

All Communications should be  
Addressed to: The Secretary for  
National Unity



Ministry of National Unity  
Private Bag B400  
Lilongwe 3  
**Malawi**

**Ref. No.: MoNU/**

**22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2022**

The Country Representative  
UNDP Malawi Country Office  
P.O. Box 30135  
Lilongwe 3.

**SUBMISSION OF SIGNED BORDER DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY  
BASED CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE BUILDING  
PROJECT DOCUMENTS**

I hereby write to submit the attached project documents dully signed by the Honourable Minister. The documents are for the above named project.

Please acknowledge receipt of the documents.

Your usual assistance is highly appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Gomani Chindebvu'.

Elizabeth Gomani Chindebvu, PhD

**SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL UNITY**

## Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund

### Project document

#### Implementing Organization(s) general information

<b>Name of participant organization(s)</b>	UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, IOM, UN Women
<b>Other implementing organization(s)</b>	<b>Lead:</b> Ministry of National Unity  <b>Contributing institutions:</b> Ministry of Homeland Security Ministry of Justice Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare Ministry of Youth and Sports Public Affairs Committee non-state actors, including civil society organizations
<b>Name of the legal representative of the organization(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shigeki Komatsubara, Resident Representative, UNDP</li> <li>• Miranda Tabifor, Country Representative a.i., UNFPA</li> <li>• Letty Chiwara, Representative, UN Women</li> <li>• Nomagugu Ncube, Chief of Mission, IOM</li> <li>• Marco Teixeira, Head of UNODC Office in Mozambique</li> </ul>
<b>Name/Title/Organization of the person responsible of the project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie van Dassen, Portfolio Manager, Governance, UNDP</li> <li>• Dorothy Nyasulu, Assistant Representative, UNFPA</li> </ul>
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1. **Project Name:** Border Districts and Community-Based Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in Malawi

#### 2. Overview

The project strengthens capabilities to mitigate and respond to existing and projected conflict, including radicalisation and terrorism and the potential for Islamic radicalization directly from Mozambique, which is playing on existing latent religious tensions at the community level. It provides support in two border districts in areas of institutional, professional, and community resources to identify, mitigate, and respond to violent conflict or risk of conflict. This includes supporting community networks, increasing their engagement in conflict identification, mitigation, and prevention, strengthening border security management, and increasing the capacity of the national peace architecture.

#### 2.1 General information

**Implementing Organizations:** UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, IOM, UN Women

**Phase I project duration:** 12 months



**Phase I starting date:** September 2022**Phase I ending date:** August 2023**Geographic Scope:** Districts of Mangochi, Mulanje.**Direct and indirect beneficiaries:**

Number of indirect beneficiaries:

	Direct	Indirect
Male	TBD	870,615
Female	TBD	962,103
Total	TBD	1,832,718

Districts is the unit of analysis this project will work with and report against. At the start of implementation traditional authority locations will be identified, but the strategy is to target districts. Direct beneficiaries will be measured according to direct participation whereas indirect beneficiaries will be at district level. In the strategy there is a provision to engage traditional leaders.

**2.2 Budget**

Total budget: US\$ 837,312

**2.3 Executive summary**

In 2021, the UNCT Malawi conducted a joint conflict assessment in the Malawi-Mozambique border districts of Mangochi, Machinga, Mulanje, and Phalombe. The assessment report, "conflict assessment in border districts", indicates that existing conflict drivers and community vulnerabilities pose a significant risk to stability. The report identifies a number of "ethnopolitical and religious conflicts" in these four districts, "most of which were/are violent" in nature. Potential drivers of conflict in these districts include: 1) porous border security, 2) chronic poverty 3) land ownership and access 4) intra and inter religious disputes 5) human rights abuses including human/children trafficking and gender-based violence. These forms of conflict at the community level demonstrate Malawi is vulnerable to existing and latent conflict including exploitation by religious extremist groups, and these conflict drivers, coupled with community vulnerabilities, represent a high degree of risk.

This project strengthens capabilities to mitigate and respond to real and potential future conflict in these four border districts on multiple levels through the strengthening of institutional, professional, and community resources to mitigate, identify, and respond to conflict. This includes supporting community networks, including women and youths, increasing their engagement in conflict identification, mitigation, and prevention, strengthening border security and counter-terrorism management, and increasing the capacity of the national peace architecture. In respect to the projected threats of border insecurity, the project will support a border security approach that integrates security, socio-cultural factors and the local economy into a single system. The approach recognises that border communities are unique in livelihoods, socio-economic relationships, and cultures, and that successful peacebuilding initiatives are owned and led by people in their local context. It includes support for established formal institutional structures, including the legal framework and district peace committees, as well as community-led initiatives and platforms.

**2.4 Project general objective**

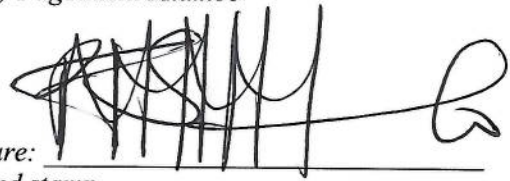
This project will consist of two phases. Phase 1 of the project strengthens capabilities to mitigate and respond to real and surfacing conflict in two out of four target border districts. It strengthens institutional, professional, and community resources to identify, mitigate, and respond to conflict and improve human security. Specifically, it will 1) increase the capacity of the national peace architecture to target conflict, 2) improve border security and counter-terrorism management; and 3) assist community networks in conflict

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identification, mitigation, and prevention by increasing their participation in conflict identification, mitigation, and prevention. Phase 2 of the project will consolidate the actions and scale up activities of phase 1 to a wider range of border districts, support increase public awareness and engagement with the peace architecture and continue to strengthen participatory models of conflict identification and resolution.

