



United Nations Development Programme Lebanon
Project Document

Project Title: Peacebuilding in Lebanon project- Phase 3

CPD outcome number 1: Local communities and institutions ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict are strengthened, and the overall response on the evolution of tensions informed.

UN strategic plan outcome involving UNDP: Outcome 1.3: Lebanon has institutionalized mechanisms to promote peace and prevent, mitigate, and manage conflict at national, municipal and community levels.

Related UNDP strategic plan third direction: Building resilience to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk.

UNDAF / UNSF Outcome on Peace Building in Lebanon/Outcome 1.3: "Lebanon has institutionalized mechanisms to promote peace and prevent, mitigate and manage conflict at municipal and local level".

LCRP Outcome 1: Social Stability is promoted by strengthening municipalities' communities' systems and institutions' ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict and ensuring early warning within the response.

3RF Objective: Strengthening social cohesion and ensuring social inclusion.

Expected Outputs:

1. Education promoting social cohesion supported.
2. Media empowered to promote balanced and conflict sensitive media coverage.
3. Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees.
4. An NGO platform promoting nation-wide truth and reconciliation supported and ex-fighters' role in promoting peace building enforced.

Brief Description

The UNDP *Peace Building Project* (2006-2011) aimed to address the underlying causes of conflict in Lebanon and sought to create “safe spaces” for local identity groups to discuss their concerns openly and enhance mutual understanding of the different “other”. Social cohesion was enhanced at the local, community and national levels between civil society (youth, educators, media, NGOs and religious leaders) and relevant local public (municipal council members and *mukhtars*) actors. Through training programs, advocacy work and enhanced networking, stakeholders were better equipped to actively and harmoniously contribute to peace building, community dialogue and ensure a more effective bottom-up impact of efforts.

Building on these initiatives, the second phase of the project (2011-2013), *Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon*, focused on strengthening dialogue, trust- and consensus building, enhancing and nurturing partnerships between civil society and local government actors. During the second phase, focus was directed towards strengthening initiatives that promote collective memory and integrate peace building concepts into formal and non-formal educational channels. Moreover, the project tackled media (traditional and alternative) to manage diversity and decrease biased reporting. At the local level, the project focused on developing local level peace strategies in three conflict prone areas of Lebanon with a special focus on youth engagement. Finally, a cross-political, multi-confessional civil society platform addressing civil peace was created and supported. With the Syrian crisis further impacting the Lebanese context, the project acted as a focal point to many partner organizations on issues pertaining to the impact of the Syrian crisis impact on social cohesion in Lebanon, both in terms of inter Lebanese relations and Lebanese Syrian interaction.

Building on the understanding and successes of the previous two phases, the third phase of the project (2014-2023) seeks to focus on addressing the new challenges to civil peace and peace building in the country posed by the Syrian crisis and the socio-political, economic and fiscal crisis the country has been facing lately. Therefore, the focus is on four outputs: 1. Education promoting social cohesion supported.

2. Media empowered to promote balanced and conflict sensitive media coverage; 3. Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees; 4. An NGO platform promoting nation-wide truth and reconciliation supported ex- fighters’ role in promoting peace building supported.

Strategic Plan Output:

Atlas Project ID 00088560

Start date: January 2014

End date: December 2024

PAC Meeting Date: December 12, 2013

Total resources required: **USD25,611,842.64**

Total allocated resources: **USD 25,611,842.64**

USD 221,000.00 from Japan

USD 148,471.72 from EU

USD 443,977.95 from UNHCR/DEVCO

USD 397,440.00 from UNHCR/Mexico

USD 270,000.00 from Netherlands

USD 778,299.16 from Norway

USD 416,903.19 from LRF

USD 12,699,046.33 from KFW

USD 426,661 from PBF

USD 7,438,796.29 from UK

USD 400,000.00 from UNDP Window

USD 2,257,908.00 from BPRM

USD 140,000.00 from EU (MERP project)

Pipeline: **USD0**

In-kind contributions: NA

Agreed by (Government): _____

Date: _____

Agreed by (Implementing Partner): _____

Date: _____

Approved by (UNDP): **Mohammed Salih, Resident Representative a.i.**

Date: **December 22, 2023**



I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Prior to the conflict in Syria that started in March 2011 and adding to the legacy of a troubled past with 15 years of civil war from 1975 till 1990, Lebanon has experienced several violent shocks also over the past few years, starting with the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafic Hariri in February 2005 and followed by a series of high-level political assassinations which exacerbated tensions among the confessional groups, and between Lebanon and Syria. Lebanon is also hosting more than 350,000 Palestinian refugees who started arriving to Lebanon in 1948 and are residing in 12 officially recognized camps, managed by UNRWA, in addition to a number of informal gatherings. Since 2008, cyclical bouts of political tension and outbreaks of violence have continued to threaten national stability and the element of mistrust of the “different other” continues to plague inter-community relations. Regional events and political movements have further impacted the dynamics of civil society and the nature of leadership and democracy.

When the Syrian crisis started in March 2011, tensions between supporters and opponents of Syria’s uprising escalated internally in Lebanon in many areas. Lebanon has witnessed an influx of refugees through the northern and eastern borders, spreading onward across the country. Unlike other host countries, Lebanon has not established camps. Tensions between Lebanese and Syrians, translated at the community level (including schools) has been rising due to economic (competition of the communities’ limited resources and access to basic services and to the support provided by the international community), social and cultural (stereotypes and prejudices between the two communities, increased violence and reduced safety) factors. More signs of potential conflicts have been reported, which has been translated into the development of a speech of hatred against Syrians and even in many cases into xenophobic and racist behaviours, whether through media channels or through the discourse of some politicians and leaders at the national level. It is worth noting in this regard, that also Syrians are directly linked to the memory of that civil war, since the Syrian regime was a major and key player during the Lebanese civil war (since 1976).

More recently the country has been going through its worse socio-economic, financial, and political crisis. Poverty rates are increasing, devaluation is affecting the most vulnerable but also families who were considered to be from the middle class, access to basic services such as electricity, gasoline, medicines and water is limited. Young people as well as families are leaving the country in big number, forming a real phenomenon of brain drain. When people of Lebanon took over the street in October 2019 their demands focused on basic citizens’ rights, end to corruption and clientelism but also an alternative political system that would embrace all components of the society. With August 4th Beirut port blast, trust between people and the State almost disappeared, and independence of justice was reiterated as a main objective including the fighting of the culture of impunity. Vis a vis this scenario, tensions over basic needs is increasing with a rise in petty crimes and potential of escalation of tensions, including between the most vulnerable i.e. the Syrian community. Sectarianism has also been rising as well as polarization, between the different traditional political factions but also between the traditional parties and new ones that emerged after the popular uprising in 2019.

Lebanon's Conflict Map



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Project Background

This project is directly related to **UNDAF / UNSF** Outcome on Peace Building in Lebanon/Outcome 1.3: “Lebanon has institutionalized mechanisms to promote peace and prevent, mitigate and manage conflict at municipal and local level”.

This new phase of the project is in line with **LCRP Outcome number 1: Social Stability** is promoted by strengthening municipalities’ communities’ systems and institutions’ ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict and ensuring early warning within the response and the **3RF Objective: Strengthening social cohesion and ensuring social inclusion**; the UN-World Bank response to post Beirut Blast (August 2020).

The third phase of the Peacebuilding in Lebanon project comes after the second phase of the project which was entitled “The Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon (2011-2013) phase, which built upon and consolidated the efforts made during the first phase of the project UNDP Peace Building Project (2006-2011) to strengthen social cohesion in the Lebanese communities, at the grass roots level, with local government, with the Lebanese media outlets and the civil society stakeholders. Throughout these activities, recommendations and needs assessments from consultations, dialogue sessions and training programs were incorporated into the planning framework to ensure that next steps were relevant and timely, and responded to the actual needs in the fluid environment in Lebanon.

The foundations were laid for the culture of preventing tensions and conflicts through dialogue, consensus building, and practical, locally initiated conflict mitigation mechanism were established in communities. A range of relevant stakeholders including mayors, *mukhtars*, youth, religious leaders, teachers, civil society activists and NGOs, as well as reporters have been sensitized to peace building concepts and participated in one or more discussion sessions, meetings or programs. Since 2006, UNDP worked with over 2,000 civil society and public sector stakeholders and entities at the local level. The project provided the channels for further communication and dialogue on issues of critical concern between groups and further enhanced the role traditional conflict resolution role of *mukhtars* and municipal council members linking them to relevant national counterparts.

In order to ensure institutionalization and sustainability of efforts, strong links were made with national counterparts, particularly the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, the Ministry of Social Affairs and with the Ministry of Information.

Project Outcome and Objectives

This project falls under UNDP Lebanon Stabilization and Recovery Program – Supporting Resilience in a Time of Crisis, designed to help stabilize and develop the resilience of the communities who are hosting refugees from Syria. With the more recent multi-faceted crisis striking the country, the project will contribute to supporting national priorities in addressing the impacts of a multi-faceted crisis.

