Quarterly Progress Report

January-March 2021

Name of Project: Partnership for a Tolerant, Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB)

(Atlas Project ID: 00086326)

List of Acronyms

BPO	Bangladesh Peace Observatory
CARU	Cox's Bazaar Analysis and Research Unit
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CTTC	Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit
DKC	Digital khichuri Challenge
DLC	Digital Literacy Challenge
DPM	Digital Peace Movement
D4P	Diversity for Peace
EOP	End of project
GBV	Gender Based Violence
IED	Institute for Environment and Development
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PTC	Peace Talk Café

Project Information

Funded by:	Denmark, Netherlands, British High Commission, Norway		
Bangladesh National Counterparts:	N/A, DIM		
Partnerships:	Centre For Genocide Studies, Dhaka University; CTTC, Dhaka Metropolitan Police		
Project Locations:	**Nationally, Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, Khulna**		
CPD Output:	Output 2.1: Civil society, interest groups, relevant government agencies and political parties have tools and knowledge to set agendas and to develop platforms for building consensus on national issues.		
SP Output:	OUTCOME 2: Citizen expectations for voice, development, rule of law, and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance. OUTPUT 2.1: Civil society, interest groups, relevant government agencies and political parties have tools and knowledge to set agendas and to develop platforms for building consensus on national issues.		
SDG Target:	**Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development** **Targets:** 16.1 **Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere** **Target 16.a**: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.		
Project Starting Date (DD/MM/YYYY):	June 2018		
Original Completion Date (DD/MM/YYYY):	31 May 2021	**Expected Completion Date (DD/MM/YYYY):**	31 May 2021
Project Budget (USD):	4,879,404.42 + 300,000 for Covid response	**Fund Received (USD):**	4,247,652.23

Narratives

Key Results achieved

1. Research product: Producing of research products has crossed the cumulative end of project (EOP) target.
2. Digital Peace Movement: Outreach of social media campaign has crossed the EOP target by reaching out over 20 million viewers.
3. Diversity for Peace: Eenhanced mass acceptance towards diversity for peace and social cohesion through reaching out 6000+ people offline with another 13.5 million engagement through online events and campaigns.
4. CARU: An effective evidence-informed mechanism is in place through providing accurate and timely data to the Govt. donors and UN management. Despite reporting sensitive issues, it's been appreciated by the Govt.

Gender/ Leaving No One Behind (if any)

Gender
- Bangladesh Peace Observatory (BPO) presents data and analysis on gender-based violence (GBV). This data become useful to analyse the Covid19 impact on gender-based violence.
- The seventh edition of Digital Khichuri Challenged and ninth edition of Peace Talk Café addressed the women's safety in cyber space.

Addressing vulnerable groups

From PTIB and PVE perspectives in Bangladesh, **youth** are the most vulnerable to exposed to and influenced by extremist propaganda. The other vulnerable groups are **religious and ethnic minorities** as the targets of communal hatred and tensions.

Youth

- All the activities under Digital Peace Movements and Diversity for Peace components are designed youth-centric and targeting youth awareness building.

Ethnic minorities

- A peace football tournament organized in Bandarban to enhance ethnic harmony in CHT.

COVID-19 Responses   (if any)

Research facility: Although PTIB Covid19 funding was ended in December 2020, BPO continued the media monitoring and publishing Covid19Graphics considering the high demand of the data to the media and policy makers.
BPO also organized the last episode of E-seminar series titled "COVID-19: Social Tension, Cohesion and Response in Bangladesh" in January 2021.

Citizen Engagement: D4P partner IED produced a sort documentary film on the life of indigenous people in CHT during the Covid19 pandemic. The film documented the community initiative and adaption mechanism based on traditional knowledge and culture during the pandemic.

Innovation	(if any)

N/A

Monitoring

Weekly team meeting: Regular weekly team meetings discussed the progress of planned deliveries and results from both quantitative and qualitative aspects. Respective staff presented their weekly updates on activity progressed, result achieved, challenges faced and mitigation measures.