**2.5 Names and signatures of participant organizations and counterparts**

Participating Organizations	Government Counterparts
<p><b>UNDP</b> Challa Getachew OIC – Deputy Resident Representative</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Challa kumsa</i> 55CE989E5A55446...</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp 04-Oct-2022</p>	<p><b>Ministry of National Unity</b> Timothy Pagonachi Mtambo</p>  <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp _____</p>
<p><b>UNFPA</b> Miranda Tabifor Country Representative a.i.</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Miranda Tabifor</i> 6793947058C2447...</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp 04-Oct-2022</p>	
<p><b>UN Women</b> Letty Chiwara Representative</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Letty Chiwara</i> 980FE23F1D81415...</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp 04-Oct-2022</p>	
<p><b>IOM</b> Nomagugu Ncube Chief of Mission</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Nomagugu Ncube</i> F3034F2FE0894E2...</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp 04-Oct-2022</p>	
<p><b>UNODC</b> Marco Teixeira, Head of UNODC Office in Mozambique</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Marco Teixeira</i> FB0700BEE301A...</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date and stamp 04-Oct-2022</p>	







### 3. Situation analysis

The national protests following the 2019 contested election not only included civil society-led demonstrations across the country but also localised conflicts and civil unrest between different religious communities in Mangochi and Machinga. A 2021 United Nations report titled "Conflict Assessment in Border Districts" indicates that existing conflict drivers and community vulnerabilities pose a significant risk to stability in the border communities of Mangochi, Machinga, Mulanje and Phalombe. The report identifies a number of "ethnopolitical and religious conflicts" in these four districts, 'most of which were/are violent' in nature. Potential drivers of conflict in these districts include: 1) porous border security, 2) chronic poverty 3) land ownership and access 4) intra and inter religious disputes 5) human rights abuses including human/children trafficking and gender-based violence.

These forms of conflict at the community level demonstrate Malawi is vulnerable to existing and latent conflict including exploitation by religious extremist groups, and these conflict drivers, coupled with community vulnerabilities, represent a high degree of risk. Furthermore, engagement between communities across the border networks between Malawi and Mozambique, including local authorities, border agencies, and officials in the target districts, is irregular, and these are not able to effectively manage a safe border area for communities. Even this limited engagement between national counterparts does not extend beyond key agencies into community-based structures including women's groups and youth networks.

Malawi is also currently facing the potential regional spread of terrorism, which has recently turned from a latent to an emerging threat. Malawi was rated low-risk with regards to terrorism. However, this rating was elevated to moderate due to the ongoing terrorism risks in neighbouring Mozambique. Islamic insurgents have had increasing influence and terrorist actions in Cabo Delgado Province demonstrates the risk these groups pose to remote communities. Malawi shares approximately 900km of border with Mozambique, much of which lacks clear demarcation infrastructure with many informal crossing points. A 2021 IOM flow monitoring baseline assessment on the Mulanje-Mozambique border corridor identified over 20 informal crossing points.<sup>1</sup>

The deployment of regional armed forces in 2021 has dispersed extremist military units from their centres of operation, and this has increased risk to areas of Malawi, as these groups could exploit vulnerabilities. Areas such as the forests of Namizimu are largely unpatrolled and are potentially fertile ground for extremist groups. Respondents interviewed for the conflict report "acknowledged that an escalation or deterioration of the situation in northern Mozambique could have dire consequences for border communities beyond the influx of refugees, including an influx of small arms and light weapons, disruption of healthcare services, and the potential for recruitment of young Malawians and exploitation of existing conflicts by extremist propaganda."<sup>2</sup> Presently, there are no recorded direct attacks in Malawi. However, the risk of spill over, recruitment of the disadvantaged and exploitation of local conflict and grievances is heightened.

Young people are especially vulnerable to exposure to these influences, and with high formal unemployment rates, limited access to education<sup>3</sup> and a lack of social space coupled with high poverty

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<sup>1</sup> IOM. 2021. High Mobility Location Assessment. 2021.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Malawi Social Cohesion and Conflict Prevention Programme. 2021. Border Districts Conflict Assessment Report. Pg.7. 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Approximately 75 percent of the population are the below the age of 35. Access to quality education is also limited. Despite a high net enrolment only 29 percent of girls and 36 percent of boys complete their primary education. Enrolment in secondary school remains low with only 15 percent of children enrolled nationwide. The

levels amongst young people, a large proportion of the population is at risk.<sup>4</sup> And women's rights are also threatened by extreme religious viewpoints. In Mozambique and other parts of East Africa these espouse a Wahhabism doctrine that severely limits access to rights for women and girls. Human rights of women and girls are also particularly vulnerable in conflict related to land access and ownership, limited access to food security and poverty. The conflict patterns identified in the conflict assessment amplify risk and the multiple threats to the human security of women. These include heightened levels of insecurity, increased levels of sexual and gender-based violence, and an increase in harmful practices such as child marriage without secure networks of support for girls and women survivors to access. There are higher rates of harmful practices, and these are exposed to increased risks of instability and the threat of spill over. To be inserted: in the districts of Mulanje and Mangochi harmful initiation rights are particularly prevalent with 72% and 73% respectively against a national average of 39%. The sexual orientated sessions include labia stretching and circumcision, sexual instruction and sexual practice. This includes the 'Fisi' practice, where girls are visited by an adult man who performs sexual intercourse with them to conclude the sexual initiation. 80% of southerners said their village girls engage in the tradition according to survey material. (Centre for Child Well Being and Development & University of Zurich. 2019. Survey Report Traditional Practices in Malawi).

