a confidence-building measure and strengthen the capacities of national institutions for an improved Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process in the Far-North region. WHO and IOM are the implementing partners; (ii) "*Leveraging community participation in local governance*

Her Excellency
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Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

for effective conflict prevention and resolution in the Littoral and West regions affected by the North-West and South-West crisis in Cameroon” (\$2,000,000). This project aims to reduce and prevent tensions between populations displaced by the crisis in the North-West (NW) and South-West (SW) and host communities in the Littoral and West regions. The project will help improve protection and socio-economic integration for displaced persons, strengthen existing mechanisms to address inter-communal competition over access to basic services and livelihoods and enhance capacities for collaboration between communities and with local authorities. UN-Habitat and UN Women are the implementing partners. Additionally, the project for a Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat in Cameroon: “*Projet Secrétariat : Appui à la Coordination et au Suivi des Projets du Fonds pour la Consolidation de la Paix (PBF) au Cameroun*” was granted a cost extension of \$1,287,210 in February 2022, allowing it to provide essential coordination, analytical and monitoring and evaluation support to PBF projects and the steering committee until July 2024.

In the **Central African Republic**, PBSO approved the project “*Appui au dialogue social et communautaire inclusif pour la paix en République Centrafricaine*” (\$3,508,593). This project aims to enhance inclusive community dialogue in the North-West and South-East regions in the lead up to the local elections scheduled for 2022, with a view to reducing intercommunal conflict, increasing youth and women engagement in the democratic and dialogue process and fostering responsive local governance. UNDP and UN Women are the implementing partners.

In **Chad**, PBSO approved three projects: (i) “*Appui à une transition institutionnelle et politique inclusive et apaisée au Tchad*” (\$4,000,000). This project aims to facilitate an inclusive, credible and transparent implementation of the Chadian transition process, with a focus on the national dialogue and in line with international human rights standards. It seeks to do this by supporting effective and efficient structures, to foster transition and operationalize the dialogue process, establish rules and mechanisms that ensure transparency, improve stakeholder engagement and participation (particularly of women and youth), and set up a system to facilitate and monitor the implementation of the dialogue outcomes. UNDP, UNFPA and OHCHR are the implementing partners; (ii) “*Appui à la mise en place d'un Observatoire de la Promotion de l'Égalité et de l'Équité de genre au Tchad*” (\$1,500,000). This project aims to support the establishment of an Observatory for the Promotion of Gender Equality and Equity (OPEG) in Chad, in accordance with the requirements of the National Gender Policy (PNG) adopted in 2017. The PNG mentions the OPEG as one of the institutional mechanisms for implementation, monitoring and evaluation, aiming to create the appropriate conditions for broader participation of all state and non-state actors with a view to ensuring equality and equity between men and women, as a guarantee for sustainable development. UNFPA, OHCHR and FAO are the implementing partners; (iii) “*Consolidation de la paix et de la sécurité entre les communautés d'agriculteurs et d'éleveurs dans les provinces du Salamat, du Sila et du Ouaddaï*” (\$3,500,000). This project aims to strengthen local, customary and/or traditional committees for the prevention and management of farmer-herder conflicts, in addition to supporting local judicial bodies. The project will support farmer-herder dialogues for conflict prevention through the establishment of memoranda of understanding and compensation plans for victims of such conflicts. FAO, WFP and UNDP are the implementing partners.

In **Colombia**, PBSO approved the project “*Natural Paz – Naturaleza por la paz*” (\$3,000,000). This project aims to support economic stabilization of conflict-affected areas, improving the quality of life of people living in collective territories and peasant reserve areas, benefiting associations of small producers and women’s organizations, and

strengthening peacebuilding efforts through the leverage of private investment with a positive impact on the environment. UNDP and UNEP are the implementing partners.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, PBSO approved “*Renforcer le leadership des femmes et des filles pour la paix au Kasai et Kasai Central* » (\$2,000,000) which will be jointly implemented by UN Women and Interpeace to strengthen the role of women and girls in community level and institutional peacebuilding and social cohesion mechanisms in the provinces of Kasai and Kasai central where the Kamwina Nsapu militia have exacerbated conflict drivers. PBSO also approved a cost extension to the project “*Appui aux ex-combattants et communautés dans le cadre des démobilisations spontanées par des initiatives de réinsertion socio-économique et de justice transitionnelle au Kasai et dans le Tanganyika en RDC*” for an additional \$1,000,000, bringing the total project budget to \$7,000,000. This project’s main goal is to accompany the community-based reintegration of spontaneously demobilized and returnees from Angola in the Kasai Central, Kasai and Tanganyika provinces. The cost extension will focus on expanding reintegration activities in Tanganyika ahead of the planned withdrawal of MONUSCO from that province and building on lessons learned from the first phase of implementation of the project. UNDP and IOM are the implementing partners.