Social media analytics, Google analytics, Media tracking: For DPM and D4P, Facebook analytics were used to generate monitoring data on the number of people reached through online activities. For BPO, Google analytics were used to monitor the platform outreach. BPO also tracked and documented media coverages of BPO citations.

A comprehensive assessment of PTIB's social media engagement has been conducted. The assessment is feeding into improved social media planning and strategies.

Partner's reporting: All the grants partners submitted monthly programmatic and financial reports. Respective staff had regular meetings with partners and consultants to ensure timely delivery and quality assurance.

Project Risks & Mitigation Measures

Sr	Project Risk	Likelihood (High/ Moderate/Low)	Mitigation Measure
	Covid19 situation: Lingering Covid19 situation will have consequences in timely completion of activities.	High	Project is regularly tracking progress and challenges of activity implementation and exploring new approaches to overcome the challenges. Some of the partners might need no contract extension to complete their activities.If needed contracts/agreement will be extended with no cost.

Project Issues & Remedial Actions

Sr	Project Issue	Remedial Action
1	**ICT Capacity**: Few partner organizations are lacking in ICT capacity. It affected their continuing of project activities online.	The project has strengthened follow up and capacity supports to those few partners on using digital tools. Moreover, partners having ICT expertise were engaged to support other organizations for this support.
1	**Covid19 restriction:** Activities involved mass gathering and unavoidable social contact like sports event, cultural show, exchange visits were postponed due to Covid19 situation.	Some activities have been reprogrammed to conduct online. Rest will be organized once the situation permits. Otherwise alternative activities will be planned ensuring social distancing.
3	**CARU**: Sensitivity around reporting social and political tensions in the Rohingya crisis	On sensitive issues, data is properly corroborated with different sources. Record of information sources is preserved for future reference.

Lessons Learned

- PTIB's longstanding emphasize on digital platforms is giving dividends in this new normal situation of COVID crisis. Most of the partners and stakeholders were familiar with digital based programming. Those who not are gradually adopting to this new normal.

- Partnership with mass media and social media platforms helped in widening the outreach.

- As PTIB supports social media engagement of its partners and activities, a social media communication strategy will help for better social media outreach.
- Despite CARU staff being disbursed across Bangladesh and abroad it has proved possible to continue to operate as normal. There is not the necessity for a research team to be permanently in the area of research given access to the internet etc.

Indicator Progress

Output 1	Research Facility: Improved knowledge, understanding, and insights into the drivers of conflict, violence and extremism in Bangladesh and Maldives, and inform public policy.			
Indicator	**Baseline**	**EOP Target (End of project target)**	**Annual Target (2021), cumulative**	**Progress (Q1-2021), cumulative**
1.1. Total Number of Research Publications Produced	3 (2017)	63 (May 2021)	63 (Cumulative) 12 (Jan-May 2021)	101
1.2. Number of months' data on various forms of violence available in the website of "Bangladesh peace observatory"	6	82 (May 2021)	82 (May 2021	75
1.3. Number of people who have viewed the BPO website/ platform	250	6,800 people, 19,000 views	6000 people, 16000 views	10,000 people, 27,000 views
Output 2	**Citizen Engagement: Enhanced inclusivity and tolerance of Bangladeshi society though social engagement activities, both on and offline.**			
Indicator	**Baseline**	**EOP Target (End of project target)**	**Annual Target (May 2021), cumulative**	**Progress (Q1-2021), cumulative**
2.1. Total number of civil society organizations adding a PVE element (including diversity, peace and tolerance) to existing programming, with support of UNDP grants, training or information materials	**0**	20	**20**	**13**
2.2. Number of viewers reached online through Digital Khichuri Challenge/Digital Peace Movement campaign	**00**	**12.43 million**	**12.43 million (cumulative)**	**20.1 million**