Violence against women is excessively high. In 2015-16, approximately 34 percent of women aged 15-49 experienced physical violence, and 21 percent experienced sexual violence.<sup>5</sup> The data suggests these districts have increased levels of harmful practices. Median age for girls married is 17.5 and 17.7 in these districts against a national average of 18.3, first sexual intercourse 15.8 and 16.1 against the national average of 17 and violence against women. Percentage of women who have experienced gender-based violence since age of 15 is 21.4% and 47% respectively against a national average of 34%. (DHS). And in conflict environments, women suffer disproportionately. Levels of inequality are deepened, sexual and reproductive health and rights are undermined, and women are exposed to increased levels of violence, harmful practices and intimidation.<sup>6</sup> People with physical and mental disabilities are equally vulnerable to these pressures and experience increased risks of harmful practices. Malawi has reached out to neighbouring countries to combat these trends including in the SADC region. Moreover, the role of women in preventing and mitigating conflict is weakened in environments where the voice of women is marginalised. There is limited involvement of women in conflict prevention and peace building. The majority of key decision-making positions are held by men: only 20% of members of parliament are women, there are only 14% of local government councillors are women, and only 26% of the public service staff are women.<sup>7</sup> While the Gender Equality Act (2013) provides for 60/40 quota of either sex for recruitments and appointments this is not achieved. Such a trend continues at community level where structures have limited representation of women. Women are further disadvantaged by limited opportunities in the formal workplace and in education.

#### 4. Theory of change

If the national peace architecture is strengthened to set an agenda for conflict prevention and provide the tools to resolve conflict in a peaceful manner, this can be adapted at the local level in border communities, and peaceful relations between these communities will be sustained. If these structures are diverse in

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large majority of 83 percent of young people are working in the informal sector and access to vocational training is extremely low at 2.2 percent. Economic and social opportunities for young people are very limited.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Malawi Social Cohesion and Conflict Prevention Programme, 2021. Border Districts Conflict Assessment Report. Pg.14. 2021.

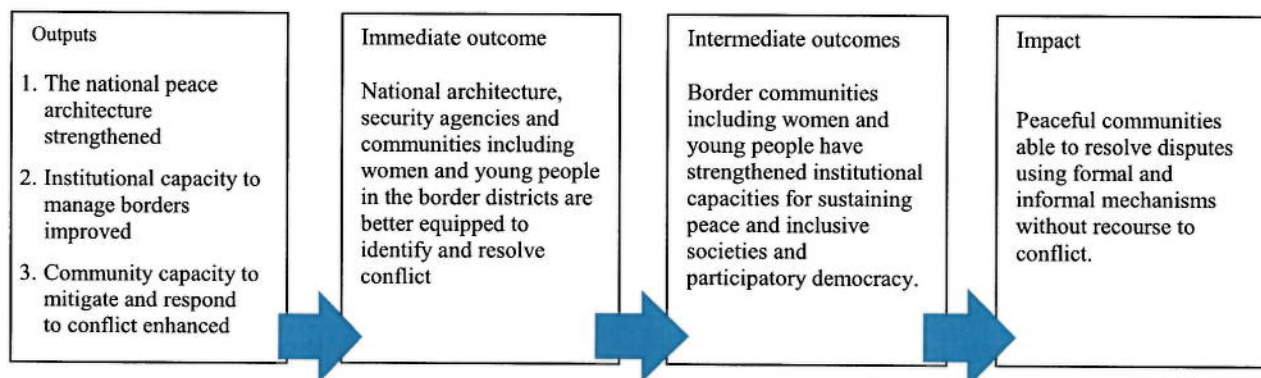
<sup>5</sup> National Statistical Office (NSO). [Malawi] and ICF. 2017. Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16. Zomba, Malawi, and Rockville, Maryland, USA. NSO and ICF.

<sup>6</sup> Independent Commission for Aid Impact, 2020. The UK's Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative. 2020.

<sup>7</sup> UN Women 2021 Annual report.

representation and include a range of community and leadership voices, including women and youth, then peace and conflict resolution will be strongly anchored in communities. The ability of communities to tackle the causes of conflict and harm, including violence against women, is a key source of social stability. Increasing this capacity will lead to the outcome of more resilient communities capable of resolving disputes through peaceful formal and informal mechanisms that support an inclusive and tolerant society where extreme views are rejected.

### Results chain



### 5. Participation of implementing organizations

Organization	Role	Added Value	Capacities and experience
UNDP	To provide technical and operational support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding mechanisms, legal and policy frameworks, local government structures and community-led initiatives.	Unique experience working with the existing Government of Malawi Peace, local government and community structures, and specialised global expertise through the Africa Borderlands desk and Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.	UNDP has extensive experience providing support to the Government of Malawi in its efforts to improve its conflict prevention and peacebuilding capacities. UNDP provides direct support to the Public Affairs Committee, Office of the President and Ministry of National Unity to support the establishment of District Peace Committees, the legislation and institutional frameworks for the establishment of the Malawi Peace and Unity Commission and ongoing operational and technical support to the government to carry out its peacebuilding mandate at the community, and national level.
UNFPA	To provide technical and operational support to gender equality and mainstreaming and youth empowerment for the project's implementation specifically on	Unique experience in service provision for women survivors of conflict, response to and prevention of gender-based violence, and access to wide range of networks of women, youth and	UNFPA has extensive experience in providing support to the government of Malawi across numerous sectors. Specifically, UNFPA have provided operational, technical and financial support to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Youth and National Statistical Office. UNFPA supports undertaking of large-scale data collection surveys including the population and



