

13 October 2021

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 third quarter of 2021.

In compliance with the PBF's Terms of Reference and Guidelines, all submissions have been reviewed by the 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 stratégique à la réforme du secteur de la sécurité, Phase II*" (\$2,500,000). The project seeks to promote governance of the security sector through the implementation, coordination and synergy of strategic, political and operational supports resulting from the Policy of National Security and related sectoral policies. The implementation of the Policy should over the next two years strengthen: the effectiveness of the defense and security forces, while respecting human rights, the efficiency of criminal justice, internal and external governance of the security sector for improved accountability. UNDP and UNODC are the implementing partners.

In **Guinea**, PBSO approved the project "*Renforcement du dialogue multi-acteurs pour une gouvernance foncière et environnementale responsable en Basse Guinée*" (\$2,100,000). The project aims to support inclusive dialogue and conflict resolution mechanisms towards more responsible and secure land governance and use in mining zones in Basse Guinée, while providing alternative and environmentally responsible livelihoods opportunities for communities. The project will also enable greater cooperation and coordination with regard to mining-related conflict with other key partners, including International Financial Institutions. UN-Habitat, UNDP and ACORD Guinea are the implementing partners.

In **Liberia**, PBSO approved the project "*Promoting Inclusive Political Participation and Elimination of Violence Against Women in Politics*" (\$2,000,000). The project aims to support greater participation of women at all levels in political and governance processes, as well as to support more effective prevention and response strategies to Violence Against Women in Elections and Politics (VAWiE/P) ahead of the 2023 elections. The project will

His Excellency  
Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees  
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

work with political parties, the National Elections Commission, media, community leaders and organizations, various Ministries and other stakeholders towards a more conducive enabling environment for pro-active and violence-free participation of women in political and democratic processes, including the upcoming elections. UN Women and UNDP are the implementing partners.

**In Mauritania**, PBSO approved the project “*Prévention de l’extrémisme violent à travers l’autonomisation des jeunes en conflit avec la loi et le renforcement de l’accès aux droits et à la justice*” (\$1,479,494). The project aims to promote the active participation, stronger access to rights, including justice, and the socio-professional empowerment of young people in conflict with the law, and in so doing, contribute to social cohesion and prevention of violent extremism. UNODC and ILO are the implementing partners.

**In Niger**, PBSO approved three projects: i) “*Appui à l’amélioration de la protection et à la sécurité communautaire des populations frontalières dans le nord de la région de Tillabéri*” (\$2,700,000). The project aims to provide support for improving the protection of populations in general and people at risk of statelessness, in particular in the border areas of the Tillabéri region, as well as support to the improvement of stability, inter-community relations and dialogue between border communities and state structures in the departments of Tera, Ayerou and Abala. IOM, UNHCR and UNODC are the implementing partners; ii) “*Prévention et gestion pacifique de conflits liés à l’accès et à la gestion des ressources naturelles dans les communes nord de la région de Zinder (PREGECON)*” (\$2,300,000). The project aims to strengthen and make more inclusive local mechanisms for the prevention and management of conflicts related to access and management of natural resources and the economic and social empowerment of young people and women in local development. FAO and UNFPA are the implementing partners; iii) “*Renforcement de la résilience des communautés du Sud Maradi face aux risques d’exposition à l’extrémisme violent*” (\$2,799,655). The project pursues a prevention approach in order to reduce the risks of radicalization and violent extremism among vulnerable people in Maradi (border with Nigeria). UNDP and UN Women are the implementing partners.

**In South Sudan**, PBSO approved a cost extension to the project “*Youth Action for Reduced Violence and Enhanced Social Cohesion in Wau, South Sudan*” for an additional \$1,287,745, bringing the total project budget to \$2,787,745. This project will support at-risk youth to be constructively engaged with their community, enabling the institutionalization of the successful approach piloted during the first phase of the project and supporting future engagement of youth gangs in the newly formed Ministry of Peacebuilding at state and national level. It will also continue to support gender-transformative approaches and scale up the reintegration of juveniles in detention. IOM and UNESCO are the implementing partners.

**In Sudan**, PBSO approved the project “*Supporting Sustainable Peace in Blue Nile State through Gender-Responsive Natural Resource Governance, Inclusive Conflict Resolution Mechanisms and Climate-Resilient Livelihoods*” (\$3,982,124.51). This project aims to support and engender the peace process in Blue Nile state by enhancing climate resilient livelihoods options for women, youth and other marginalized groups, improving the local governance of natural resources by ensuring the full and equal representation of women, and strengthening the local conflict resolution mechanisms that underpin the development prospects of all groups. UNEP, UN Women and UNDP are the implementing partners.

Finally, PBSO approved the **Côte d’Ivoire-Guinea cross-border** project “*Consolider la Cohésion Sociale transfrontalière entre la Côte d’Ivoire et la Guinée pour une meilleure compréhension et anticipation des risques et le renforcement de la confiance et de la collaboration entre les acteurs locaux*” (\$3,712,896). The project aims to address cross-border and border zone community tensions, especially between herders and farmers, by strengthening local dialogue and responding to specific conflicts on use of land and other natural resources through participatory processes, including finding solutions to transhumance challenges, while empowering women and youth and local authorities. IOM and FAO are the implementing partners.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Oscar Fernández-Taranco', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Oscar Fernández-Taranco  
Assistant Secretary-General  
for Peacebuilding Support