2.3 Number of DKC winner teams engaged in Peace/Tolerance/PVE content development	**2**	**20**	**20 (cumulative)**	**13**
2.4 Number of people reached through Diversity4peace activities	**0 (June 2019)**	**13.91 million**	**13.91 million**	**13.50 Million online** **6000+ offline**
Output 3		**Government Engagement: Enhanced sensitization of the government to international best practices that promote social inclusion and tolerance.**		
Indicator	**Baseline**	**EOP Target**	**Annual Target (May 2021)**	**Progress (Q1-2021)**
3.1. Number of government agencies adding a PVE element to existing programming as a result of all engagement activities	0	3	3	2 (CTTC, ICT Division)
3.2. Share and discussion on National PVE strategy: 2 sharing meeting	0 (December 2019)	2	2	0
3.2.1 Number of policymakers (civil servants, military, politicians) who participated in PVE training or engagement activities	0	120	120	93

Activity Progress

Output wise Progress against Activities				
Output 1: Research Facility: Improved knowledge, understanding, and insights into the drivers of conflict, violence and extremism in Bangladesh and Maldives, and inform public policy.				
Planned Activities January-March 2021, also add planned Covid19 activities here for this 3 months)	**Progress Achieved**	**Challenges and Mitigation measure**	**Planned Activities (Next Three Months)**	**Financial Expenditure (USD)**
1.1 Bangladesh Peace Observatory (BPO)				
1.1.1 Maintenance and update BPO database 1.1.2 Publication of Bi-monthly Peace Report, Monthly Peace graphics and Annual Peace Report 1.1.3 BPO-UNDP Research fellowships	In Q1, the data platform is updated with December '20-February '21 data of 27 categories of violence. The Bimonthly Peace report July-August 2020 and September-October 2020 published with thematic focus on 1) Fine and Penalty during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Effectiveness and Challenges (Volume 4, Issue 4) 2) Rumors associated with COVID-19 (Volume 4, Issue 3) In Q1, BPO published January, February and March 2021 issues of monthly Peacegraphics. The graphics showed a comparative analysis of the violence of 10 categories. Research fellows submitted the final draft of the following research reports BPO fellowship programme:	The other offline activities were adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation.	1.1.1 Maintenance and update for the BPO database 1.1.2 Publication of Bi-monthly Peace Report, Monthly Peace graphics and Annual Peace Report 1.1.3 PVE training for different Stakeholders	Please add activity-wise expenditure (USD), **if data is available** to ensure activity progress is aligned with financial expenditures.

	1. Death Trap in the CHT: Factors that Underlie and Way Out 2. Communication to Combat Crime and Violence 3. Virtual World and Violence in Contemporary Bangladesh 4. Violence against women and children with disability in Bangladesh			
BPO Covid19 activities Data collection on social tension and social cohesion related to COVID and COVID response from news media following BPO guideline on COVID 19 incidents mapping. Data analysis with identifying geographical hotspots of social tension, comparative analysis of selected violence including	In Q1, BPO published five weekly/bi-weekly "Covid19Graphics" consisting of visual data presentation of trends on violence and social tension around Covid19. BPO organized eight episodes of an e-Seminars series on "COVID-19: Social Tension, Cohesion and Response in Bangladesh" with journalists of eight Divisions. The		Publish six issues of bi-weekly "Covid19Graphics", subject to Covid19 situation and open source data availability. Organize *launching ceremony of the book* "COVID-19: The Other Side of Living through the Pandemic".	

gender-based violence (pre and post COVID). Desktop publishing of the briefs with graphics presentation. E-Seminar Series on Understanding COVID-19 Pandemic: The Power of Data Book project.	concluding national episode was organized on 14 January 2021. The seminar presented the findings of divisional discussion and national data. In Q1 BPO published a book titled "COVID-19: The Other Side of Living through the Pandemic". The book chapters captured the lived experience of the people, with a chapter dedicated to rumour and misinformation on COVID. It included narratives from 24 authors of their lived experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, from different countries.			
1.2 Monitoring online extremist narratives by SecDev				
1.2.1 Monthly and quarterly reports on online extremist narratives	The monthly reports of December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021 and quarterly report October-December 2021 published in Q1.	SecDev works remotely and it's all about monitoring online contents. Thus no challenge occurred in implementing this activity amidst the pandemic situation.	Publishing three monthly monitoring reports and one quarterly report.	
SecDev Covid19 activities Weekly and Monthly updates: Online monitoring and analysis of social media on COVID related posts	The last issue of SecDev series of "Covid-19 Disinformation Watch: Bangladesh" published in January 2021.		N/A	
1.3 **Cox's Bazaar Analysis and Research Unit (CARU).**				