	service delivery and community empowerment.	communities and model for safe spaces.	housing census as well as development of GBV Management Information System. UNFPA also co-leads the UN Country Team's Youth Group (with UNICEF).
UN Women	To provide technical and operational support to gender equality and mainstreaming for the project's implementation specifically on leadership, representation and women's movement building in relation to women peace and security agenda.	Unique experience in high level policy, leadership support, peace and security in communities and campaigns for gender equality and mainstreaming.	UNW has extensive experience in providing support to the government of Malawi across numerous sectors. Specifically, it supports the Ministry of Gender, other ministries, departments and agencies on gender equality and women's empowerment at national and community levels. Has extensive collaboration with CSOs in advancing gender equality and women empowerment across various themes such as governance and women's leadership, elimination of violence against women and girls, gender and statistics, Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action. UN Women supported Government on the development of the UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan.
IOM	To provide technical and operational support for border areas issues including flows of people across border areas and the project's implementation of collection of data and evidence.	Unique experience in supporting and providing support systems and information systems on border areas to assist vulnerable communities, including migrants and other population groups moving across borders.	Experience in developing and conducting evidence collection process at border points and assessing needs of communities in border areas.
UNODC	To provide technical and operational support in the areas of counter terrorism and prevention of financing of terrorism and on international cooperation in criminal justice matter.	UNODC has the unique mandate in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice and is the key UN agency with the mandate and expertise to deliver counter-terrorism legal technical assistance for the ratification, legislative incorporation and implementation of the international legal instruments against terrorism	Extensive experience in supporting the drafting and review of national legislation in order to incorporate the legal standards of counter-terrorism international legal instruments and other legally binding instruments in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice; building the capacity of national criminal justice officials to implement such international legal standards; and supporting regional and international cooperation in criminal matters in particular in relation to requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition.



UN Resident Coordinators Office (RCO)	To provide technical and operational support for the project's implementation as the Secretariat of the SDG Acceleration Fund.	The RCO has oversight of a number of UN joint initiatives in Malawi; this knowledge and understanding will be leveraged to support coordination and reporting within the project.	The RCO has been engaged in a broad range of UN initiatives supporting the development of cross-sector initiatives in Malawi.
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## 6. Coordination and management

The governance of this project follows the structures of the SDG Acceleration Fund: steering committee, operational committee and the secretariat provide oversight and coordination of the project. The UN agencies and implementing partners will hold periodic project management meetings to assess progress in implementation of activities. Respective UN agencies' financial rules and procedures are applied in the management of disbursed funding is concerned. The agencies will work according to a joint work plan, conduct quarterly progress check meeting, and joint monitoring/field visits, all to be facilitated by the co-leads, UNDP and UNFPA. Synergies will be identified to organise joint activities under the joint work plan.

## 7. Project logic of intervention

### a) Programme areas of the intervention

Programme outcome is directly related to UNSDCF pillar 1: Peace, inclusion, and effective institutions outcome 3: Malawi has strengthened institutional capacities for sustaining peace and inclusive societies and participatory democracy and the indicator on prevalence of social unrest. The project strengthens capabilities to mitigate and respond to existing and projected conflict, including radicalisation and terrorism, in four border districts in areas of institutional, professional, and community resources to mitigate, identify, and respond to conflict. This includes supporting community networks, increasing their engagement in identifying conflict root causes and triggers, mitigation, and prevention, strengthening border security management, and increasing the capacity of the national peace architecture. It is a phased project and this represents phase 1. A learning component is included and in output 3 as part of the strengthened management of data and evidence, best practices will be recorded in phase 1 for the potential scale up to other border areas in following phases.

### Output 1: The national peace architecture strengthened

Output 1 aims to strengthen the peace architecture at the district level and enhance coordination between national and district peace institutions. Support for the orientation of members of the District Peace Committees (DPCs) will include approaches to peacebuilding, conflict prevention and management, gender analysis, reporting and monitoring. In the target border districts, the DPCs will also be provided with support to strengthen their technical capacities to conduct local monitoring, coordination, and community outreach, including linkages with community-based peace networks. To ensure diversity and inclusion, the members of these committees will be supported with training to provide gender and persons with disability lenses for operational standards, including compliance with representation quotas for women, youth, and persons with disabilities, as well as monitoring and analysis of conflict issues and their impact on these communities. Leadership training to strengthen their role in the peace architecture will also be provided.

Technical assistance and support will also be provided to the Public Affairs Committee in its role of mediating and coordinating actors of peace at the national, district and community levels. Conflict early warning and monitoring systems linking district and community peace infrastructure and human rights networks, will be developed to collect and produce risk analyses.

### **Output 2: Institutional capacity to manage borders improved**

Output 2 supports border and related agencies to strengthen their professional capacity and enhance border and district security management.<sup>8</sup> This will increase the technical capacity of security and law enforcement agencies and human rights organizations to provide oversight of institutions to address issues related to border control. Training on intelligence gathering, analysis and intelligence-led policing to detect and prevent terrorism, transnational organized crime and associated crimes including human trafficking will be supported. Gender will be mainstreamed across all training and will include a specific focus on women and girls, gender sensitive approaches to service delivery, and specific risks women are exposed to in border districts.