Given the existing evidence on what works in maintaining social stability (both in Lebanon and abroad), the project pursues two principal objectives: (i) to ensure positive high-quality contact between host communities and refugees; (ii) to alleviate tensions by supporting.

most vulnerable communities through local conflict dialogue mechanisms. To achieve these objectives the project plans to continue its interventions in four areas: conflict dialogue mechanisms, media, education, and historical reconciliation. Conflict dialogue mechanisms and media interventions ensure both primary (face-to-face) and secondary contact between communities. “[R]elationships with outgroup media characters may serve to reduce prejudice in the same way that real world contact can reduce prejudice.”¹ The interventions in the schools serve as subject-specific conflict dialogue mechanisms, as Lebanese public schools where refugees and host communities regularly meet and discuss shared challenges. Finally, historical reconciliation interventions are the longer-term investment of UNDP, bridging humanitarian and development work. Ensuring peace in the country will be impossible to achieve without addressing the traumas of the civil war in parallel to the more urgent needs related to the Syrian crisis.

Consequently, project’s theory of change is based on project’s lessons learned as well as wider UNDP Lebanon experiences in the fields of conflict prevention and social stability:

- If local communities are supported to establish local conflict dialogue mechanisms, then inter- and intra-communal contact is facilitated, people are able to discuss potentially conflict-prone issues peacefully in a productive environment, ensuring quality interactions that break down sources of division and increase trust.
- If local sources of division are addressed and trust increases, then social norms are strengthened “that allow the non-violent and constructive management of conflict.”²
- At the national level, if Lebanese media is supported to provide objective and inclusive reporting, which highlights positive contact between refugees and host communities, then the perpetuation of stereotypes and prejudices in the media decreases
- If the perpetuation of stereotypes and prejudices in the media decreases, then people have more positive perceptions of and attitudes towards ‘others,’ including greater trust between identity groups.
- If educational sector is strengthened to mainstream peacebuilding in its educational curriculum, then children, parents and teachers can deal with the emerging conflicts in non-violent ways, leading to the decreasing acceptance of violence by the population.
- If historical reconciliation is supported through the support the platform for the organizations working with the past, then common narrative about past events can be developed.
- If the common narrative about past events is developed, then the opportunistic use of past events and processes decreases.

Building on the successes of the three previous phases, and on the wide networks of journalists, local actors, local authorities, youth, media, activists, and the excellent relationship with key national counterparts (Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, Ministry of Social Affairs) the

¹ Paluck, E (2011): Media as an instrument for reconstructing communities following conflict, p. 8.

² Bruck et al, p. 3

project has built since 2007, UNDP Peace Building in Lebanon-phase 3 is aiming on supporting different prominent actors, at the national and local level, who have an influence on the culture of peace and violence in the country to address the different causes of tensions and work on transforming conflicts and lay the ground for a stable, peaceful, and cohesive society. These actors are mainly in track 2 (educators, NGOs leaders and Media) and track 3 (local leaders, NGOs activists, youth groups, women and local actors and activists). This new phase is based on the internal review conducted in June 2016 as well as the specific external evaluations of the Mechanisms for Social Stability and of the Violence Free Schools conducted between 2016 and 2020, and on a series of brainstorming sessions internally at UNDP and recommendations gathered from key external stakeholders externally.

The Peace Building in Lebanon Project- Phase 3 is directly linked to:

- **Outcome number 1 of the Country Programme Document (2017-2020):** Local Communities and institutions' ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict are strengthened, and the overall response on the evolution of tensions informed.
- **the UN Strategic Framework Outcome 1.3:** Lebanon has institutionalized mechanisms to promote peace and prevent, mitigate, and manage conflict at national, municipal and community levels.
- **UNDP Strategic Plan Output 3.2.1:** National capacities strengthened for reintegration, reconciliation, peaceful management of conflict and prevention of violent extremism in response to national policies and priorities.

The project responds to SDG 16: "Building inclusive and peaceful societies". It is also in line with the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP 2017-2020) to the Syrian crisis adopted by the Government of Lebanon. The project responds to the plan's Strategic Objective number 4: reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability and is directly linked to its Social Stability sector's Outcome 1: Social Stability is promoted by strengthening municipalities' communities' systems and institutions' ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict and ensuring early warning within the response.

Project Approach

A global UNDP review of its peacebuilding work (2012) confirmed that UNDP's cross sector mandate, field presence and sustained engagement enable it to provide long-term, context-specific assistance necessary to help strengthen governance and support institutional change. At the same time, the review stressed that these comparative advantages are underutilised for two reasons: first, UNDP is often focused on short-term interventions; and second, while it is well placed to offer solid, multi-dimensional conflict analysis, this does not seem to translate consistently into context-specific programming. UNDP needs to strengthen conflict prevention, peacebuilding architecture and social cohesion through multiple angles, including strengthening the ability of communities to cope with the crisis, as well as work to reduce instigative speech and attitudes towards violence.

UNDP can claim a peacebuilding role on the basis of its comparative advantage, when it is able to contribute to the following three areas:

- **In-depth analysis of a country's peacebuilding needs** understanding the context, including the history, the actors, the grievances, and the political economy of peace (thereby by linking, analytically, the various dimensions of conflict and

peacebuilding) and helping define the context specific success criteria for peacebuilding.

- **Relationship building** supporting processes, and creating time and space for national and/or local actors to develop relationships and agree on the rules that should govern state-citizen interactions and citizen-to-citizen relationships.
- Promoting “**state-society relations**”: enabling the state to meet the aspirations of citizens who in turn have a stake in its legitimacy and viability. State legitimacy can be strengthened through a range of sectoral interventions, from livelihoods development, the provision of administrative services, the enforcement of the rule of law, or transitional justice.

All three components address the “structural conditions conducive to conflict” and constitute UNDP’s peacebuilding identity and applied consistently. The Peace Building in Lebanon Project-Phase 3 aims to contribute to all of the above-mentioned components.

In addition, the objectives of the project support the following national strategic plans:

- Ministry of Education and Higher Education’s (MEHE), *National Education Strategy Framework: Education Sector Development Plan (General Education): 2010-2015* and *MEHE’s National Students’ Protection Policy adopted in 2018*. The teacher training, Peace Building Toolbox and history narrative components are related to Priority 2 (of the Education Sector Development Plan): Education that contributes to social integration and provides learners with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for living together in a diverse society; and to the Pillar 1 of the Students Protection Policy related to prevention.
- While Lebanon has a vibrant civil society with a large number of non-governmental organizations working in several fields, many of them in peace building, it is a fact that coordination and strategic thinking among them are still weak. In terms of peace building and strengthening civil peace in Lebanon, this is even more urgent. With the escalation of tensions during the past few years, and the existence of serious risks to civil peace in the country, the need to join the efforts of parties involved in the civil action and to draw together a national strategy for strengthening civil peace in Lebanon is a must. When representatives of national NGOs and civil society activists working on peace building and civil peace in Lebanon participated in a series of consultations organized by UNDP on the challenges to civil peace, they all agreed on the need to work together as civil society in order to have a bigger impact on the national level. They also requested UNDP’s help in bringing these NGOs together, as one of the main challenges facing the NGOs has to do with the competition and leadership problems, they have in their relationship with each other. For them, UNDP had the neutral stance needed to kick-start the process, encouraging all parties from different backgrounds and affiliations to take part in the joint venture envisaged. With the support of UNDP, a joint platform was established for NGOs working on civil peace in Lebanon and the participating NGOs agreed on a joint vision, joint strategy, an internal structure for the next three years, and agreed on a “Truth and Reconciliation Campaign”.
- Hundreds of thousands of Syrians and Palestinians from Syria have crossed the border with Lebanon over the past two years, escaping from the unbearable suffering brought to them by the war. Lebanon has kept its borders open, and

the Lebanese people have shown remarkable solidarity. But the burden over host communities is enormous and is felt in Lebanon more than in any other country. UNDP, in collaboration with the Lebanese Government, has launched a comprehensive programme of support to Lebanese communities hosting Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria. The objective is to boost the resilience of these communities by strengthening local service infra- structure; creating opportunities for rapid employment and income generation; and supporting existing mechanisms for peaceful coexistence. The programme has four components: 1. Strengthening local capacity for service delivery; 2. Improving livelihoods and creating opportunities for income generation; 3. Improving the living conditions for peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution and 4. Fostering mechanism for peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution.