1.3.1 UNDP CXB Weekly and Monthly Media Monitoring Report, based on week's/month's media coverage of the Rohingya Crisis in Cox's Bazar District.	In Q1, CARU published 12 weekly and 3 monthly reports on the situation of Cox's Bazar	The field works related to perception survey was hampered due to Covid19 situation.	• Publishing 12 weekly UNDP CXB Weekly reports • Publishing 3 Monthly Media Monitoring Report.	
1.3.2 Perception Survey on social, economic, and political situation in Cox's Bazar district	The survey firm submitted the first report of perception survey in February 2021.			
1.3.3 Scenario planning and annual review	ISCG, UN agencies, donors and the government have been consulted and offered critical research findings for scenario planning			

Output 2 Citizen Engagement: Enhanced inclusivity and tolerance of Bangladeshi society though social engagement activities, both on and offline.	

Planned Activities (January-March 2021, also add planned Covid19 activities here for this 3 months)	**Progress Achieved**	**Challenges and Mitigation measure**	**Planned Activities (April-June 2021)**	
2.1 Digital Peace Movement	…	…	…	
2.1.1 Organize Digital Khichuri Challenge	Supported by the ICT Division, the seventh edition of the Digital Khichuri Challenge (DKC) organized on March 2021. Titled "The Unsafety Net: How Online Abuse is Driving Women Out of Digital Spaces," the hackathon aimed to find ways to counter and protect women from online harassment. Team 'Cyber Saver' was the winner, and 'N te Nari, N te Nirapotta' was	In Jan-March 2021, both DKC and Peace Talk Cafe was back to on-ground maintaining health guideline and social distancing. However, the final round of DKC was switched to online because of the upward trend of Covid19.	Organize mentorship programme for DKC winners.	

	the runner up in the students/campaigns category. In the start-up category, 'TransEnd' was the winner and 'Cyber Teens' the runner up. The solutions ranged from initiatives to prevent cyberbullying of women, teenagers and transwomen, to providing support after harassment has taken place, to creating an army of online activists to counter bullying, and to ensuring the safety of women both in the virtual and real world. The winners will participate in a six-month-long expanded mentorship programme which will help shape their initiatives further. UN Resident Coordinator Mia Seppo and Facebook Head of Public Policy Bangladesh Ms Sabhanaz Rashid Diya were presented in the final round as the guest of honor.			
2.1.2 Organize Peace Talk Café (PTC)	The 8th and 9th edition of Peace Talk Café were organized in this quarter. The 8th edition marked the occasion of the 4th anniversary of the Digital Khichuri Challenge. In the discussion, people who made the DKC platform grow through the past four years revisited the best of their learnings, stories and ideas. The 9th edition of the Peace Talk Café titled "The Unsafety Net: How online abuse is driving women out of		Organize the 10th edition of Peace Talk Café on May 2021.	

	digital space" was organized on International Women's Day with a view to tackling violence against women in the digital space. Executive Director of the Center For Policy Dialogue Dr Fahmida Khan; DU Law Department Associate Professor Taslima Yasmin; The Daily Star's Senior Editorial Assistant Shuprova Tasneem; Regional Movement Builder of SheDecides Syeda Samara Mortada, and Actress and Radio Foorti RJ Sarah Alam were in the panel. The noteworthy panel presented their views on the alarming rate of online abuse targeted towards women, making the digital space safer for women and offered insights from their respective fields.			
2.2 Diversity for Peace (D4P)				
2.2.1 Online Peace Week	UNDP partner Earth Society organized online peace week in January 2021 with three days peace conference and a weeklong online photo contest. The peace conference was participated by youth from diverse ethnic groups, human rights activists, women rights activists, religious leadears and member of parliament. The theme of the photo contest was "Promoting Peaceful Coexistence among people of Diverse identities in Covid-19 pandemic".	Most of D4P activities were originally designed offline. Due to Covid19 situation, partners either turned activities to online or planned alternative activities.	End of LVG partnership.	