Coordination between agencies and communities will be enhanced by the engagement of communities and community-based networks including women and youth networks, for proactive monitoring and reporting of potential conflict indicators. This includes the Malawi Police Service (general police in the districts and communities, as well as border police), Department of Immigration (Ministry of Homeland Security). Border and security agencies and other actors will be supported in engaging with traditional authorities and community networks, especially women's and youth networks, to increase monitoring reporting and discussions of issues of border security.

### **Output 3: Community capacity to mitigate and respond to conflict enhanced**

Output 3 will support communities in the border districts identify, resolve, and mitigate forms of manifest and latent conflict including communal and structural violence. Training and mentoring of communities, including women and youth as mediators and leaders in conflict management and response, will provide communities access to a group of mediators able to manage disputes and conflict triggers. Community networks will further be capacitated on conflict monitoring, analysis, and reporting mechanisms and tools, improving the quality of data that is fed into the early warning system. Communities will be involved in the collection of information on conflict and identifying potential flash points.

Flow monitoring – quantitative estimates of the flow of individuals through specific locations to collect information about the profiles, intentions, and needs of the people moving – will be conducted to improve factual information on movements across the border areas. Community-based networks, traditional and religious leaders, women, and youth groups will also be mobilized to lead community discussions and dialogue sessions, conflict prevention counselling, and mentoring of at-risk youth. Engagement with district level and community level structures and stakeholders such as the District Commissioner's office, District peace Committees, Area Development committees, Village Development Committees, CBOs, among others, will be undertaken to establish women led networks where they are not existent to ensure inclusivity in the project interventions. Women's participation in community-level conflict mechanisms will be supported with both training for communities (men and women) in gender sensitive conflict management and leadership training for women to increase their role in leadership positions in identifying and managing conflict. This output also includes support mechanisms for survivors of gender-based violence, provisions to access safe spaces for women and girls of both host and migrant communities and improved access to sexual and reproductive health and rights services through referral pathways.

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<sup>8</sup> Malawi Police Service (general police in the districts and communities, as well as border police), Department of Immigration and Ministry of Homeland Security.

b) Challenges and opportunities presented by working on this problematic

The border districts are unique socio-economic locations with equally unique opportunities and challenges. As cross-border trading hubs, they are potentially vibrant economic centres. They are also, however, faced with multiple threats in the current context, with a heightened risk of instability both within and between communities. Targeting conflict holistically at district level provides opportunities to pilot solutions for a range of existing and latent conflicts that have wider resonance across Malawi and the SADC region and the potential for scaling up. The linkages between the national peace architecture and these districts also provide an important phase in ensuring universal coverage of these institutions and using learning and knowledge tools to ensure the lessons learnt in phase 1 can be utilised both in phase 2 and across other districts in Malawi. Challenges include the high levels of gender-based violence in the districts and a lack of complete information on the risks that communities face living in border areas, such as the potential for radicalisation of young people and the movements of armed units of religious extremists across the border in Mozambique.

c) Elements of the initiative that take into account the realization of human rights and satisfaction of differential needs of both women and men

The initiative is anchored in a rights-up front policy that advances the human rights of communities. Human security is promoted by action that supports a safer, more diverse, and more tolerant set of communities, benefiting from increased respect for their human rights that are potentially undermined by the forms of conflict identified in the situation analysis. The different needs of men and women are incorporated into the programme strategy both at the level of mainstreaming gender and targeting gender inequality with respect to 1) levels of representation in key peace architecture; 2) mainstreaming gender and youth in professional capacity building; and 3) assisting women in taking on leadership roles in community level conflict identification and mitigation strategies. Services for survivors of conflict, including those survivors of gender-based violence, will be able to access key referral and support services as well as safe spaces.

d) Planned and developing of activities

Input	Activity	Activity description	Agency
<b>Output 1: The national peace architecture strengthened</b>			
Training Workshops Supplies Consultant	Activity 1.1: Strengthen the technical capacity for monitoring, coordination and community outreach of DPCs, including linkages between DPCs and MPLCs.	Provide training to DPC members and community leaders on monitoring of conflict trends and channels / resources for reporting issues at the community level.	UNDP
		Support community-level discussion groups between DPCs and other key community groups to foster peaceful discussions, exchange of information, and consolidation of responses to potential threats at community level.	UNDP
		Support PAC and Ministry of National Unity in coordinating, monitoring and supporting the capacity of DPCs in target districts	UNDP
		Training on youth/PwDs and marginalized group on conflict identification and mitigation.	UNFPA

		Gender focused orientation sessions for peace commissions at national and district levels	UNW
<b>Output 2: Institutional capacity to manage borders improved</b>			
Training Workshops Supplies Consultant	Activity 2.1: Increase the capacity of border security agents, immigration officials and community police, including specific focus on treatment of women.	Gender, youth and persons with disabilities sensitive training for improved delivery of agencies services providers on SGBV and SRHR in border districts and potential conflict settings.	UNFPA
		Training on conflict prevention and peacebuilding to border security and immigration officials at the national and district levels - supporting national-level officials as facilitators at the district levels.	UNDP/ UNODC
		Training on criminal justice, intelligence and intelligence-led policing to detect and prevent terrorism, counter terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters (FTF's), transnational organized crime and associated crimes approaches at the national and district levels.	UNODC
<b>Output 3: Community capacity to mitigate and respond to conflict enhanced</b>			
Training Workshops Supplies Consultant Research Staff	Activity 3.1: Improve the capacity of community-level leaders and mediators to address small scale conflicts and prevent them from escalating.	Train peace mediators (PAC, village mediators, key influencers, women leaders) in leadership, peacebuilding, negotiations, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, and related security issues. <sup>9</sup>	UNDP
		Provide refresher to Insider Mediators to ensure efforts are in line with the National Peace Policy.	UNDP
		Train women/women groups in leadership, peacebuilding, negotiations, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, and related security issues.	UNW
		Establish and support women led peace building movements at community and national level and revamping of already existing ones including cross border exchange dialogues among women networks on conflict prevention and peace building	UNW
		Support national advocacy initiatives to ensure increased representation and meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention, peace building platforms and processes including monitoring of compliance with quotas for women, youth and persons with disabilities in leadership positions.	UNW

