



# The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund

## Great Lakes



United Nations  
Peacebuilding

JUNE 2020

### PBF Investments in Burundi

**TOTAL APPROVED**  **\$85.68 M**  
**CURRENT PORTFOLIO**  **\$13.49 M**

#### PARTNERS



*Search for Common Ground, Netherlands Institute for Multi-Party Democracy, CORDAID,*

### PBF Investments in DRC

**TOTAL APPROVED**  **\$57.99 M**  
**CURRENT PORTFOLIO**  **\$14.75 M**  
 + \$ 1,500,000 to DRC Stabilization ISSSS Fund

#### PARTNERS



*DRC-ISSSS, Search for Common Ground, Danish Refugee Council, International Alert*

### PBF Investments in Uganda

**TOTAL APPROVED**  **\$17.94 M**  
**CURRENT PORTFOLIO**  **\$2.48 M**  
 + \$ 1,500,000 to DRC Stabilization ISSSS Fund

#### PARTNERS



### PBF Investments in Rwanda

**TOTAL APPROVED**  **\$1.49M**  
**CURRENT PORTFOLIO**  **\$1.49M**  
 + \$ 1,500,000 to DRC Stabilization ISSSS Fund

#### PARTNERS



## PEACEBUILDING CHALLENGES

The Peacebuilding Fund is increasing its investments in the Great Lakes region, supporting national, cross-border and regional peacebuilding initiatives. Peacebuilding challenges in the region cut across national borders and issues of insecurity, proliferation of arms and illegal trafficking, internal displacement, inter-communal tension, socio-economic development as well as humanitarian needs. In particular, the persistent activities of foreign armed groups in the Eastern part of the DRC and on neighboring territories continue to fuel conflict and prevent stability and long-term peace.

The PBF is supporting projects that provide integrated approaches to address the structural causes of insecurity and instability in the region, including programmatic interventions that help prevent recruitment, promote defection and facilitate the reintegration of former combatants including through supporting new approaches in Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration, and Resettlement (DDR/RR); initiatives that build trust at intra and inter communal level and between communities and public authorities; and efforts to empower young people and women to participate in the economic, social and political life of their communities.

## PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORT IN RWANDA

Following the engagement of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes with the Government of Rwanda, the Fund approved a project supporting the reintegration of former Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) combatants and dependents repatriated to Rwanda from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The project has a strong focus on women's empowerment and gender equality by strengthening the capacities of the Rwandan Demobilization and Reintegration Commission to mainstream gender equality into its repatriation and reintegration service. The project will also aim to serve as an incentive for other combatants to participate in the repatriation and demobilization process.

PBF Investments in Congo 

TOTAL APPROVED  \$2.88 M  
CURRENT PORTFOLIO  \$2.88 M

## PARTNERS

PBF Investments in Tanzania 

TOTAL APPROVED  \$945.68 M

## PARTNERS

GLR Fund

## PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORT IN DRC

The PBF has supported UN stabilization efforts in three eastern provinces, contributing to stabilization efforts in line with the International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy (ISSSS) for Eastern DRC, for which it helped fund pilot projects. The Fund was instrumental in the setting up of the multi-donor Stabilization Coherence Trust Fund, and used a matching financing approach to catalyze more support for the Trust Fund, resulting in a total capitalization of the Stabilization Coherence Fund in its first year of \$25 million.

More recently, the PBF has started to support national actors in addressing localized conflict in the Kasai, Kasai Central and Tanganyika regions, which saw a significant outburst of violence and intensifying conflicts in recent years, and in seizing new peacebuilding opportunities as they arise. Recently approved projects under the renewal of DRC's eligibility to the PBF focus on durable solutions for peaceful cohabitation between communities, strengthening the role of

women and youth in local governance and peacebuilding and promoting social cohesion and building trust through community policing, dialogue and socio-economic revitalization.

## SNAPSHOT OF PBF IN DRC

- The Secretary-General renewed PBF eligibility in March 2020 covering the 2020-2024 period.
- The Fund will continue to invest in DRC under its transition window.
- In 2019, the Fund invested **\$6 million** on community-based reintegration following the spontaneous surrender of combatants that returned to vulnerable communities in Kasai, Kasai Central and Tanganyika.

## PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORT IN UGANDA

SNAPSHOT OF PBF  
IN UGANDA

- In 2019, PBF approved a project supporting the inclusion of youth in existing dialogue and mediation mechanisms at local and national level and strengthening trust between communities and security institutions.

The PBF has supported efforts to enhance protection systems for women and children from all forms of violence, strengthened human rights, and assisted on sustainable livelihoods and economic recovery. Currently, a PBF-funded project builds on existing national Infrastructures for Peace (IfP) to enable the meaningful inclusion of youth in platforms for dialogue and mediation, the development of youth champions for peace and the engagement of cultural leaders in favour of greater youth inclusion. The PBF-supported project is an opportunity to continue supporting the IfP by ensuring greater inclusion of young women and men in these mechanisms, in order to strengthen their ability to be agents of peace and prevention of conflict and violence in the country

## PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORT IN BURUNDI

Current projects build on the PBF's long-time engagement in Burundi since 2007 to support local conflict prevention and resolution, empower youth and women to participate in decision-making and become positive agents of change, and alleviate the negative consequences of displacements and returns. Projects have supported the Women's Mediation Network, established in 2015 to address local conflicts and contribute to a peaceful environment has been particularly recognized and have brought together young women and men with opposing political affiliations to jointly commit to non-violence and to participate actively and peacefully in the political life of the country.

## SNAPSHOT OF PBF IN BURUNDI

- The PBF's 2018-approved flagship project supports a network of women mediators.
- New mediators were trained to strengthen the existing women's mediation network at the community level, with skills -building and peer-to-peer support. Their efforts in the communities are complemented with legal aid services and support to local police.

## PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORT IN CONGO

The PBF is making an important contribution to peace consolidation in the Pool region following the signing of the ceasefire agreement in December 2017 between the government and local Ninja rebels. The PBF-supported project focuses on enabling the conditions for a Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration process in line with international standards, by jump-starting reintegration and reconciliation at community level. The project has enabled local level trust-building between ex-ninjas, local communities and local officials also contributed to the resumption of modest subsistence and income-generating activities that serve to further consolidate trust between communities.

## WORKING ACROSS BORDERS

**Burundi-Tanzania:** The PBF cross-border project supported conflict prevention and peacebuilding through addressing the drivers of conflict and instability associated with forced displacement between Burundi and Tanzania. It aimed to promote concrete cross-border, human rights-based and multi-agency approaches to peacebuilding in line with Pillar 3 (Mobility) and Pillar 6 (Justice and Conflict Prevention) of the UN Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework

**DRC-Rwanda:** In April 2020, the PBF approved a new project focusing on the “creation of peace dividends for women and youth through increased cross-border trade and strengthened food security” between DRC and Rwanda. The project aims to address local-level food and economic insecurity as a driver of conflict in the border area between Eastern DRC and Rwanda. It will focus on strengthening social cohesion by deepening economic integration through increased cross-border trade, fostering mutual understanding and dialogue between border communities and strengthening food security, livelihood and income opportunities, particularly for women and youth.

## THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION'S ENGAGEMENT

PBC engagement in the Great Lakes was initiated in November 2017 to help mobilise support for the implementation of the UN Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework (UN GLRSF), which encapsulates a development approach to the peace and security issues in the region, and for related cross-border and regional cooperation initiatives, as also enshrined in the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the region (PSCF).

## LOOKING AHEAD

In line with the PBF's new Strategy 2020-24, the PBF intends to significantly increase its investment in cross-border and multi-country projects in the region to better address interrelated and transnational root-causes of instability.

## ABOUT THE PEACEBUILDING FUND

The UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund is the organization's financial instrument of first resort to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk or affected by violent conflict. The Fund may invest with UN entities, governments, regional organizations, multilateral banks, national multi-donor trust funds or civil society organizations.

The Fund works across pillars and supports integrated UN responses to fill critical gaps; respond quickly and with flexibility to peacebuilding opportunities; and catalyze processes and resources in a risk-tolerant fashion.