2.2.2 "Amader Golpo" comic books	In February, UNDP partner Quizard published a set of five comic books for children titles "Amader Golpo". The comics illustrate stories reflected the cultural heritage of diverse religious, ethnic and linguistic communities in Bangladesh.		End of LVG partnership.	
2.2.3 Documentary to mark the International Mother Language Day	With a message of respecting all languages, D4P released a PSA film to mark the international mother language day on 21 February 2021.		N/A	
2.2.4 Peace Caravan	UNDP partner Gen Lab initiated a campaign styled "Peace Caravan". Objective of the campaign is to spread the message of social harmony and peaceful coexistence to the society, so we learn better, know better and most importantly, do better for building an inclusive community freed from division and discrimination, intolerance and prejudices. The tagline of the campaign is "We would cease to exist if we fail to coexist".		Launch the campaign.	
2.2.5 Proposal writing workshop for grants receiving CSOs	In March, a two days proposal writing workshop was organized in participation of 12 CSOs selected for second round of Diversity for Peace low value grants.		Initiate the second round of D4P partnerships with CSO.	
2.2.6 Peace Football Tournament	UNDP partner Tahzindong organized PEACE FOOTBALL		End of LVG partnership.	

	TOURNAMENT-2021 in Bandarban to encourage youths to work as an active agent of peace and harmony in their communities. The tournament inaugurated on 29 March 2021.			
D4P *Covid19 activities*				
Documentary on the Covid19 adaptation by the indigenous peoples in CHT	UNDP partner IED produced a sort documentary film on the life of indigenous people in CHT during the Covid19 pandemic. The film documented the community initiative and adaption mechanism based on traditional knowledge and culture during the pandemic.		End of LVG partnership.	
Output 3: Government Engagement: Enhanced sensitization of the government to international best practices that promote social inclusion and tolerance.				
Planned Activities (January-March 2021, also add planned Covid19 activities here for this 3 months)	**Progress Achieved**	**Challenges and Mitigation measure**	**Planned Activities (April-June 2021)**	
2.1. CTTC youth dialogue	The LOA has been amended to support CTTC in organizing two youth dialogue and book publication on the religious interoperation of violent extremist narratives.	N/A	Organize 2 youth dialogues Organize the book launching ceremony	
2.2 Support ICT ministry to promote digital literacy and to bridge the digital divide	The PTIM had a meeting with the Additional Secretary of the ICT division on drafting a fresh MoU between UNDP and the ICT division. Collaboration on digital literacy and bridge the digital divide will be incorporated in the MoU.	N/A	Meeting with the ICT Minister on the MoU and joint activities.	

Financial Progress

Project output ID: 00109723, BGD

Output	Total Budget	Allocated Budget	Expenditure	Cumulative Expenditure	Balance	Delivery Rate
	Year-2021	(Q1: 2021)	(Q1: 2021)	2021	(Cumulative)	(Cumulative)
1: Research Facility	390,368.08	195,184.04	152,788.18	152,788.18	237,579.90	39%
2. Citizen engagement	179,852.78	89,926.39	80,075.06	80,075.06	99,777.72	45%
3. Govt. engagement	76,070.00	38,035.00	34,737.40	34,737.40	41,332.60	46%
4. Operation and Management	67,190.61	33,595.31	14,530.24	14,530.24	52,660.37	22%
Grand Total	**713,481.47**	**356,740.74**	**282,130.88**	**282,130.88**	**431,350.59**	**40%**

Project output ID: 00110865, BRH

Output	Total Budget	Allocated Budget	Expenditure	Cumulative Expenditure	Balance	Delivery Rate
	Year-2021	(Q1: 2021)	(Q1: 2021)	2021	(Cumulative)	(Cumulative)
1: Research Facility	72,345.07	24,115.02	28,911.16	28,911.16	43,433.91	40%
2. Citizen and Govt. engagement	117,358.00	39,119.33	37,640.26	37,640.26	79,717.74	32%
3. Operation and Management	107,296.93	35,765.64	19,448.01	19,448.01	87,848.92	18%
Grand Total	**297,000.00**	**99,000.00**	**85,999.43**	**85,999.43**	**211,000.57**	**29%**

Annex

[**Optional.** Please add any other additional information, including **case studies and success stories**, if any. You can also insert **photo**.]