<sup>9</sup> PAC has national presence and works through a network of churches and mosques in communities across the country that they use to carry out their work on conflict mitigation.



Activity 3.2: Support conflict monitoring through the development of robust, community-level early warning systems to detect potential threats / drivers of conflict.	Train community-based peace and conflict monitors to support DPCs in conflict monitoring and early warning systems functionality.	UNDP
	Train community-level mediators to address multiple potential drivers of conflict.	UNDP
	Support the Youth Conflict Early Warning and Early Response system in carrying out proactive engagement of youth, discussion groups and monitoring activities.	UNDP
	Support police-community relations engagements to increase trust and encourage communication to support early warning of conflict.	UNDP
Activity 3.3: Strengthen data collection and management on conflict drivers, cross border migration, counterterrorism, human trafficking, SGBV and SRHR issues, ensuring women's participation in community-based conflict monitoring mechanisms and structures.	Conduct mobility mapping to identify key mobility axes and areas of congregation, describe mobility characteristics.	IOM
	Deploy IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tools, to track migrant movement through Flow Monitoring (FM) approach at key locations to better understand mobility patterns.	IOM
	Training for mainstreaming gender equality in conflict monitoring and reporting mechanisms at community level.	UNW
	Establish a tracking system with support services for survivors of gender-based violence.	UNFPA
	Provide safe spaces and referral systems for survivors of gender-based violence to strengthen conflict risk management	UNFPA
	Provision of sexual and reproductive health and rights services.	UNFPA
Activity 3.4: Support gender transformative initiatives at the community and grassroots level as peace building and prevention of conflict measures.	Conduct a peace and security gender analysis in each district to ensure equality is prioritised in district level and national initiative.	UNFPA
	Community forums for dialogue on discriminating social and cultural norms.	UNFPA
	Expand reach to remote communities through the use of digital tools and the design of youth-friendly online participatory processes on peace and security.	UNFPA

A position in the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office to support joint programming will also be supported.

e) The added value of the proposal

Combining the strategic responses of UN agencies that are active in the border communities as well as in the national peace architecture and responding to forms of conflict provides both unique brokering, implementation, and strategic value. The range of existing and potential harms been recorded in the districts covers a wide range of conflict patterns, ranging from border insecurity, gender-based violence, and land ownership and access disputes. Border security police will be supported in carrying out their operations

through training and in coordination initiatives with military, immigration officers, cross-border counterparts, and in communities. The proposal provides a multi-sectoral response to conflict in the border districts, providing an opportunity to learn from pilot projects and scale them up through learning.

## **8. Results sustainability**

### **8.1 Project entry strategy**

The UN agencies have an extensive set of partners at national and district level for the project entry strategy. Strategic partners at national, district and community levels were consulted, and implementation coordination will be outlined in a common annual workplan identifying milestones. Activities for outputs will be coordinated and phases of the project outlined in the workplan. At the national level, UNDP has extensive experience working with the peace architecture and on conflict resolution in Malawi, which was harnessed and tested to manage the demonstrations and potential conflict that arose during the last elections. Direct support was provided to the Public Affairs Committee, Office of the President and Ministry of National Unity for the establishment of district peace committees and development of the legislation for the establishment of the Malawi Peace and Unity Commission. UNFPA and UN Women have extensive experience in districts supporting women survivors of violence and conflict. This includes existing safe spaces for vulnerable young women, engaging men and boys in preventing harmful practices and supporting women, including mother groups to engage communities to empower women in the decision-making processes at national and district levels.

### **8.2 Project exit strategy**

Government counterparts will be engaged at the start of the project to develop commitments for sustainability, including budgetary commitments for the peace architecture supported during the project. Building stronger spaces for communities to engage in conflict identification and resolution the project also provides communities with peacebuilding and conflict resolution skills and strategies to prevent conflict from taking hold or spreading throughout the community, and can empower women to access crucial referral and survivor support mechanisms.

## **9. Geographic scope**

Mangochi, Mulanje.

## **10. Beneficiaries**

### **Direct and indirect beneficiaries:**

Number of indirect beneficiaries:

	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
Male	TBD	870,615
Female	TBD	962,103
<b>Total</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>1,8832,718</b>

Districts is the unit of analysis this project will work with and report against. At the start of implementation traditional authority locations will be identified, but the strategy is to target districts. Direct beneficiaries will be measured according to direct participation whereas indirect beneficiaries will be at district level. In the strategy there is a provision to engage traditional leaders.