In **The Gambia**, PBSO approved the project “*Support to the implementation and monitoring of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) recommendations in The Gambia*” (\$3,494,150). Following on from the PBF’s support to the transitional justice processes, including the set-up and the operation of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, from 2017 till mid-2021, this new project will enable the UN to continue its vital support to the Government and the people of The Gambia in the next steps of the transitional justice processes with a focus on victim participation and justice. It will also support the human rights mechanisms in the country and ensure their connection to and coordination with the transitional justice processes, supporting inclusivity and legitimacy of these major processes for the people of The Gambia. UNDP and OHCHR are the implementing partners.

In **Guinea**, PBSO approved a cost extension to the project “*Projet Secrétariat: Appui à la Coordination des Projets du Fonds pour la Consolidation de la Paix (PBF) en République de Guinée*” for an additional \$510,891, bringing the total project budget to \$1,127,992. This cost extension will enable the PBF Secretariat to continue to provide their coordination, oversight, technical assistance and monitoring and evaluation support to the PBF project portfolio over the next year, including additional peacebuilding capacity support to the UN agencies and government/CSO stakeholders. UNDP is the implementing partner.

In **Guatemala**, PBSO approved three projects: (i) “*Profesionalización, protección y participación ciudadana para una justicia más independiente*” (\$ 2,500,000), a joint project of UNDP, OHCHR and UNODC, aims to create conditions for professionalizing the Guatemalan judiciary so as to meet international standards and afford greater security to individuals working in the sector so that they may operate with greater independence and efficacy. (ii) “*Promoviendo la gestión del entorno social, político e institucional para contribuir a disminuir la conflictividad agraria en el Valle del Polochic*” (\$1,500,000), a project which aims to strengthen local capacities for preventing and managing agrarian conflicts in the Valle del Polochic whilst supporting efforts towards greater food security in the region. Implemented by FAO, WFP and OHCHR, the project will work with public institutions, indigenous and rural communities and other local actors. (iii) “*Consolidando infraestructuras para sostener la paz*” (\$1,500,000) will be implemented by UNDP,

UNESCO and UNWOMEN in close collaboration with the government and civil society institutions to create institutional capacities and conditions for enhancing civic participation and inclusive dialogue spaces with a view to transforming conflicts in a preventive and participatory manner.

In **Guinea**, PBSO approved a cost extension for “*Projet Secrétariat: Appui à la Coordination des Projets du Fonds pour la Consolidation de la Paix (PBF) en République de Guinée*” (\$510,890.76) which will allow the Peacebuilding Fund to maintain its secretariat in Guinea, providing coordination and implementation support to ongoing projects in Guinea.

In **Guinea-Bissau**, PBSO approved the project “*Enhancing the human rights protection system in Guinea-Bissau*” (\$3,343,350). This project aims to prevent human rights violations and impunity in Guinea-Bissau and their potential to trigger conflict and exacerbate tensions and inequalities. The project will support efforts towards establishing an independent National Human Rights Institution; will support the preparation and operationalization of an inclusive human rights National Action Plan; support the Government to engage with the UN Human Rights mechanisms; and support the actions and engagement of human rights CSOs and human rights defenders, paying particular attention to needs of women and of children. UNDP, UNICEF and OHCHR are the implementing partners.

In **Haiti**, PBSO approved the project “*Renforcer la cohésion sociale en Haïti au travers de mécanismes de redevabilité et de transparence opérationnels*” (\$3,000,000). This project seeks to strengthen social cohesion in Haiti and to improve state-citizens relations through the prevention of acts of corruption and an effective mechanism for the peaceful resolution of conflicts related to impunity and corruption. UNDP and UNODC are the implementing partners.

In **Kenya**, PBSO approved “*Enhancing Early Warning & Prevention to Counter Hate Speech and Incitement Ahead of the 2022 Elections in Kenya*” (\$1,000,000), a UNDP and OHCHR project implemented in collaboration with the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) and UWIANO Platform for Peace. The project will equip national stakeholders with innovative and gender-sensitive tools to support their early warning engagement and prevention responses during the electoral period, with a particular focus on directly supporting national institutions to counter hate speech and incitement to violence.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, PBSO approved “*Inclusive governance and shared identity for sustainable peace and development*” (\$3,000,000), which aims to strengthen shared and inclusive civic identity through the promotion of a Peacebuilding Architecture that encompasses governance and accountability, rule of law and human rights, age and gender equality, and which will be jointly implemented by UNDP, OHCHR and UNICEF.