- During the previous phase of the project, and at the national level, UNDP has engaged the most important media outlets to contribute to build a culture of peace and tolerance. As a result of a long participatory process - that started in 2007, through building the skills of journalists in peace building and objective reporting and the large network of journalists that UNDP has access to today-, and in close collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Information, on June 26th, a historic “Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon” was subscribed by 34 editors in chief, senior journalists and media owners from the whole political and confessional spectrum. In addition, news supplements bringing together journalists from diverse media outlets have been produced (with the participation of some of the journalists trained by the project during its first phase), aimed at creating a healthy platform for debate over several key national issues and the last one aimed at conveying positive message to ease the tensions generated as a result of the Syrian crisis. These supplements have been produced and distributed for free with the two leading newspapers in the country Annahar and Assafir that target two different audiences, reaching out for more than 34,000 readers (17,000 with each newspaper), all over Lebanon.

Project Outputs and activities

Four main outputs are envisioned in the **forthcoming phase**:

1. Education promoting social cohesion supported.
2. Media empowered to promote balanced and conflict sensitive media coverage.
3. Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees.
4. An NGO platform promoting nation-wide truth and reconciliation supported and ex-fighters’ role in promoting peace building enforced.

1- Education promoting social cohesion supported.

Sectarian and political divisions are manifested at both the social and political levels, in **the education sector** there is a cause for concern on two fronts: the absence of peace education content in the curriculum and the stalemate in relation to the history narrative. With the eruption of the Syrian crisis and the influx of thousands of Syrian refugees to Lebanon, tensions started to rise, and these are mostly visible in schools, where high numbers of

Syrians are registering in public schools, reaching in many cases a higher number than Lebanese ones. The number of students increased considerably inside the already crowded classrooms and the differences in social and academic backgrounds between Lebanese and Syrian students, in addition to other socio-cultural factors are the sources of ever-growing tensions. In many cases as well, students are transmitting their parent's anger, frustrations and problems to the classrooms. As such, teachers, students and administrations are overwhelmed and the harmonious flow of the school like is disrupted with discriminatory attitudes and sometimes violent actions and continuous frustration. This situation affects both the social cohesion within Lebanese communities themselves as well as the social interaction between Lebanese and Syrians.

a. Violence Free Schools:

The project will work on "Violence Free Schools" (VFS). The main objective of this activity is to create positive educational space, inclusive free of violence, discrimination, and tensions, where students coming from different backgrounds can learn peacefully, while engaging teachers, students, school administrations as well as parents in the process. More specifically, the project seeks to sensitize teachers, students, school administrations and parents on peace building, equipping them with the necessary tools to be able to turn their environment into a Violence Free Zone and be engaged in internal structures (or task forces) inside the schools through which they will develop Codes of Conduct for Non-Violence that can provide the framework for lobbying and advocating for nonviolence. They will be also organizing activities promoting violence inside schools but also outside, reaching out to the community members in their localities. The enhancement of the physical space is also envisaged, to contribute turning the physical space of the school into a youth-friendly and peaceful place. The projects will be identified by the task forces in each school. The project will be monitoring the change of attitudes and behaviours throughout the process and evaluating the impact of the intervention and the end of its cycle. 30 schools will be targeted each year. Each violence free school will be two academic years to be fully completed.

b. Violence Free Communities (VFC)

During 2022, UNDP has worked on elaborating a new approach to overcome the challenges faced within schools. Indeed, the several strikes organized by public teachers to ask for a just salary as well as the prolonged closure of schools, compounded by the delays in getting MEHE's approval for the VFS activities have halted the implementation of the VFS intervention within schools. As such, it was suggested to organize and implement activities in the communities where the targeted schools are located. This proposal comes to compensate and complement the activities held in the schools, and will target the youth, and their families to raise awareness on violence prevention. The new community-based approach "Violence Free Communities" (VFC) will be implemented in communities across all Lebanon.

c. Building the skills of Ministry of Education and Higher Education and CERD Master Teacher trainers on the Violence Free Schools Initiative:

In order to sustain the VFS and to integrate peace building into formal educational channels, UNDP will make sure to eventually transfer this activity to the relevant ministry. Thus, a

group of trainers at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and CERD will be trained on the Violence Free Schools methodology in order to ensure they have the knowhow and the skills to be able in the near future to directly implement the activity. Also, UNDP will organize a yearly conference on peace education with experts and relevant partners, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in order to share experiences, reflect on the topic more and come up with recommendations and policy recommendation for this sector.

b. The Peace Building Toolbox:

In the absence of context-specific peace building content in the curriculum, the Project will integrate peace building values into the current curriculum through a teaching aid, the Peace Building Toolbox which will strengthen teachers' skills to communicate peace building values to high school students. The project will mainly focus on building the skills of the teachers who are hosting both Lebanese and Syrian students in their classrooms. This has been considered to be one of the main priorities that need to be focused on while addressing the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon, and which has been translated in the Lebanon Road Map of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict endorsed by the Government of Lebanon.

The concept of the Peace Building Toolbox was borne out of the direct, immediate need of 100 public and private high school teachers trained in conflict resolution methodologies in 2009. With the training completed, teachers requested that tools are produced to complement their skills and enhance the way they can communicate the peace building principles to students within the current high school curriculum.

An assessment of the toolbox undertaken in 2011- 2012 showed that the tool has had a positive impact on classroom dynamics and on students' attitudes. The assessment showed that the toolbox is a useful teaching aid according to teachers, school administrations and parents. However, it indicated that there are some challenges in using the toolbox regarding issues such as the teachers' capabilities in using the tool, mainly in adapting the exercises to the classroom reality, in managing the classroom and facilitating the sessions. Due to the importance of this tool and the potential role that it will play in reforming the educational system and contribute to implementing the new strategy of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the role that it is playing in addressing the new challenge faced by teachers these days because of the Syrian refugees influx, there is an urgent need to build on the Toolbox and following up on its evaluation in order to come up with its final version. During the coming phase and building on the results of this assessment and based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the project will pilot the tool in 12 schools after building the skills of a sample group of teachers and mentoring their work. An in-depth assessment will be conducted in parallel to measure the impact of the tool on both teachers and students. Based on the results of this assessment, the tool will be revised, reproduced, and reprinted. It will then be handed to the Ministry after building the capacities of its master teachers on how to use it in order to be able to disseminate to high schools.

This tool which has been used to train teachers in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and the North who are hosting both Lebanese and Syrian students, will be used as well in other areas with the similar target audiences. Teachers in mixed schools are facing a new emerging challenge because of the impact of the Syrian crisis and the influx of Syrian students into the Lebanese schools which is creating in many cases tensions and stress inside classrooms. The experience in using it so far with few schools that are facing this challenge has been very

efficient and successful. Many success stories have been reported of teachers changing their behaviours and consequently the behaviours of her students mainly in regard to dealing with differences and the perceptions of the Other.

The project will work on developing a digital version of the toolbox as per the request of the CERD, so that the Ministry can have more tools aiming at managing violence and conflicts inside classrooms, while being adaptable to the new educational needs since COVID19 outbreak.

The project will work on integrating peace building into schools building the capacities of teachers in peace building, communication skills, non-violence, conflict prevention and conflict resolution and sensitizing school principals, personnel, and parents on peace building. Women will be the main target, since they are the most active in the educational system and have shown a high commitment throughout the years during which UNDP has been implementing peace education related activities.

2- Media empowered to promote balanced and conflict sensitive media coverage

a. The “Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon”:

The achievement made during the second phase of the project with the elaboration and publishing of the “Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon” has been described as being “historic” by the Ministry of Information and Lebanese media outlets. Following up on its implementation and monitoring its usage by the 35 media outlets that committed to it, especially in these days highlighted with rising tensions because of the Syrian crisis, is considered to be crucial.

During the coming phase and building on the Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon, the project will partner with a local NGO or institution to follow up on the implementation of the Pact from the different media outlets who signed it. This will be done through media monitoring or what we call a media watchdog. News bulletins and talk shows will be recorded and transcribed and related data are analysed and presented in form of a report. These reports will contain comparative information about the news content. The media watchdog will provide a list of topics by rate of importance at the end of each month. These topics will be compiled on a trimestral basis to be transformed into data reports and later on into infographics. All media actions related to the pact will be traced by the observatory that will be formed by a team of observers analysing the database and issuing reports. These infographics/explainer videos will be broadcasted on two key TV station during the news every three months. The same video which will be broadcasted on TV stations will be also shared on social media websites, blogs and UNDP Lebanon website to guarantee a wider audience. Through different animation styles, the video which will be prepared by a graphic design company, will explain the main clauses of the Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon added to the result of the study elaborated by a media watchdog. The reports will be divided over the 19 clauses of the Journalists’ Pact, the sub-themes are: respect of rule of law, information accuracy in relation to civil peace, news related to elections, defamation, and objectivity in news editorials, racism and discrimination. At the end of the process, a final report gathering the outcomes of all reports will be produced and roundtable discussions will be organized to discuss the final results with senior editors, researchers, journalists, etc. It is worth mentioning that women in the media scene are very active and have been showing a high commitment throughout the process of elaboration of the Journalists’ Pact. A special attention will be given to this category.