Recognition:

The PTIB final evaluation has received the **2020 Evaluation Excellence Award** (Innovative Evaluation) from the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). It was one of two evaluations selected from over 170 evaluations globally. The evaluation was conducted entirely virtual to adapt to the COVID-19 contexts. And Human Rights based Approach (HRBA) was embedded in the evaluation methodology and process.

 The jury report mentions: *"The PTIB evaluation report is a good example of the type of innovations expected from evaluation in order to build back better: methodologically adaptive and innovative, proactively inclusive, comprehensively committed to "leaving no one behind" and willing to go the extra mile beyond standard performance measures and benchmarks in order to produce forward-looking learning and effectively communicating lessons for decision-making".*

Photos:

Figure 1Participants and guests of DKC semifinal round
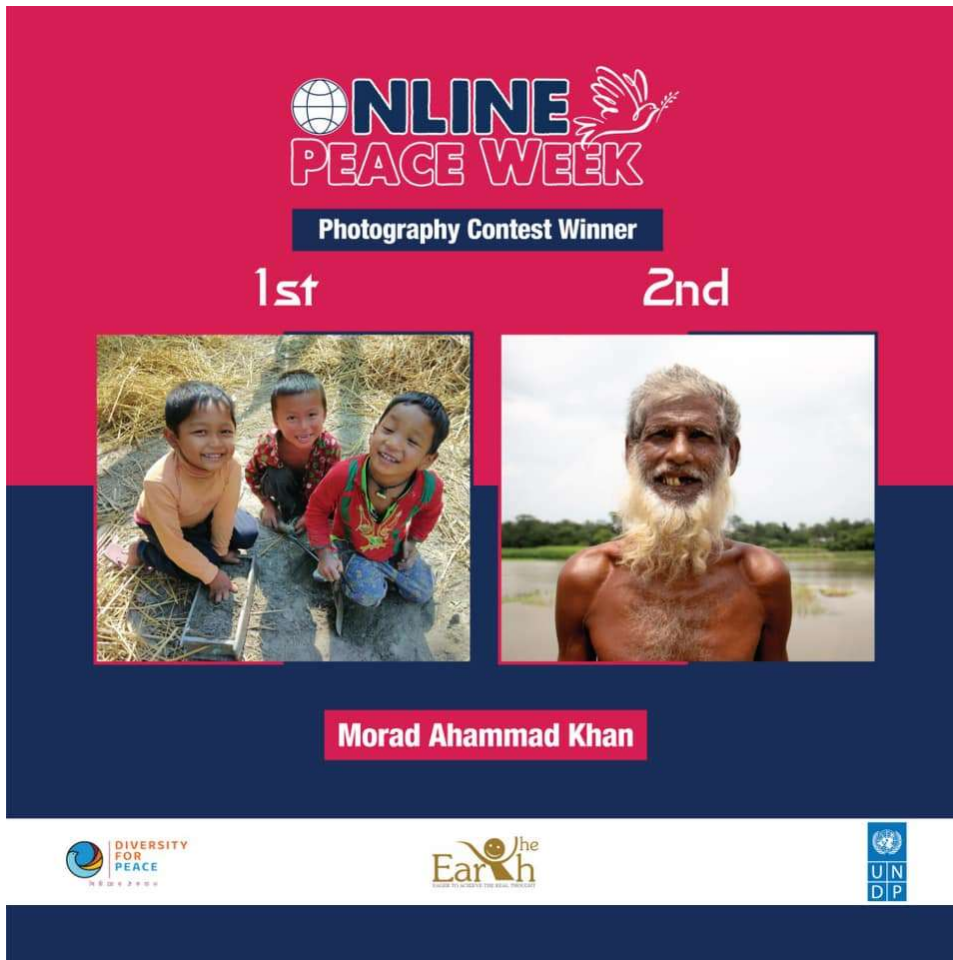
Figure 2Figure 2Distribution of Amader Golpo comic books

Figure 3Peace Week photo contest