In **Liberia**, PBSO approved the project “*Delivering Peace Dividends in Liberia: Consolidating National, Regional and Local Reconciliation and Social Cohesion Opportunities*” (\$3,000,000). This project aims to support peaceful co-existence and local reconciliation through bringing together national, regional and local reconciliation and social cohesion initiatives and actors in six key counties in Liberia, in support of the county reconciliation plans and the national reconciliation agenda. UNDP and FAO are the implementing partners.

In **Mali**, PBSO approved two projects: (i) “*Soutien à l'auto-emploi de la jeunesse rurale, vecteur de paix et de cohésion sociale au Mali*” (\$ 2,500,000), which will be

implemented by FAO, IOM and UNESCO in the Kayes and Sikasso region. The project aims to strengthen the participation of women and youth in local community decision making fora whilst also supporting the creation of sustainable employment opportunities for young women and men in the region. (ii) “*Projet d’appui à la prévention électorale et promotion de la gouvernance démocratique au Mali*” (\$2,000,000), a project whose primary objective is to create conditions for peaceful elections by enhancing spaces for political dialogue, particularly through the increased participation of women and youth and by strengthening capacities for early warning and monitoring of human rights. The project will be implemented by UNDP and UNWOMEN.

In **Mauritania**, PBSO approved the project “*Appui à la coordination et au suivi des Projets du Fonds de Consolidation pour la Paix (PBF)*” (\$949,470) in February 2022, which will support the creation of a PBF secretariat dedicated to coordinating PBF projects and providing Design, Monitoring and Evaluation support to project recipients as well as strengthening the capacity of the national steering committee set up following Mauritania’s successful eligibility request to the PBF in 2020.

In **Somalia**, PBSO approved three projects: (i) “*Support Political Transition in Somalia*” (\$2,000,000). This project will support the implementation of the Communiqué of the National Consultative Council Conference on Electoral Issues and the associated Roadmap for Completion of the State-Building Process in Somalia, agreed to by Somali leaders on 27 May 2021. It would also support continued inclusive consultations about core state-building priorities and support the development of nationally owned joint programmes to conclude the implementation of the Roadmap. UNDP is the implementing partner; (ii) “*Women, Peace and Protection Programme*” (\$5,000,000). This project constitutes a UN flagship initiative on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) with the objective to promote women’s meaningful participation in peacebuilding processes, particularly within decision-making and leadership roles, and to sustain peace at national and community level. It will engage, empower and capacitate women through legislative provisions, policy interventions, and strengthen and establish infrastructures for peacebuilding. UNDP and UN Women are the implementing partners; (iii) “*Bridging the “Youth Gap” – Strengthening Community-Based Reintegration Mechanisms – A IOM/UNICEF Partnership for Community Youth and Youth Formerly Associated with Al-Shabaab*” (\$3,000,000) was approved in February 2022 and will pilot a youth- and community-led joint reintegration and youth development program for marginalized youth and those formerly associated with Al Shabab in Baidoa (Southwest), Kismayo (Jubaland), Dhusamareb (Galmudug) and Jowhar (Hirshabelle) to increase community acceptance of marginalized youth and increase their access to opportunities to meaningfully contribute to their communities.

In **South Sudan**, PBSO approved four projects: (i) “*Secretariat support to the PBF portfolio in South Sudan*” (\$2,148,026). This project will enable the establishment of a PBF Secretariat based in the Resident Coordinator’s office in Juba, which will support the establishment and regular work of the Steering Committee to be co-chaired by the Ministry for Peacebuilding and the DSRSG/RC/HC. It will also coordinate and monitor a growing portfolio of PBF-funded projects in line with the PBF Strategic Results Framework developed for South Sudan, and provide quality-control and technical support on programming and reporting for UN and non-UN recipient entities. UNDP is the implementing partner; (ii) “*Support to a people-driven and gender responsive permanent constitution making process in South Sudan*” (\$4,000,045). This project aims to support the establishment of constitution

making institutions such as the National Constitution Review Commission, the Constitution Drafting Committee and the National Constitutional Conference. It will also strengthen the capacity of non-government and community organizations to participate in the constitution-making process, to ensure full participation of women and youth in the process and to help build consensus on substantive constitutional issues. UNDP, UN Women and UNESCO are the implementing partners; (iii) “*Community Action for Peaceful Resolution of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Disputes and Conflicts*” (\$3,700,000). This project will support the capacity of statutory and customary mechanisms for dispute resolution in urban and peri-urban areas around Juba, Rubkona and Wau. It will adopt a community-driven approach with a focus on local chiefs, women’s leadership and youth representatives with a view to reducing tensions and the risk of violence related to HLP disputes in the project target areas. IOM and FAO are the implementing partners. (iv) “*Building peace through promoting inclusive and participatory transitional justice processes and mechanisms in South Sudan*” (\$3,997, 825.76) will support the design, setting-up and operationalization of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) as one of the transitional justice mechanisms envisaged under Chapter V of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). The project will be implemented by OHCHR, UNDP and UNHCR and will also sensitize interlocutors and beneficiaries about the importance of a holistic transitional justice approach.