In parallel to the watchdog, and in order to reach out to the large public and to a wider

audience, a TV spot will be produced and broadcasted on all national TV channels. These 30 seconds spot will transmit the objective of the Pact and its role in strengthening civil peace in Lebanon and disseminate it to everyone.

b. Participatory Media Campaign:

The need to convey positive message through media to both the host and refugee communities and contribute to alleviating tensions and rising feelings of hatred has been communicated by all partners and organizations working on the Syrian crisis file. This has been communicated during both informal meetings but also during formal gatherings and events and has been translated into the Regional Response Plan process or the Lebanon Road Map of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict, endorsed by the Government of Lebanon. Building on its long experience with media and its wide network of journalists and senior editors, the project will organise participatory media campaign conveying positive messages to both Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities will be launched. Focus groups with relevant key stakeholders will be organized in order to develop and agree on key messages that the campaign will tackle. It should be noted that the outputs of the focus group meetings can be used to set the base for the supplements' topics.

c. Joint News Supplements

Another major activity is the production of joint news supplement. In Phase I, some 40 mid-career TV, radio and print reporters (most of whom are women) from different local media outlets undertook joint assignments in the field on strategic issues and became better informed of how less "biased" language could be used in their reporting, particularly during conflict. These supplements were saluted by many parties who wished that more of these supplements would be produced, mainly re-producing the one that dealt with the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon from a socio-economic perspective and that contributed to conveying positive messages to both the host and the refugee's communities.

Building on the success of these supplements and their positive impact communicated through different people and institutions to UNDP, the project will publish four supplements per year on civil peace related issues. As before, the project will work with a core group of journalists with whom the project has previously collaborated in previous issues in addition to new journalists, widening the network of journalists involved in a civil peace initiative. These supplements will still be published and distributed for free with Annahar and Assafir to 37,000 reader all over the country, in addition to the wide dissemination on social media. The supplements will focus mainly on the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon and contribute to the alleviation of tensions that are developing in this regard and to foster a better social interaction between Lebanese and Syrians and a better social cohesion within Lebanese communities.

To further expand the outreach of the supplements, and to fit the new context of media and the modernization trends in this field, UNDP decided to move the publication of the Peacebuilding supplements to a new digital platform, "Salam wa Kalam". Salam wa Kalam – launched in November 2021 - is a new digital space that covers a variety of topics related to development and peace building based on principles of diversity and inclusivity. UNDP has collaborated with Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs and the Lebanese University to develop the new vision of the Peacebuilding supplements. The supplements will focus mainly on the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon and contribute to the alleviation of tensions that are developing in this regard and to foster a better social interaction between Lebanese and Syrians and a better social cohesion within Lebanese

communities.

d. Work on countering fake news and promote the culture of fact checking: Fake news, though an old phenomenon, has taken a big importance in the recent years and its effect on social stability and social cohesion has proven to be damaging. The project will also tackle this problem through raising awareness among the general audience in general, in addition among youth in specific, at both national and local levels on the importance of identifying fake news and on ways to address them. TV and social media campaigns will be launched using several tools and techniques including data, satire, etc.

UNDP will also work with youth on countering fake news at their villages and local level, through training them on fact checking techniques and coaching them on launching campaigns to counter them and promote hate free speeches.

UNDP will also train media personnel, at both local and national levels on fact checking techniques to support them better face this phenomenon and promote a fact based, non-biased media coverage.

3- Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees.

The overall objective of this component is to prevent tensions through strengthening relations and communication, with the municipality at large, between Syrians and Lebanese, between community members and the municipality and across communities. By encouraging common spaces and platforms UNDP aims to work on encouraging dialogue between different community groups. As a result of its work UNDP, wants to have a substantial number of municipalities to have functioning, self-sustainable community dialogue mechanism, which continue to be active after UNDP's exit. The objective is also that group members participate in municipal planning and implementation of municipal events and are involved in addressing any potential conflict events. More accountable, transparent, and participatory governance, which is conflict sensitive and conflict responsive, will decrease the likelihood of conflict escalation. Through work at the local level, the project is also fostering citizen-state relations and stressing on the marriage between governance and peacebuilding.

As demonstrated by recent research findings, "conflict dialogue... should be acknowledged in strategic planning as the effect of that type of assistance on improving perceptions of fairness of assistance was notable." (ARK wave III). To the extent possible, the project should focus on areas receiving comparatively low amounts of aid, as in these areas the project has a potential to improve the perceptions of aid bias and the subsequent negative collective action.

a. Establishing Mechanisms for Social Stability or Mechanisms for Stability and Local Development

b. Building on the previous experience in launching and implementing Mechanisms for Social Stability in several local communities all around Lebanon, the project will build on the lessons learned of this experience, on its successes, and mainly on the internal review conducted for the project. The need to scale up this activity was clearly flagged in the report, since those mechanisms are considered key in supporting local communities, especially those hosting Syrian refugees cope with the Syrian crisis impact on Lebanon, and on addressing as well internal Lebanese tensions. These mechanisms are today at the core

of UNDP's overall response to the Syrian crisis and a core element of its strategy of supporting Lebanese Host Communities, LHSP and are used to identify physical interventions including basic services and livelihood projects implemented by UNDP/LHSP.

Thus, the project will work on launching new mechanisms for social stability in conflict prone areas, mainly those listed in the 251 maps of most vulnerable communities but also beyond (to respond to the 2019-onwards economic and financial crisis at the national level), which are hosting large numbers of Syrian refugees. The specific objectives of the mechanisms are as follow:

Contributing to building trust between citizens and local government and between community members, through addressing root causes of conflict and strengthening inclusive leadership and accountability in local preparedness, recovery, and development planning

MSLD Specific Objectives

- 1- Analyse main needs and triggers of instability and conflicts in villages and cluster level (social, cultural, security and infrastructure related).
- 2- Support local actors and authorities in creating platforms for dialogue and channels for interaction and communication between community members with the aim to foster social cohesion and improve social stability.
- 3- Ensure the involvement of all community groups (Youth, Women, people with disability, Mukhtars, Municipal Council members, local actors from various nationalities and different cultural backgrounds...) in the local development process and decision making.
- 4- Improve the capacity of local authorities and local actors in Community Engagement & Mediation for local recovery, social stability and development strategies and plans.
- 5- Support local government entities improve good governance practices (transparency; accountability; anti-corruption measures; etc.)
- 6- Create sustainable local structures that can support in increasing the impact of local interventions and ensure long term influence on social stability.
- 7- Support communities in developing a common strategy at regional/cluster level for development.
- 8- Improve critical service provision for all.
- 9- Improve livelihood as a tool for conflict prevention and management.

The MSS/MSLD methodology comprises the following phase:

1. An entering phase
2. Formation of the Stability and Local Development phase
3. Mapping and Analysis phase
4. Development of Stability and Local Development plan phase
5. Implementation of the SLD plan phase

It is worth mentioning that the capacity building is mainstreamed throughout the process and different sessions are organized throughout the cycle targeting the local group to build its skills in negotiation, mediation, conflict resolution, peace building, communication, proposal writing, management, etc.

These mechanisms are inclusive of all factions and parties in the village regardless of their nationality, sect, political affiliation, etc.

An MSS process supported by UNDP lasts 18 months. This includes the capacity building,

facilitation, coaching support from UNDP team but also the support of the local or national NGO to the local working groups in implementing their plans and refining their internal structures for a better sustainability.

Conflict assessments

The project will also be conducting periodic conflict assessments in the areas where Syrian refugees are being hosted. These conflict assessments will provide relevant and important data in regards to the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanese host communities, both at the social cohesion level between Lebanese groups and at the social interaction level between Lebanese and Syrians. This information is crucial for UNDP and for other organizations working in this field, because it provides concrete and real facts and figures about the impact of the crisis on social cohesion and can help better shape the activities and thus have a better impact on the ground.

c. Al-Fayhaa Choir

Within the framework of the MSLD activities, a new initiative aimed at supporting previously established local MSLD committees to create a National Choir for Peace promoting social cohesion in Lebanon, and solidarity messages through music, was launched. This initiative aims at:

- a) Creating a common platform for people from different generations from different villages to promote the culture of peace for a more positive and optimistic atmosphere that would contribute to building peace and solidarity.
- b) Strengthening social cohesion between youth singers coming from different backgrounds, religions, and sects to give people hope for a better future and expand the limits of coexistence.
- c) Establishing a network and channels for communication and cooperation between the MSLD committees across Lebanon through the peace choir to enhance the sense of citizenship and belonging through music.
- d) Performing peace songs through an inclusive choir that would inspire peace and joy and help raise social awareness.

31 communities were targeted through the MSLD committees who shared the recruitment announcement. 182 participants registered from different Lebanese villages to take part in this initiative. 6 audition sessions took place to select the participants and based on the auditions 120 youth were selected.

