****

**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** Colombia

**TYPE OF REPORT: semi-annual**

**YEAR of report: 15/06/2021**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Title:** *“Allanando el camino”: Women and LGBT people paving a path from justice and memory toward sustaining peace in Colombia*  **Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00125908** | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** | **Type and name of recipient organizations:**  **Christian Aid Ireland (Convening Agency)**  1.Comisión Intereclesial de Justicia y Paz (JyP)  2.Colombia Diversa (CD)  3. Red Nacional de Mujeres (RNM) |
| **Date of first transfer: 12 February 2021.**  **Project end date: 9 August 2022**  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** No | |
| **Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:**  Gender promotion initiative  Youth promotion initiative  Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions  Cross-border or regional project | |
| **Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):**  **Recipient Organization Amount**  Christian Aid Ireland $ 1,100,000    Total: $ 1,100,000  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 2% (based on actuals, commitments have not been factored into this report. (Quarterly reports include both commitments and actuals in response to the UN budget category 6)  There is a low utilization rate of the actual expenditure, due to the delays outlined below due to Covid-19, the National Strike, and the temporary suspension of a partner.  \*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\*  **Gender-responsive Budgeting:**  Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: $ **897,392.63**  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: **$14959.71** | |
| **Project Gender Marker: GM3**  **Project Risk Marker: 1 medium risk to achieving outcomes**  **Project PBF focus area:** (**2.3) Conflict prevention/management** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by Christian Aid Colombia and Christian Aid Ireland  Project report approved by: Head of Peacebuilding and Global Program Development and Funding Manager.  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: | |

***NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:***

* *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
* *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
* *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
* *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*

**PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

**Briefly outline the status of the project in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500-character limit):**

Implementation of the project is broadly on track and all planned preparatory activities were conducted. However, an issue of safeguarding in relation to one of the proposed partners was identified and reported to the UNPBF in the month of March 2021, the outcome of an independent investigation is pending. The partner (the Commission for Justice and Peace -CIJP) has been momentarily suspended and the planned beginning of some programme activities the concerned partner was supposed to implement have been delayed under outcome 1 &2. To address this gap, Activity 1.2.2. has been brought forward to semester one.

Since the project start date of 11 February 2021, project inception workshop (24 participants) was held virtually, which discussed issues such as donor due diligence, project reporting timelines and project governance. Partner sub-contracts have been signed and the first payment tranche released to two partners, except CJIP due to the ongoing investigation. Project management team such as the steering committee and the project implementation team consisting of partners has been formed and the first meetings conducted. PSEA training, including a focused safeguarding training has been completed for all partners and CA project staffs in Colombia. A TOR was drawn up to recruit an external consultant to draw up the baseline report. For the implementation of the Baseline and to begin project activities, an initial meeting was conducted to discuss beneficiary organizations[[1]](#footnote-1) plans to discuss the baseline as a first activity and resolve any questions they might have.

**Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000-character limit):**

Significant project events planned within the next semester are: (OP 1.1). Virtual Platforms for women and LGBTI, micro-grants for innovative memory reconstructions (OP 1.2), training for educators and social leaders with the participation of local authorities and faith leaders (OP 2.1) and the educational campaigns challenging prejudice against women and LGBT people (OP 3.2)

Key events planned under each semester are :**Semester 1:** establishment of steering committee; hiring of new project staff; inception workshops and sensitization with target communities; baseline; preparation of activities related to Output 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.2 in all four departments. **Semester 2:** implementation ofactivities related to Output 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 (to continue on the third semester), 2.2 (to continue into the third semester); preparation and implementation of activities related to Output 3.1 (to continue onto the third semester); and continuation of activities related to Output 3.2. **Semester 3:** activities related to Output 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 and 3.2 will continue and conclude; final project audit and evaluation; project closure events and meetings.

FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize **the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to**. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500-character limit): ***Not applicable within this reporting period.***

**In a few sentences, explain whether the project has had a positive human impact. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000-character limit):**

Due to the unforeseeable delays caused by the internal investigation in relation to one key implementing partner CJIP, implementation of community focused activities for the target beneficiary organizations has not started so therefore it is too soon to determine any human impact. However, it is clear from the initial meetings with partners that they are already benefitting as a first point of capacity enhancement in managing and implementing a large-scale peacebuilding project. The preliminary meetings with beneficiary organizations, also indicate that the key beneficiaries will benefit significantly from this project as the core activities begin at community level. The project will work with 23 beneficiary organizations identified in the 4 departments and will bring about direct impact on the populations of women and LGBT people in 12 prioritized municipalities. The country context has left them very weakened and this project is an opportunity to strengthen the issues they are working on. Of particular interest, is the need to strengthen leadership work with young women and LGBT population in Colombia.

“*It is vitally important to strengthen the organizational processes that work with LGBT people. Many LGBT people have died and now it is necessary to strengthen our advocacy. The State has no plans for us, and this project is an opportunity to strengthen our organisations and advocate. We want young people to get involved and we want to tell how we have lived in the past and how some things have changed, but we must keep learning”.* Orito Diverso, LGBT beneficiary organisation from Putumayo, beneficiary of Outcomes 1 and 2.

"*Advocacy at the local level has worked and now we want to influence at the departmental and national level"* Alianza Tejedoras de vida, Womens beneficiary organization from Putumayo, beneficiary of Outcomes 1-3

“*It is the first time that something has been done in a coordinated way between women and diversity. It's an opportunity!* *"*Diversas Incorrectas, LGBT grassroot organization from Putumayo, beneficiary of Outcomes 1-3

**PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME**

*Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration). Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.*

* *“On track” refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.*
* *“On track with peacebuilding results” refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.*

*If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.*

**Outcome 1: Women, LGBT people and communities promote a culture of non-repetition, trust and acknowledgement of gender-based violence**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Off track**

**Progress summary:** *(3000-character limit)*

The key activities planned to be covered under semester one for this outcome, are off track from the initial proposed project plan, due to the safeguarding issue and momentary suspension of partner CJIP reported to Christian Aid and further reported to UNPBF in March 2021. CJIP was to lead the memory festivals and travelling exhibitions organized by women and LGBT people for clarification of truth and territorial coexistence, which is now on hold. As a risk mitigation measure, the project team worked on a new strategy, to facilitate the continuity of the activity, should CJIP be removed from participating in the project. Through partner the National Women's Network who has carried out significant amount of work with departmental networks of women, a strategy was drawn up to identify the beneficiary organizations at community level that make up the departmental networks which will be the primary stakeholders of this outcome.

To address a potential gap, beneficiary organizations that already work at the grassroots level on issues of memory recovery and leadership programs with young people were identified. This was an unplanned additional work for both partners Colombia Diversa and from the National Women's Network.

The National Women's Network held virtual meetings with 4 platforms of allied women in each of the prioritized territories to identify potential organisations. In these meetings, the National Women's Network presented their role in the project- the interested organisations shared their work that was of interest and they collectively identified common points of work in each territory.

However, compounded with this internal challenge was the resurgence of Covid positive cases in early 2021 and the national strike in April 2021, which brought about significant delay in other activities planned under semester one. The commencement of baseline activity, community visits, and all face to face interactions could not occur during this period. The lack of access to remote communities presents a huge challenge where internet usage is not common or culturally important.

Activities that were due for implementation in this semester but have been delayed relate to the identifying primary stakeholders (1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1., 2.1.2.). Although, activity 1.2.2 was also affected by the adjustment due to the suspension of CIJP, it was possible to advance in the design of the scheme for granting micro grants. Progress has been made in drawing up the steps for the granting and selection criteria of the proposals to be financed by this instrument.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000-character limit)*

Due to unforeseeable delays, key project activities planned under this outcome for semester one has not been implemented, so it is not possible to give a defined analysis on GEWE and youth inclusion responsiveness.