In **Sri Lanka**, PBSO approved the project “*Countering hate speech through education and advocacy for improving social cohesion in Sri Lanka*” (\$3,000,000). This project aims to support the government and community efforts to prevent hate speech and its possible effects on community tensions and violence, while encouraging and supporting peace champions and positive community exchanges and messages, which promote social cohesion and peaceful inter-community interactions. This project will build on previous PBF support and work with community leaders, as well as women and youth champions towards more cohesive and peaceful communities. UNDP and UNICEF are the implementing partners.

In **Sudan**, PBSO approved two projects: (i) “*Refugee and IDP Profiling Towards Sustainable Peace and Durable Solutions in Darfur*” (\$2,000,129) to be implemented by UNHCR and IOM in West, North and Central Darfur. The project will contribute to the design of conflict sensitive area-based programming and promote social cohesion through the production, dissemination and use of data on broader socio-economic contexts of displaced populations, nomads and non-displaced communities in areas of return and current settlement. (ii) “*Peacebuilding and Human Rights in Support of Durable Solutions for IDPs and Affected Communities: The Right to Adequate Housing in West Darfur*” (\$4,000,000), a joint project of UNHABITAT, UNHCR and Rural Community Development Organization (RCDO) addresses the right to adequate housing in West Darfur by creating viable options for the voluntary and sustainable return, local integration, and/or relocation of IDPs, as well as mitigate inter-communal tensions related to their displacement.

PBSO also approved six cross-border projects: (i) **Sierra Leone-Guinea cross-border** project “*Building cross border peace and strengthening sustainable livelihoods of cattle herders and crop farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea*” (\$4,550,000) which aims to strengthen the relationship between Sierra Leone and Guinea by supporting climate-smart livelihoods and promoting increased herder and farmer cooperation to address herder-farmer conflicts in the Falaba district and Faranah prefecture. The project will be implemented by WFP and IOM; (ii) **Côte d’Ivoire-Burkina Faso cross-border** project “*Renforcer la gouvernance des zones frontalières pour consolider la cohésion sociale et prévenir les conflits*” (\$4,000,000), which aims to strengthen the resilience of local populations facing

increased threats related to the Sahelian security crisis. Implemented by UNICEF and UNDP, the project will prioritize support to the institutional framework for border management, community engagement and trust building between local government representatives and populations as well as improving access to basic social services. (iii) **Burkina Faso-Mali and Niger** cross-border project “*AILP: Appui aux Initiatives Locales de promotion de la Paix*” (\$2,500,000) aims to support local civil society organizations working to promote peace in the Liptako Gourma region through a small grants project accompanied by technical assistance. The project will be administered by Mercy Corps. (iv) **Angola-Democratic Republic of the Congo** cross-border project “*Promoting community stabilization in border communities through durable solutions for mixed migration flows and effective border management between Angola and the DRC*”, (\$5,100,000), a joint IOM and UNHCR project that will address both proximate drivers of displacement and drivers of conflict along the Angolan-Congolese border such as the porous borders, lack of access to rights and basic services, land and income in areas of origin to promote peaceful coexistence and improve human security along the DRC-Angolan border. (v) **Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan** cross-border project “*Shared prosperity through cooperation in border regions of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan*” (\$3,000,000) will promote environmental and socio-economic cooperation between the two countries through the creation of networks to share resources on climate smart agricultural practices and more broadly foster positive social, cultural and economic exchange across borders. FAO and UNFP are the implementing partners on this project. (vi) **Gambia-Senegal** cross-border project “*Supporting Cross-Border Cooperation for Increased Community Resilience and Social Cohesion in The Gambia and Senegal*” (\$3,800,000) aims to strengthen cross-border cooperation between border authorities and communities to address issues of mistrust between authorities and communities as well as rising transnational organized crime in the border regions between the two countries.

Finally, PBSO approved 38 projects totaling \$51.5 million in 23 countries through the **Gender and Youth promotion Initiatives**. A total of 19 Gender Promotion Initiative (GPI) proposals totaling \$25.74 million as well as a total of 19 Youth Promotion Initiative proposals also totaling \$25.74 million have been approved. A total of 11 projects focused on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support totaling \$15.6 million as well as 27 projects focused on civic space totaling \$35.9 million have been approved. Of the approved projects 21 were submitted by UN entities, 4 are UN-CSO proposals and 13 projects were submitted by CSOs.

I would be grateful if you could share this information with the members of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



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