## 11. Results framework and budget

### Results framework

<b>Window XX: Proposal Outcome</b>	UNSDCF pillar 1: Peace, inclusion, and effective institutions outcome 3: Malawi has strengthened institutional capacities for sustaining peace and inclusive societies and participatory democracy and the indicator prevalence of social unrest. Baseline 50.9; Target 70. Source: Mo Ibrahim Index methodology.				<b>Outcome Total Budget USD 891,407.</b>
	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Responsible Org</b>
<b>Outcome Indicator</b>	1.1a Number of people that have access to formal and informal mechanisms for conflict resolution (disaggregated by sex).	0	TBD	Records	UNDP UNFPA UN Women IOM
<b>Proposal Outputs</b>	Output 1: The national peace architecture is strengthened. (1.1.1)				
	Output 2: Institutional capacity to manage borders improved. (1.2.1)				
	Output 3: Community capacity to mitigate and respond to conflict enhanced. (1.3.1)				
<b>Proposal Output Indicators</b>	1.1.1a Number of peace architecture units (national and district) providing conflict resolution services.	0	2	Records	UNDP
	1.2.1a Number of border agents and security officials that have improved skills in cross border threats and risks.	0	TBD	Records	UNDP
	1.3.1a Number of people participating in district level community conflict resolution schemes.	0	TBD	Records	UNDP UNFPA UN Women
	1.3.1b Number of women that actively participate in the peace institutions.	0	TBD	Records	UNFPA UN Women

## 12. SDG targets and indicators

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [select max 3 goals]			
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 1 (No poverty)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 2 (Zero hunger)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)



<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 3 (Good health & well-being)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 4 (Quality education)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SDG 5 (Gender equality)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 13 (Climate action)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 14 (Life below water)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 7 (Sustainable energy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 15 (Life on land)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 8 (Decent work & Economic Growth)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SDG 16 (Peace, justice & strong institutions)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)		
<b>Relevant SDG Targets and Indicators</b>			
<b>Target</b>	<b>Indicator # and Description</b>		<b>Estimated % Budget allocated</b>
Target 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime	Existence of robust, national peace architecture, human rights commission, and border security institutions. (National Human Rights Commissions that meet Paris Principles).		48%
Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence.		33%

### 13. Budget

<b>BUDGET</b>	
<b>CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
1. Staff and other personnel	198,901.48
2. Supplies, commodities, materials	13,000.00
3. Equipment, vehicles, and furniture, incl. depreciation	15,000.00
4. Contractual Services	217,203.61
5. Travel	123,395.95
6. Transfers and grants to counterparts	177,770.00
7. General operating costs and other direct costs	37,263.55
<b>Sub-total Programme costs</b>	<b>782,534.58</b>
8. Indirect Support costs *7%	54,777.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>837,312.00</b>



BUDGET SUMMARY					
CATEGORIES	UNFPA	UNDP	IOM	UNWOMEN	TOTAL
1. (a) Staff and other personnel	45,000.00	60,351.48	17,000.00	20,000.00	142,351.48
(b) Staff and other personnel	-	56,550.00	-	-	56,550.00
2. Supplies, commodities, materials	8,000.00			5,000.00	13,000.00
3. Equip, vehicles, and furniture, incl. depreciation	10,000.00	5,000.00			15,000.00
4. Contractual Services	60,000.00	81,500.00	45,703.61	30,000.00	217,203.61
5. Travel	26,036.80	59,100.00	20,000.00	18,259.15	123,395.95
6. Transfers and grants to counterparts	70,000.00	77,770.00		30,000.00	177,770.00
7. General operating costs and other direct costs	10,951.84	17,013.57	4,135.18	5,162.96	37,263.55
<b>Sub-total Programme costs</b>	<b>229,988.64</b>	<b>357,285.05</b>	<b>86,838.79</b>	<b>108,422.10</b>	<b>782,534.58</b>
8. Indirect Support costs *7%	16,099.20	25,009.95	6,078.72	7,589.55	54,777.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246,087.84</b>	<b>382,295.00</b>	<b>92,917.51</b>	<b>116,011.65</b>	<b>837,312.00</b>

#### 14. Crosscutting approaches

Areas	Agencies
Institutional capacity building of peace architecture.	UNDP, UNFPA, UNW
Border security capacity building and training.	UNDP, UNODC, UNFPA
Gender equality, empowerment and protection.	UNFPA, UNW, IOM, UNDP

#### 13.1 Gender equality

- The situation analysis includes a differential approach, identifying the different ways in which the problem affects women and girls differentially.
- The theory of change includes and promotes gender equality.
- The logic of intervention addresses gender inequalities in its results and expected impact.
- The indicators measure the differential impact between women, men, girls and boys.
- The budget includes specific provisions for gender equality activities (at least 30% of the budget).
- The strategic objective of the programme is to advance towards gender equality.

Auto evaluate the programme gender marker, as:

0       1       2a       2b

**Total – USD 298,600**

<u>Activity</u> and its relation to the results framework (to which product/result it corresponds)	Effect in gender equality	Budget Line	Amount (USD)
Output 1	Support 50% membership in the District Peace Committees	1.1.1, 1.1.2	19,600