However, whilst planning the risk mitigation measure, National Women’s Network has taken a key role in planning for best possible alternative should it become impossible for CJIP to continue to participate in the project. 23 grass roots level beneficiary organizations have been identified, and these organizations will consist of mostly women led, or work directly for women, youth, and LGBT communities.

**Outcome 2: Women, LGBT people and youth have greater influence on decision-making over PDETs**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

Talks have been held with the beneficiary organizations in the communities to determine how the project can strengthen the civil and political participation they are seeking. An initial joint assessment has been made of their leadership and their work to date on seeking implementation of the Peace Agreement at the local level.

As part of this dialogue, project partners and local organizations reflected on the context and current political situation, and how this will affect local processes and the political and social agenda of women, youth, and the LGBT organizations. Undoubtedly, the current political context and its impact on the local processes and on the social and political agenda of women, youth and LGBT organizations, will have to be considered in the training and advocacy processes that will be carried out in the Project (Outcome 2), since it is currently a fundamental point that has absorbed the stakes of local and national organizations throughout the country and that is having a direct impact on the mobility, security, economic and social well-being of the country.

The National Women's Network has been accompanying territorial organizations in Cauca and Chocó in seeking the implementation of the gender component of the Peace Agreement through training and technical support processes that seek to strengthen and qualify participation of women in the spaces designed for these purposes, and overcome the barriers that have prevented the effective participation of women in these spaces, which have been increased by the restrictions imposed by the context of COVID-19.

During this reported period, the team of the National Women's Network has discussed and reviewed how they can contribute to strengthen leadership and peacebuilding in Cauca and Chocó within this project, and how these learnings can be applied in the work that will be done in the project focus areas of Putumayo and Valle del Cauca. This is particularly important given the election due in 2022. During the internal discussions, it was clear that one of the main targets within this outcome, is the need for enhanced understanding of the beneficiary organizations, of the road map, which is the main tool that the National government has available for the implementation of the PDET.

To achieve the progress, the National Women’s Network will align this project with other actions around the local implementation of the Peace Agreement to ensure that lessons can be shared on successful approaches and advocacy actions. This will allow the lessons learned in this type of strategy to be applied, especially considering the limitations and new challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic posed during 2020 for the development of this type of activities.

Additional progress has been the alliance established with SWEFOR, a Swedish organization that is expert in the protection of human rights defenders through strategies such as strategic communication and self-protection workshops. An exploratory meeting has been held with SWFOR to review the possibility of this alliance, and other meetings will be held to review the specific work plan in more detail.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000-character limit*

**Outcome 3: Increased visibility and engagement of women and LGBT people as advocates for the implementation of the FPA gender provisions**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress:**

**Progress summary:** *(3000-character limit)*

No specific activities were planned for this period

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:** *(1000-character limit)*