4- An NGO platform promoting nation-wide truth and reconciliation and ex-fighters' role in promoting peace building supported.

a. NGOs Platform for Truth and Reconciliation:

Lebanon has a vibrant civil society sector with non-governmental organizations, professional associations and syndicates that responds first to the existing and emerging crisis. Nevertheless, the nature of work related to civil peace has been uncoordinated, leading to a duplication of initiatives and limited to implementing individual projects rather than promoting advocacy, networking, and consensus building. Representatives of NGOs and civil society activities participated, during the first phase of the project, in a series of consultations including a dialogue session related to Lebanese identity and a meeting to highlight the challenges to civil peace. Discussions revolved around the need for civil society

to link what they are doing to the national level and most significantly working together to have more impact at the national level. NGOs requested from UNDP to help in bringing the NGOs working on peace building together, as one of the main challenges they are facing has to do with the competition and leadership problems. For them, UNDP has the neutral stance needed to kick-start the process, encouraging all parties from different backgrounds and affiliations to take part in the joint venture. With the support provided by the project, both at the process support and facilitation of meetings level and the capacity building sessions provided, the group of NGOs was able to create and maintain a joint platform. The members agreed to tackle the root causes of conflict in Lebanon and thus decided to give the name of "Campaign for Truth and Reconciliation" to their group. They developed a workplan and started preparing for the "Truth and Reconciliation National Conference" that they would like to organize in 2015. With the priorities set and the long term strategies meeting the national needs identified- which is considered to be an achievement taking into consideration the above mentioned challenges for NGOs to coordinate and work together-, the project will continue supporting the platform during its next phase, especially with the formal request addressed by the platform to UNDP for a continuous support and the urging need during these days with the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon and the role that these NGOs can play together in order to alleviate tensions. UNDP will help them implement the plan, providing them with the necessary tools.

b. "Fighters for Peace":

Since the end of the civil war (1975-1990) Lebanon has been witnessing a series of continuous tensions and conflicts. These tensions and conflicts are putting the country at stake and the risks of the eruption of a new cycle of violence are high. Also, there has never been a true and serious strategy for reconciliation. Although the Lebanese civil war has officially come to an end more than two decades ago, the political leadership of the country partially consists of former warlords. The country remains deeply divided between different religious sects and political groups. Although the country has widely been restricted and the political institutions are functioning, Lebanon has never fully healed from the wounds of the civil war. A true reconciliation process hasn't taken place. Moreover, since many of today's political leaders were warlords during the civil war, the country's political leadership has blocked a reconciliation process and has also blocked any efforts to deal with Lebanese recent war history. On a political level, to deal with the Lebanese civil war remains a taboo. In Lebanon's post-civil war history, the common mechanisms of transitional justice- ranging from prosecution, lustration, and reform of state institutions to truth commissions and reparations programs- have not been applied. A culture of impunity exists and is coupled with divided memories, which are part of group identities, reinforcing social segregation.

The experience of ex-fighters, who were active during the civil war, and who decided to turn the page and contribute to civil peace in Lebanon is crucial in this context. Assisting these actors in their new struggle towards peace and not war is very important and will leave a great impact on Lebanese. Being ex-fighters, they have experienced the war and its atrocities, and thus they know what war means and how it affects people's life and the country in general. They had to acknowledge that war is not a mean to reach goals, and that in a war there are no winners but only losers. They have learned their lesson the hard way, and they have learned it. Therefore, they are convincing role models for peace building. Because of their war experience and their reflections upon it, they have a certain authority. With this authority, they have the power to convince others that war is never the solution. The project will support the newly established group of ex-fighters, who decided to gather under an NGO called "Fighters for Peace", developing their personal, communication and

mediation skills in order to better equip them to advocate for peace and have an impact on the new generation who might take part in a new cycle of violence as well as on current fighters through street mediation.

The Project will ensure that gender considerations are incorporated into the project outputs and into focus group discussions, particularly those related to conflict mapping. Women have been very well represented in the youth leaders, NGOs and reporters' groups but there has always been a meagre representation in the local government structures meetings (municipal council and *mukhtars*). Even though within local government structures there is a quota to ensure their representation, female mayors and *mukhtars* have tended to avoid being part of the consultations with fellow local government actors. In order to ensure better gender representation, efforts will be made to encourage their participation through the national counterpart, Ministry of Interior and Municipalities.

Key Assumptions

Overall

- Project will be able to mobilize sufficient resources for the implementation of planned activities at an appropriate scale.
- There is an overall interest in the peacebuilding agenda on behalf of Lebanese authorities.

Community dialogue mechanisms

- UNDP will be capable to obtain endorsement by community leaders for the dialogue mechanisms work.
- The existence of MSLD committees allows for an improved mediation of conflicts at local level and the prevention of conflicts.

Media

- Paper-based newspaper supplement is a relevant format for the dissemination of peacebuilding messages and evidence-based reporting (compared to an electronic format)
- Breaking the echo-chamber
- The supplement is read by opinion makers, community leaders and social referents, who can influence public beliefs.
- The new digital-based space (Salam wa Kalam) for the publication of supplements and other peacebuilding-relevant contents is better responding to modernization trends in the field, ensuring a wider outreach and dissemination of peacebuilding messages.
- The journalists and the signatories of the pact are interested in adhering to its principles.
- The journalists trained on hate speech and fake news translate the new practices and knowledge into their work.

VFS

- Deployment of VFS-methodology in schools translates into decreased violence between pupils, pupils and teachers, parents, and pupils.
- Switch to community-based activities on violence prevention (VFC) is an effective way for addressing violence in local communities, outside the schools.

Dealing with the past

- Supporting NGOs in the reconciliation efforts is an effective way for furthering the dialogue (are they capable to do that)
- Conducting the dialogue on the memories of the war is an efficient path for peacebuilding.

III. PARTNERSHIPS AND SUSTAINABILITY

The project is part of the coordination bodies created to respond to the Syrian crisis in Lebanon. It sits in the Social Stability working group as well as the Education Sector working group. It is also part of the response to the Beirut blast and is leading on the 3RF social cohesion sector. Through this presence, the project is constantly following up with partners implementing similar work and ensuring good coordination. Through providing regular updates on the different activities the project team make sure to communicate all issues pertaining the implementation of the activities, the key challenges, success stories and lessons learned as well. The aim is to share with others as much as possible field and implementation issues in order to benefit from others' experiences and benefit the others.

Other stakeholders are mainly working on similar issues at the local level (launching mechanisms that have a relatively different structure and strategy) that are also addressing the development challenge. The main difference between partners' work and UNDP's work in this regards is that UNDP's interventions are directly coordinated and linked to the relevant national ministries and aim at mainstreaming them into eventual national policies. This is mainly relevant for the work done under the Mechanisms for Stability and Local Development and the ongoing coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. Regarding the education, partners in this sector are not covering (to date) peace building issues they are mainly assisting the education system and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in basic education needs (technical support, access to school, formal education learning, etc.).

Stakeholder Engagement

The project's key stakeholders are both at the local and national levels. At the national level the project works directly with senior editors in all national media outlets, journalists and reporters. Also, the project targets key national civil society organizations working on peace building issues, including ex-fighters' groups (who were previously involved in the civil war). In addition, the project directly involves national staff at the Ministry of Social Affairs and staff at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

At the local level, the project works directly with mayors, municipal council members, *mukhtars*, Ministry of Social Affairs' local staff, local actors including youth, women, and other prominent peace actors at the local level. Also, teachers, school principals, students and parents are directly targeted. The project also targets local reporters based in the different governorates all over Lebanon.

As mentioned in the sections above, these actors are the main actors who have direct impact on the culture of peace in Lebanon and who can transform conflicts from within. They can influence youth and general audience minds and perceptions and can advocate and lobby for structural change in the Lebanese society and systems in relations to peace issues.

They will be reached out through their institutions: through the schools for the educators; the media outlets for the journalists and reporters; the municipalities for the local authorities and local actors and through the NGOs for the activists.

These several groups are at the core of the different project's outputs. It is with them and through them that the strategies of the activities are designed and thus implemented. They have full ownership on the processes. At the national level, UNDP is in constant dialogue with the national counterparts (the relevant Ministries) to come up with the best strategies and activities and thus during the implementation they are fully involved.

At the local level, UNDP support the target groups through capacity building in coming up with the best strategies for peace building. They design the different mechanisms for social stability and the codes of conduct for nonviolence in the schools.

As for the other potential affected groups, the project is flexible enough to include new actors and engage them. This is very relevant to the work at the local level, whereby new potential key actors can constantly join the processes.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

The project will work on building the skills of the relevant ministries in the key activities in order to ensure the sustainability of the project and its goals. For instance, the project will transmit the skills needed for the launching and implementation of the Mechanisms for Social Stability MSS (transformed later on to the MSLD) to the Ministry of Social Affairs staff (based in the different locations through the Social Development Centres), the main partner in this. The Ministry has included the MSS as part of its response to the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon and consider it key in addition to the two other components: the basic services delivery and the livelihood; and is keen on receiving the needed skills to lead on the process. Through working with the local authorities represented by the municipalities, the project is ensuring all conflict prevention capacities are geared towards national and local actors.