<p>To support diversity, the members of peace committees will be supported with training to provide gender and persons with disability lenses for operational standards, including compliance with representation quotas for women, youth, and persons with disabilities, as well as monitoring and analysis of conflict issues and their impact on these communities. Leadership training to strengthen their role in the peace architecture will also be provided.</p>	<p>Support women participate in all levels of the national peace architecture.</p>	<p>1.1.5</p>	<p>10,000</p>
<p>Output 2 Gender will be mainstreamed across all training and will include a specific focus on women and girls, gender sensitive approaches to service delivery, and specific risks women are exposed to in border districts.</p>	<p>Mainstream gender and gender equality in service delivery of border and security agencies.</p>	<p>2.1.1</p>	<p>43,000</p>
<p>Output 3 Women's participation in community level conflict mechanisms will be supported with both training for communities (men and women) in gender sensitive conflict management and leadership training for women to increase their role in leadership positions in identifying and managing conflict. This output also includes support mechanisms for survivors of gender-based violence, provisions to access safe spaces for women and girls of both host and migrant communities and improved access to sexual and reproductive health and rights services.</p>	<p>Ensure 50% representation of women as community mediators and Insider Mediators.</p>	<p>3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2</p>	<p>36,000</p>
	<p>Increased awareness of gender equality at community level in the border areas. Improved support services for survivors of conflict including gender-based violence.</p>	<p>3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.5</p>	<p>190,000</p>

There is a critical role for women in conflict prevention, inclusive leadership and upholding human rights, and this project will invest resources in the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325) and UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security. The project will encourage women, youth, persons with albinism and other vulnerable groups to take on a critical role in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and border security. This project will provide targeted support for the establishment of women and youth peace and security networks in all target districts to ensure their active participation and representation in local conflict prevention and peacebuilding. It adopts a gender transformative approach to deconstruct and reconstruct gender norms. Gender transformative programming means therefore recognizing, challenging and transforming gender norms and power imbalances that influence the behaviour and vulnerabilities of men and women, girls and boys.

Furthermore, in line with the Women, Peace, Security and Humanitarian Compact adopted under the Generation Equality Campaign in 2021, the project aligns to promotion of financing for and wider awareness and visibility of the women, peace and security agenda they advancing the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security. Partners will include the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare, Women in Faith Network of the Public Affairs Committee, Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, African Women Leaders Network (Malawi Chapter), Women's Manifesto Movement, Centre for Youth Empowerment, Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) and Civic Education, and Muslim Association of Malawi, all of which have national and district-level branches in the target districts, to engage their women's networks and enhance new existing initiatives on community-level peacebuilding.

#### **15. Monitoring and evaluation**

In accordance with UN agency programming policies and procedures, including the SDG acceleration fund monitoring and reporting guidelines and cycles. The project will be monitored through the following:

- Track project progress. Progress data against the results indicators will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.
- Evaluate and learn. Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured and shared, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners, and integrated back into the project.
- Review. The project management will review the data and evidence collected on a regular basis within the project cycle, and make course corrections as needed.

Reports will consist of:

- A report will be produced after six months outlining progress against targets.
- An annual report outlining of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures.
- An end-of on the project outlining achievements and capture lessons learned.

#### **16. Environmental sustainability**

UN agencies included in this proposal are all members of the United Nations Environment Management Group (UNEMG) that encourages a single approach to social and environmental standards for UN programming. Thematic area 1 specifically outlines a model approach to Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Sustainable Natural Resource Management. Key objectives of the benchmarks for programming are:

- Conserve biodiversity
- Maintain and enhance the benefits of ecosystem services
- Promote sustainable management and use of living natural resources
- Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources; and
- Respect, preserve, maintain and encourage knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and their customary use of biological resources.

The programming will comply with benchmarks outlined in the UNEMG model approach. See [https://unemg.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/FINAL\\_Model\\_Approach\\_ES-Standards.pdf](https://unemg.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/FINAL_Model_Approach_ES-Standards.pdf)

#### 17. Risk matrix

Risk	Associated to the Result #	Classification			Mitigation
		Impact	Likelihood	Risk degree	
Conflict due to COVID-19 isolation restrictions, insecurity, climate change related natural disasters or access to scarce natural resources is likely to increase resulting in wider community tensions.	all	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	<p>Human Rights up Front (HRuF) is a Secretary-General's initiative to strengthen prevention of serious problems that cut across the UN's three pillars of peace and security, development and human rights pillars, and most especially problems issues with serious human rights consequences. The policy aims to ensure UN entities conduct their work with an awareness of their wider responsibility to support the UN Charter and overall UN mandates.</p> <p>The UN Country Team have a system in place for monitoring and if required escalation of responses to any deteriorating human rights situation and human rights enshrined in the Charter inform all decision making to ensure no harm results from either directly from the intervention's actions or from secondary consequences.</p>
Border and borderland security deteriorates with heightened	all	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Monitoring of security will be conducted and escalation markers used to inform programme decision making.



<p>threats of terrorism spilling over the border.</p> <p>Inequality against women and youth as well as persons with disabilities excludes key communities</p>	<p>all</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Measures will be employed (gender marker) in the financial system to ensure resources allocated to gender equality are tracked.</p> <p>Specific training will be conducted for men and women to deepen commitment to gender and youth quotas at all levels.</p>
<p>Project activities have negative impact on climate change and the environment</p> <p>Legislation is not passed in a timely manner delaying output 1 activities</p>	<p>all</p> <p>output 1</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>UN agencies have a full environmental policy in place. The UN family aims to be an organization that does no harm the environment by minimising the effects of programmes, operations and facilities on the environment, reducing our use of natural resources and continuing to offset the remaining emissions in order to continue to be climate neutral.</p> <p>UN agencies will continuously monitor the legislative schedule and engage parliament to finalise the bill.</p>
<p>Fiduciary risk</p>	<p>all</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation system in place will include site visits and maintaining quarterly records of progress.</p> <p>Implementing partners report on funds received every quarter. The implementing partner agreement (Letter of Understanding) contains all the appropriate clauses with respect to accounting, reporting, termination, subcontractors, indemnities, intellectual property etc. The agreement is signed by the Representative and a senior person in the partner organization.</p>