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000-character limit) | Do outcome indicators have baselines?  No, not at a proposal stage. The indicators were supposed to be defined with the baseline activity, that was due to start in semester one. But it has been slightly delayed due to resurgence of Covid restrictions and the National strike. The TOR has been drawn up to engage an external consultant for the baseline activity. We anticipate the report to be completed in early semester two of the project.  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? **Yes**  For overall project monitoring, during the reporting period the project implementation team has been formed and initial two ordinary monitoring meetings held. This team consists of the core project team from CA and 3 partners to provide oversight of project coordination between all implementing agencies and to steer project implementation to ensure delivery of key project activities.  The project steering committee has been formed which consist of leads/ senior managers from CA and all partners. The first steering committee meeting has been held to look at the existing country context with the national strikes and resurgence of Covid cases and the investigation issue with one partner CJIP and possible alternatives as a risk mitigation plan, should the partner be suspended . |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required):  The Monitoring and evaluation budget sits at 6.9 % of the budget. With a total allocation of **$ 76,011.73.**  The project has budgeted for an independent external evaluation and project audit towards the end of the project period in 2022.  No evaluation has been conducted, at the time of reporting. The project is at semester one as the official project start date being 11 February ,2021.  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: N/A |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project. | Name of funder: Amount: |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(1500 character limit)* | Due to the safeguarding issue with partner CJIP and ongoing investigation, a new mapping of beneficiary organizations had to be carried out in the 4 departments in the Project. This coupled with resurgence of Covid cases and the national strike significantly delayed the start of key project activities planned for semester one. However, these will be rescheduled in the second semester. If CIJP can no longer participate in the project, due to the safeguarding complaint, it will be necessary to adjust the project budget without affecting the objective, the results or the products originally planned.  Following contingencies are planned:  OP 1.1: Activities would be taken over by already identified beneficiary organizations that work on memory recovery issues by expanding the scale and scope of the micro-grants under A.1.2.2, project partners will support this by co-designing the grants.  OP 2.1: Activities would be taken over by the beneficiary organizations that work on leadership issues with young people (A2.1.2) supported by the National Women's Network team who will develop a training plan with a gender perspective (A.2.1.1).  Should CIJP re-join, the activities would continue as originally planned, and the beneficiary organizations will still participate in A.1.2.2 and A.2.2.1 as they have already been engaged.  In months 7-9, the activities scheduled for Semester 1 &2 will be implemented.  In months 10-12, it is expected to have a more intensive activity at the territorial level, especially with pedagogical campaigns, memory recovery activities and training for advocacy. (A.1.1.1, A.1.1.2, A .2.2.1, A.3.2.2). |

**PART IV: COVID-19**

*Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

1. Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

$

1. Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications:

The project had to delay the first field activities due to the third peak of the pandemic that has been longer and more aggressive in Colombia.

1. Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications

Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery

Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management

Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe): Delay activities.

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)

**PART V: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

*Using the* ***Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments****- provide an update on the achievement of* ***key indicators*** *at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation.* Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