Also, the project will also work on transmitting the Violence Free Schools as another model to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education master teachers, in the hope of having the ministry leading on this. Also, the project will continue advocating for the Peace Building

Toolbox which is supposed to become a tool in the hands of the Ministry's teachers and master teachers and part of the national curriculum.

The project will finally partner with key leading national non-governmental organizations and build their needed skills to follow up on the relevant activities.

Also, the project will work on, when appropriate and depending on the funds available for the different activities, to implement in parallel the MSLD, the media work and the VFS in the same location, ensuring the comprehensive approach of tackling several layers at the same time, but also targeting several key actors and peace assets at the same time; which contribute to increasing the positive impact of the overall intervention and secure sustainability of the action.

This directive will contribute to scaling up the main activities of the project, mainly the MSLD (and thus reaching a higher number of communities) and the VFS (and thus reaching a higher number of schools).

IV. PROJECT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Management

The risks that can threaten the achievement of results of the project's strategy as well as the mitigation measures are as follow:

- Lack of sufficient funds to implement all outputs within the proposed framework. The lack of funding may impact the delivery of the proposal outputs and the overall sustainability of the project. The different outputs of the projects are comprehensive and contribute together to the peace building in Lebanon. Not being able to equally cover the expenses of the different activities might affect the overall objective of the project and its impact. UNDP will make sure to advocate for the comprehensive approach of the project and stress on the importance of its different aspects as much as possible. Also, the project staff will develop creative means to tackle through the funded activities some key aspects of the unfunded ones.
- Resistance of government to some aspects of the project especially to those considered "sensitive topics" for the Lebanese context. The assumption is that core Lebanese issues such as historical narrative, reconciliation between Lebanese based on dealing with root causes or the current conflict dynamics related to the Lebanese-Syrian relations and the implications of that on Lebanon; may not be conducive to progress on the peace building process front and which may also lead to delays in the implementation. UNDP will make sure to sustain the good communication channels with the relevant ministries, conveying a balanced discourse to advocate for the project's objectives. UNDP will also build on the strong and extended existing networks with other national actors and civil society actors to address the issues at stake.
- Bureaucratic delays. The assumption is that delays in milestone delivery may take place due to changes at the national level (e.g., change of government and thus appointment of new ministries). Also, internal delays cause by UNDP rules and regulations should be taken into consideration. UNDP will nevertheless from one side, make sure to save the strong relations it has with national counterparts at the technical level (Directors' General levels in the relevant ministries). UNDP and the

project team will also make sure to continue building strong partnerships with a wide range of actors, to allow for broad ownership of the project objectives and activities. From another side, the project team will make sure to launch the processes of all related procurements, recruitments, etc. ahead of time by planning well.

- Periodic episodes of conflicts in Lebanon: the outbreak of violence in Lebanon, or the emergence of a political stalemate may jeopardise the timely delivery of outputs and could require the adjustment of the proposed initiatives. UNDP will address this by building national ownership of the activities to ensure their sustainability regardless of the situation and UNDP's ability to assist them. UNDP will also build strong relations with partners at the national and local levels to ensure commitment to delivery of outputs. It will also make sure that activities and their implementation is flexible enough to adapt to emerging crises.

For further information on project risks, refer to the updated Risk Log in Annex A.

Project Management

Given the sensitive nature of the project and the need for neutrality, the project will be directly executed by UNDP and will follow a DIM modality. All activities are to be conducted by the Peace Building Project team, under the overall guidance and supervision of the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Programme Manager.

In the context of this initiative, close partnerships will be developed with national counterparts, particularly the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, and the Ministry of Social Affairs, in order to further plan and implement the activities outlined in the Results Framework.

All services shall be provided in accordance with UNDP procedures, rules, and regulations. Project management responsibilities will be distributed according to the following division of work:

- a. **The Project Board** will provide technical support, share relevant information, and review progress against planned outputs. The Board will play an important role to identify and manage opportunities and risks as the project progresses, and will meet at least twice a year to undertake the following responsibilities:
 - i. Approve the Annual Work Plan and budget.
 - ii. Monitor progress against plans and assess performance.
 - iii. Provide advice when substantive changes are needed in the projects. planned outputs, budget, strategies, or implementation arrangements.
 - iv. Assist in problem solving.
 - v. Identify and manage risks and issues.
 - vi. Agree on any re-prioritization of work or reallocation of resources to ensure that milestones are achieved and ensure that potential.

V. RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

<p>Intended Outcome as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resource Framework: National capacities towards building sustainable peace strengthened</p> <p>Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets: Indicators: % of key national development issues that have benefited from new national and local mechanisms; % of policies adopted through application of new consensual approaches; Baseline: No systematic mapping on existing dialogue and civil peace issues and mechanisms and capacities; Targets: National strategy for civil peace developed and dialogue mechanisms established at national and local levels.</p> <p>Applicable Key Result Area: Enhancing conflict and disaster risk management capabilities (Crisis Prevention and Recovery)</p> <p>Partnership Strategy: As a result of the prior project phase, a number of partnerships with NGO's, conflict transformation & peace building practitioners, training institutions and Government ministries, media outlets, journalists, and universities were established. These partnerships will be deepened, and new partnerships will be established to bring additional subject matter expertise into the project.</p> <p>Project title and ID (ATLAS Award ID): Peace Building in Lebanon Phase III</p> <p>Objective: Social cohesion enhanced in Lebanon and tensions reduced between communities (Lebanese-Lebanese and Lebanese-Syrians) Support national dialogue initiatives and efforts to approaches to diffuse conflict at the local level by enhancing reconciliation, trust-building, and consensus</p>				
INTENDED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT TARGETS FOR (YEARS)	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	INPUTS
<p>Output 1: Education promoting social cohesion supported.</p> <p>Baseline: 1) Rising tensions in schools hosting Syrian refugees 2) High level of violence in Lebanese</p>	<p><u>Targets (year 1)</u> Training of 350 teachers and sensitize school personnel and parents from mixed Lebanese-Syrian public schools on peace building undertaken.</p> <p>Training of school staff and students on conflict resolution and non-violent learning in the</p>	<p>1.1. Training of 700 (2 teachers from 350 schools) teachers from mixed Lebanese-Syrian public schools on peace building skills and sensitization sessions for parents and school personnel undertaken</p> <p>1.2. Sensitize and train school staff and students on peace building and conflict resolution</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Higher Education (Center for Educational Research and Development and Citizenship Committee)</p>	<p>Total: USD4,184,632.40</p>

<p>public and private schools, 3) Absence of context-specific peace education content in the current high school curricula (including civics/history/geography education 4) Need to implement master training for teacher trainers in use of Peace Building methodology.</p> <p>Indicators: 1) Number of educators teaching Lebanese and Syrian students 2) Number of high school teachers using the VFS methodology 3) number of schools adopting the violence free schools' principles 4) Number of DOPS teachers trainers trained on the VFS</p>	<p>four pilot schools conducted.</p> <p>Development of a baseline indicator for the evaluation of the Peace Building Toolbox</p> <p>Peace Building Toolbox Midterm assessment conducted, piloting/testing undertaken in selected public and private schools</p> <p><u>Targets (year 2)</u></p> <p>Training of 350 teachers from mixed Lebanese-Syrian public schools on peace building undertaken</p> <p>Assessment of the Peace Building Toolbox finalized</p> <p>Revised Peace Building Toolbox produced and disseminated to public and private high schools</p> <p>Digital format of the toolbox developed</p>	<p>methodologies in four pilot schools</p> <p>13. Based on consensus between students and teachers, support them in developing a common code of conduct at school and develop indicators to monitor compliance of the code of conduct</p> <p>14. Monitor the changes in attitudes and behaviour against the code of conduct through the agreed indicators</p> <p>15. Assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the mechanisms created and their application and develop recommendations and lessons learnt based on the experience</p> <p>16. Baseline indicator developed for the assessment of the Peace Building Toolbox</p> <p>17. Testing of the Peace Building Toolbox</p> <p>18. Conduct assessment of Peace Building Toolbox in schools (with Ministry of Education and Higher</p> <p>19. Digital peacebuilding toolbox</p>	<p>NGOs</p>	
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	ToT program for teacher trainers at the Center for Educational Research and Development	developed		
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<p>Output 2: Media empowered to promote balanced and conflict sensitive media coverage</p> <p>Baseline: 1) Lack of impartial and</p>	<p>(CERD) conducted</p> <p>Violence free environment created in four public and private Lebanese schools</p> <p>Formulation of recommendations and policies in regard to violence free schools</p>	<p>Education)</p> <p>1.9. Finalize Peace Building Toolbox based on results of assessment (with Ministry of Education and Higher Education)</p> <p>1.10. Produce Peace Building Toolbox and distribute through Ministry of Education and Higher Education to high schools</p> <p>1.11. Support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to introduce the pilot into high school curriculum, through a master teacher training approach targeting trainers from CERD</p> <p>1.12. Produce a report on the experience of the VFS and its importance for peace education in Lebanon</p>	<p>Media outlets at the national and local levels</p> <p>Ministry of Information</p>	<p>Total: USD5,695,619.48</p>
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<p>multifaceted reporting on issues affecting social cohesion in Lebanon and with communities hosting Syrian refugees in particular</p> <p>2)The Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace signed but not yet implemented</p> <p>3)Limited media monitoring on the type of and effects of reporting</p> <p>4)Poor or biased coverage of strategic issues regarding the implementation of past agreements</p> <p>5)Lack of channels for conveying positive messages through media</p> <p>6) Lack of a fact checking oriented media culture and lack of skilled reporters in fact checking techniques</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>1) Number of reporters covering national and critical issues in an impartial, accurate manner</p> <p>2) Number of reports produced on the implementation of the Journalists’ Pact</p> <p>3)Number of media outlets</p>	<p>implementation of the Journalists’ Pact articles published</p> <p>4 Animated infographic videos covering the Journalists Pact published and broadcasted on two main TV channels</p> <p>Production of a TV conveying the main messages of the Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon</p> <p>4 joint supplements produced by reporters and editors from different media outlets</p> <p>A participatory Media Campaign on the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanese hosting communities covering issues related to social cohesion organized</p> <p>4 newsletters portraying the different achievements and challenges of the Action</p>	<p>2.2. Publish periodic data reports on the implementation of the Journalists’ Pact articles</p> <p>2.3. Publish animated infographic videos covering the “Journalists Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace” to be broadcasted on two main TV channels</p> <p>2.4. Organise an annual discussion forum around the above themes and the annual media coverage report regarding the achievements and challenges in implementing the Pact</p> <p>2.5. Produce a 30 seconds TV spot conveying the main objective of the Journalists’ Pact for Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon</p> <p>2.6. Organize a participatory Media Campaign on the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanese hosting communities covering issues related to social cohesion</p> <p>2.7. Publish four supplements per</p>	<p>Reporters</p> <p>Youth</p>
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<p>cooperating to produce supplements</p> <p>4) Number of news articles and social media outlets covering national priority themes</p> <p>5) Number of campaigns, articles, emissions, conveying positive message on key sensitive topics</p> <p>6) Number of campaigns raising awareness on fact checking culture</p> <p>7) Number of youth and reporters trained on fact checking</p>	<p><u>Targets (year 2)</u></p> <p>2 Periodic data reports on the implementation of the Journalists' Pact articles published</p> <p>2 Animated infographic videos covering the Journalists' Pact published and broadcasted on two main TV channels</p> <p>Four joint supplements produced by reporters and editors from different media outlets</p> <p>The media observatory monitoring the implementation of the pact</p> <p>Production of the final report on the implementation of the Pact's articles</p> <p>An annual discussion on the Journalists' Pact implementation results organized</p>	<p>year on civil peace related issues both in the key national newspapers including Annahar and As-safir, as well as promote wider dissemination through social media</p> <p>2.8. Launch 2 campaigns per year on countering fake news e news</p> <p>2.9. Train 100 youth per year on countering fake news</p> <p>2.10. Train 47 reporters on fact checking techniques</p>		
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<p>Output 3: Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees</p> <p>Baseline: 1) Absence of sustained peace building and dialogue mechanisms to mitigate the risks of potential violence at the local level 2) Limited awareness of the role that local actors such as municipalities and <i>mukhtars</i> can play in conflict prevention and mitigation. 3) Worsening tension between the Lebanese host</p>	<p><u>Targets (year 1)</u> A literature review, focus groups and key informant interviews undertaken in the selected areas. 100 local leaders and community leaders trained on crisis management, mitigating tensions and mediating local conflicts. Key insider mediators identified and trained on mediation techniques in the selected locations. Conflict mapping undertaken in up to three selected conflict prone areas Focus groups established in the</p>	<p>3.1. Undertake a literature review, organise focus groups and key informant interviews to identify main actors and obtain up-to-date information on the developments in the regions of Bekaa, North Lebanon and Mount Lebanon. 3.2. Conduct a conflict/need assessment in the selected areas 3.3. Create the reference groups 3.4. Build the capacities of the reference groups (Train 100 local leaders and community leaders to manage crisis especially in refugee-related situations and acquire skills in local socio-economic development and in mitigating tensions, preventing, mediating and</p>	<p>Selected municipalities NGOs/CBOs in selected areas Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (including Unions of municipalities and <i>mukhtars</i>) League of <i>mukhtars</i> Ministry of Social Affairs</p>	<p>Total: USD15,790,038.75</p>
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communities and the Syrian refugees	selected areas	managing conflicts)	
<p>Indicators: 1) Local level peace building strategies and mechanisms implemented in at least three conflict-prone areas 2) Number of local leaders trained on mediation, conflict resolution and crisis management 4) number of insider mediators identified and trained 5) number of local level initiatives aimed at enhancing social cohesion</p>	<p>Conflict assessment conducted in communities affected by the Syrian crisis</p> <p><u>Targets (year 2)</u></p> <p>Local level conflict mitigation strategies developed in two to three selected areas</p> <p>Conflict assessment conducted in communities affected by the Syrian crisis</p>	<p>3.5. Implement the local level conflict mitigation mechanisms</p> <p>3.6. Undertake periodic conflict assessments of the impact of the Syrian crisis on social cohesion</p>	
<p>Output 4:</p> <p>An NGO platform promoting nation-wide truth and reconciliation and ex-fighters' role in promoting peace building supported</p> <p>Baseline: 1) Lack of a joint road map and a national strategy for truth and reconciliation 2) Limited</p>	<p><u>Targets (year 1)</u></p> <p>Mapping of causes, events and outcomes of the Lebanese civil war and recurrent conflicts in Lebanon undertaken</p> <p>One field research/opinion poll designed and published</p> <p>Series of consultations with political parties, syndicates and workers unions, families affected</p>	<p>4.1. Assist NGOs platform in undertaking a mapping of causes, events, and outcomes of the Lebanese civil war, as well as an assessment into the current situation covering the hot spots and recurrent conflicts.</p> <p>4.2. Assist NGOs platform in designing and completing opinion poll into issues related to truth and reconciliation.</p>	<p>National and local NGOs engaged in civil peace</p> <p>Total: USD368,213</p>

<p>field research on the perception of the causes, lived experience, and impact of the civil war in Lebanon, 3) Lack of consultation and coordination with state, non-state and other various segments of the Lebanese society on reconciliation 4) Absence awareness among the population about truth, reconciliation and dealing with the past through media 5) Absence of active ex-fighters wanting to promote peace</p> <p>Indicators: 1) Roadmap and national strategy on truth and reconciliation developed, 2) Field research tackling the legacies of the war implemented 3) Number of consultations held with different segments of the Lebanese society 4) Awareness raised among the population about truth, reconciliation and dealing with the past 5) Ex-fighters supported to play a positive role and convey messages of peace</p> <p>GRAND TOTAL</p>	<p>by the civil war, professional unions and associations, cooperatives, bankers, youth both employed and unemployed, and ex-fighters undertaken</p> <p>Capacity building for ex-fighters on dealing with the past, communication skills, advocacy, transitional justice, mediation skills and psycho social support implemented</p> <p>Advocacy activities by ex-fighters targeting youth implemented</p> <p><u>Targets (year 2)</u></p> <p>Nationwide conference, regional conferences across Lebanon, round tables implemented on truth, reconciliation and dealing with the past</p> <p>Support ex-fighters as role models for peace building in post-conflict Lebanon</p>	<p>4.3. Assist NGOs platform in organizing a series of consultations with political parties, syndicates and workers unions, families affected by the civil war, professional unions and associations, cooperatives, bankers, youth both employed and unemployed, and ex-fighters</p> <p>4.4. Assist the NGOs platform in organizing a nation-wide conference on truth, reconciliation and dealing with the past.</p> <p>4.5. Provide process support for the national civil society platform</p> <p>4.6. Support ex-fighters in promoting peace building</p>	<p>USD26,038,503.63</p>
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VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

To achieve both effectiveness and accountability, monitoring and evaluation responsibilities will be distributed among staff at the Country Office, and will be undertaken through the following mechanisms:

a. Project Reports:

i. Field visits and quarterly reports. The project team, under the supervision of the Project Manager, should prepare quarterly reports for the Project Board, accompanied by the quarterly financial reports. The quarterly progress report may consist of a brief summary of progress, in relation to the work plan and an update on the financial situation. This summary can also be used for feedback to the Project Board for making decisions and introducing corrective actions.

ii. Annual Project Report. The project manager ensures the preparation of the Annual Project Report (APR) in consultation with the stakeholders. This report will cover lessons from experience to help in assessing this implementation modality, including its implications in terms of capacity building and ownership.

b. Audit:

The audit of DIM projects is undertaken through the regular external (UN Board of Auditors) or internal audits (audits managed by UNDP's Office of Audit and Performance Review). Resident Representatives may request OAPR to exceptionally undertake audits of DIM projects.