|  | **Performance Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator Milestone** | **Current indicator progress** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1**  Women, LGBT people and communities promote a culture of non-repetition, trust and acknowledgement of gender based violence | **Indicator 1a:** Level of self-reported empowerment of women and LGBT people to promote recognition, reconciliation, and non-repetition | To be defined | To be defined | Programme month 12 (following completion of community- level activities) and will be captured in month 18 of the programme. | **Baseline in progress** |  |
| **Indicator 1b:** Proportion of community members who are aware of women and LGBT people's experiences of violence and approve of their resistance against targeted violence. | To be defined | To be defined | Programme month 12 (following completion of community- level activities) and will be captured in month 18 of the programme. | **Baseline in progress** |  |
| **Output 1.1**  Communities engage in reconstruction of memory and truth about violence and discrimination against women and LGBT people | **Indicator 1.1.a**: Women and LGBT people’s average levels of satisfaction with emotional recovery activities, memory festivals and travelling exhibitions Further disaggregation by ethnicity (indigenous and Afro- Colombian), and age | 0 | To be defined | Completed emotional recovery activities, memory festivals and travelling exhibition events | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 1.1.b:**  a) Number of memory festivals, travelling exhibitions and emotional recovery activities held  b) Number of women, LGBT people and wider community, public officials and other duty bearers participating in these events (including perpetrators). | 0 | ) 4 memory festivals, 4 travelling exhibitions and  b) Target: 600 people\* overall including at least 290 women, 150 LGBT people,160 youth & men ; at least 40% of these are youth. Numeric targets will not be set for duty bearers or perpetrators, although these  will be reported on. | Completed emotional recovery activities, memory festivals and travelling exhibition events | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Output 1.2**  Communities develop a collective conscience of women’s and LGBT people’s resistance against targeted violence | **Indicator 1.2.a:** Number of memories (related to cases of victims) that have been shared by/ are related to women and LGBT people that are preserved on virtual repositories | 0 | 40 new memories (10 per department) Reporting will indicate number of memories associated with women, LGBT people and Indigenous and Afro-  Colombian | Memories preserved on the virtual repository by project completion | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 1.2.b:** Number (%) of grassroots organizations / groups with, strengthened capacity to implement memory initiatives | 0 | 20/20 (100%) of LGBT and women–led grassroots organizations/ groups. | Selection of micro grants awardees and completion of micro grant scheme | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Outcome 2**  Women, LGBT people and youth have greater influence on decision-making over PDETs | **Indicator 2a:** Evidence of decision makers acting (e.g. making statements, attending events, formulating directives/ policy, allocating budget) in line with the demands of women, LGBT people and youth, across targeted municipalities | To be defined | In each of the 4 departments, decision makers incorporate statements on peace and reconciliation, directives, rules, budget allocation and participate in events, related to peace in their municipalities, as  advocated for by women, LGBT people or youth (at least 2 actions per department). | Final PDETs that Primary Stakeholders participate in under project timeframe | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 2b:** Proportion of students plan to initiate and/or lead specific peace initiatives in their community/ municipality and Proportion of students who feel adequately or very equipped to take on this role. | To be defined when activity begins | To be established following baseline. Increase in proportion and specificity of plans anticipated. Reporting to summaries types of initiatives. | Students commence studies in August 2021 and graduate June 2022. |  |  |
| **Output 2.1**  Women, LGBT people and youth trained as local leaders and agents of change | **Indicator 2.1a:** Number (%) of enrolled students who manage to complete the University of Peace diploma Disaggregated by women, LGBT people, ethnicity and age | To be defined when activity begins | Of 150 enrolled youth (70%) | Students commence studies in August 2021 and graduate June 2022. | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Output 2.2**  Women and LGBT people equipped with tools to safely engage with local authorities and promote their visions of peace and territorial co-existence | **Indicator 2.2a:** Average level of confidence of students (scale of 1 – 10) to promote peace and security in their communities | To be defined when activity begins | To be defined when activity begins | Students commence studies in August 2021 and graduate June 2022. | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 2.2b:** Perception of safety as an activist, on a scale of 1 - 10, | To be defined in the baseline | To be defined based on baseline | First and last training/ accompaniment sessions with women, | **Baseline in progress** |  |
| **Outcome 3**  Increased visibility and engagement of women and LGBT people as advocates for the implementation of the FPA gender provisions | **Indicator 3.a:** Number and description of resolutions (“Resoluciones”) issued by SIVJNIR related to the cases followed up by the programme | 0 | To be defined when activity begins | Programme month 18 | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 3.b:** Proportion of wider community in targeted departments, who can identify ‘women’ and ‘LGBT people’ as groups that face particular prejudices in daily life and the proportion that disapprove of this discrimination. | To be defined in the baseline | To be defined in the baseline | First and second educational campaign | **Baseline in progress** |  |
| **Output 3.1**  Women and LGBT people benefit from transitional justice to resolve cases of gender- based violence and discrimination | **Indicator 3.1a:** Number of cases referring to women, LGBT victims that are presented to SIVJRNR and followed up by the programme. | 0 | 11 cases (including 3 related to trans women) | Programme month 18 | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Indicator 3.1b:** Number and type of reports produced that analyze pending cases and are used to influence SIVJNR to progress cases (plus a description of how they are used) | 0 | Three reports, plus accessible IEC summaries and graphics will be produced, which analyse backlog of cases, highlighting cases relating to women, LGBT people and Afro Colombian and Indigenous people. Reports will be presented to SIVJRNR and more accessible IEC  materials will be published in mainstream newspapers. | Programme month 18 | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |
| **Output 3.2**  Women and LGBT people challenge discrimination and demand compliance with the gender provisions. | **Indicator 3.2.b:** Number and type of educational campaigns and counter actions (against hate speech) | 0 | 2 educational campaigns (using radio, social media, free press) reaching an estimated 20,000 people Counter actions responding to 30% of identified incidents of interventions against gender provisions | Completion of second educational campaign and programme month 18. | **The monitoring of this indicator will begin when activities begin** |  |

1. Partner organisations refers to core partners in the project, whereas beneficiary organisations refers to those that will benefit from the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)