In accordance with the programming policies and procedures outlined in the UNDP User Guide, the Project will be monitored through the following tools and methodologies.

Within the annual cycle:

- An Issue Log shall be prepared and updated by the Project Manager to facilitate tracking and resolution of potential problems or requests for change.

- Based on the initial risk analysis submitted, a risk log shall be regularly updated by reviewing the external environment that may affect the project implementation.
- A Project Progress Reports (PPR) shall be submitted by the Project Manager to the Project Board.
- A project Lesson-learned log shall be prepared and regularly updated to ensure on-going learning and adaptation within the organization, and to facilitate the preparation of the Lessons-learned Report at the end of the project
- A Monitoring Schedule Plan shall be prepared, and updated to track key management actions/events

Annually:

- An Annual Review Report shall be prepared by the Project Manager and shared with the Project Board. As a minimum requirement, the Annual Review Report shall consist of implementing progress, challenges, lessons learned, as well as a summary of results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level.
- Based on the above report, an annual project review shall be conducted during the fourth quarter of the year or soon after, to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the following year. In the last year, this review will be a final assessment. This review is driven by the Project Board and may involve other stakeholders as required. It shall focus on the extent to which progress is being made towards outputs, and that these remain aligned to appropriate outcomes.



VII. ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Year: 2024

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET							
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Donor	Funding ID	Donor ID	Account	Budget Description	Amount (USD)		
And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets	List activity results and associated actions													
Output 1: Education promoting social cohesion Baseline: 1.1 Weak culture of peacebuilding and nonviolence among children, parents and teachers (10,882 (children and adults attending awareness sessions and events)	1.2 Organize awareness raising and facilitated sessions in 16 locations	X	X	X	X	KFW7	30000	10283	72100	72100-Contractual Services - Companies	280,000.00			
		X	X	X	X	KFW7	30000	10283	71400	71400-Education Coordinator	13,700.00			
	Staffing and Other Cost	X	X	X	X	KFW7	30000	10283	64300	64300-Staff Mgmt Cost	5,874.00			
Indicators: 1.1 Number of beneficiaries reached through violence prevention activities in communities		X	X	X	X	KFW7	30000	10283	75100	75100-GMS 8%	23,965.92			
Targets: 1.1 5,346														
Total Output 1											323,539.92			

Output 3:

Local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions developed in selected conflict prone areas of Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees

Baseline

- 3.1 Limited strategies at local level in conflict prevention (147)
- 3.2 Limited capacities of local authorities and local actors in conflict prevention (approximately 180)
- 3.3 Limited activities aiming at fostering stability and social cohesion (approximately 2,663)

Indicators

		X	X	X	X		BRRM 5	30000	11207
3.1 Launch MSLD in (20) villages and (11) clusters all over Lebanon		X	X	X	X				
3.2 Engage local authorities and local actors in developing stability and local development strategies. and plans		X	X	X	X		KFW 7	30000	10283
3.3 Implement social stability-oriented activities in targeted communities		X	X	X	X				
3.3 Monitoring and evaluation		X	X	X	X		KFW7	30000	10283

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

UNDP as the Responsible Party will provide the following services:

- General Management Support:
 - i. Project identification, formulation, and appraisal
 - ii. Determination of execution modality and local capacity assessment
 - iii. Briefing and de-briefing of project staff and consultants
 - iv. General oversight and monitoring, including participation in project reviews.
 - v. Receipt, allocation and reporting to the donor of financial resources.

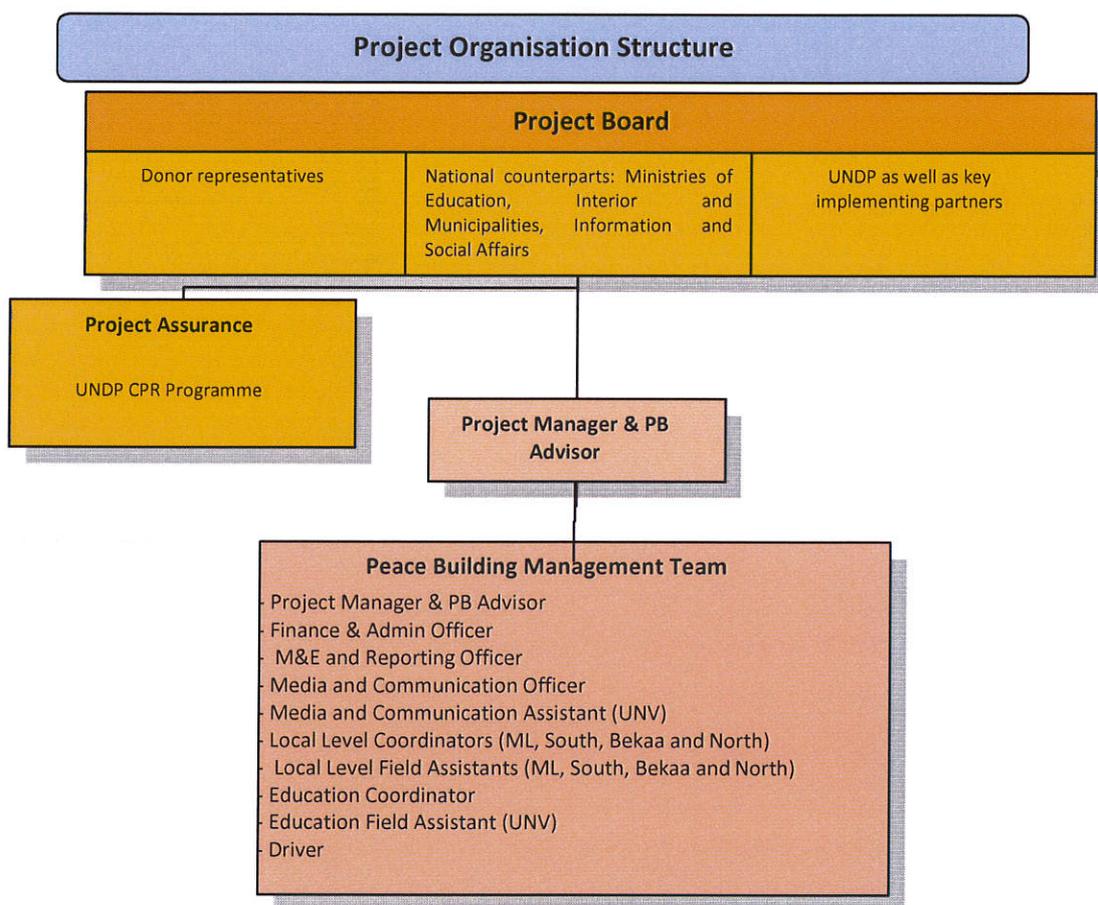
- Implementation Support Services
 - i. Payments, disbursements and other financial transactions
 - ii. Recruitment of staff, project personnel, and consultants
 - iii. Procurement of services and equipment, including disposal
 - iv. Organization of training activities, conferences, and workshops, including fellowships
 - v. Travel authorization, visa requests, ticketing, and travel arrangements

- b. The **Project Support** shall provide project administration, management and technical support in order to ensure successful implementation of the project as per the below:
 - i. Project Manager and PB Advisor
 - ii. Finance and Administrative Officer
 - iii. M&E and Reporting Officer
 - iv. Education Coordinator
 - v. Education Field Assistant (UNV)
 - vi. Local Level Coordinators ((ML, South, Bekaa and North)
 - vii. Local Level Field Assistants (ML, South, Bekaa and North)
 - viii. Media & Communication Officer
 - ix. Media & Communication Assistant (UNV)
 - x. Driver

Unless hosted in the offices of national counterparts through a NIM modality, rental costs are charged against project costs to allow for the smooth implementation of the projects. All services shall be provided in accordance with UNDP procedures, rules and regulations. Implementation of some activities will be undertaken through a sub-contracting modality (recruitment of international and local experts or institutions).

In accordance with the decisions and directives of UNDP’s Executive Board reflected in its policy on cost recovery, donor contributions shall be subject to cost recovery by UNDP:

- Cost recovery for indirect costs incurred by UNDP headquarters and country office



structures in providing General Management Support (GMS) services.

- UNDP direct costs incurred for Implementation Support Services (ISS)

VIII. LEGAL CONTEXT

This document together with the CPAP signed by the Government and UNDP which is incorporated herein by reference, constitute together a Project Document as referred to in the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA); as such all provisions of the CPAP apply to this document. All references in the SBAA to “Executing Agency” shall be deemed to refer to “Implementing Partner”, as such term is defined and used in the CPAP and this document.

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UNDP as the Implementing Partner shall comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations safety and security management system.

UNDP will agree to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the project are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

