

**1 APRIL TO  
30 JUNE 2019**



# **Quarterly Progress Update Multi-Year Appeal**

# INTRODUCTION

The period between April and June 2019 saw the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) make further progress, thanks to funding under the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA), in assisting Special Political Missions (SPMs) and non-mission settings, as well as servicing the whole UN system in the areas of electoral assistance, conflict prevention, crisis response and mediation. DPPA also organized a field visit to Addis Ababa on 3 and 4 June to inform partners of its work with regional organizations.

The MYA is an ideal instrument to kickstart new initiatives and support

emerging areas of work of the Organization. A new funding window has been created under the MYA to support SPMs in the delivery of their mandates with targeted local peace and mediation initiatives. Local Peace Initiatives (LPIs) will now fund grass-root activities to complement and bring gains to larger-scale, strategic-level engagement on peace and reconciliation (i.e. peace or national dialogue processes). This new window will support local peace and prevention initiatives that place strong emphasis on inclusion (e.g. women, youth and/or minorities)

and on the participation of civil society. LPIs also capitalize on the opportunities created by the management reform in relation to the delegation of authority to heads of entities, which can facilitate project implementation.

As of 30 June, the MYA was 35 per cent funded, with \$10.4 million received in contributions out of the \$30 million requested for 2019. Guided by the six priorities under the Strategic Plan (2016-2019), below are a few highlights of achievements with MYA funding, making a difference on the ground.

# 1 CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In Malawi, the “Youth Engagement” project helped established early warning and reporting mechanisms where 140 youths from all regions were trained on the different forms of electoral violence, electoral legal frameworks and how to report electoral violence using an app developed by the project in preparation for the elections. Youth trained under the project were able to capture data and report potential incidents and actual violence during the election to both the UN’s prevention platform and local conflict resolution structures, including the Multi-Party Liaison Committees and the police. The data collected fed into the UN’s Early Warning/Early Response mechanism and was used to channel issues to the relevant stakeholders for immediate response to mitigate the risk of violence.

In Central Africa, the UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) continued to assess pastoralism and transhumance in the region, including national responses in the most affected countries. UNOCA is also preparing a draft regulatory framework, bringing together key stakeholders and experts from the 11 Member States of the Economic Community



*Special Representative for Central Africa François Louncény Fall and ECCAS Secretary-General Ahmad Allam-mi met with the Minister of Defense of the Central African Republic, Marie-Noelle Koyara. April 2019. UN Photo*

of Central African States (ECCAS) as well as other relevant regional organizations. Women, both from farming and pastoral communities, were involved in a participatory process to develop the draft regulatory framework. A draft regional regulation was finalized at the technical level and will require further discussion prior to endorsement at the level of the Governments of ECCAS Member States. The recent consultations revealed diverging perceptions of the challenges resulting from pastoralism and transhumance across the sub-region.

In Europe, the Department, together with the South Caucasus Peace and Development Advisors Team, organized and funded three separate UN-civil society workshops, including on “the role of media in promoting the Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDG) Agenda in the South Caucasus” with the participation of media experts, journalists, UN and outside experts. The workshops increased awareness and facilitated dialogue among the media communities across the region on the global SDG agenda and ongoing efforts to nationalize and

localize SDGs in country-specific contexts. This is part of the UN's initiatives to support ongoing peace efforts and bring civil society actors together to address common challenges at both the sub-regional and national levels.

In the Pacific region, MYA funding allowed for continued support to the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement in Papua New Guinea, as the country enters the critical period of preparation for the referendum on the political future of Bougainville expected in late 2019. The DPPA Liaison Officer continued to work with the Resident

Coordinator (RC) in support of political dialogue between the parties. This was particularly critical during the recent period which has seen a change in political leadership in Papua New Guinea. MYA funding facilitated the deployment of former Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Ian Martin, to attend a meeting of the Post-Referendum Planning Taskforce and share relevant experiences from Nepal and Timor Leste. DPPA also deployed a joint mission between the Asia Pacific Division (APD) and the Electoral Assistance Division (EAD) to gauge readiness and assess requirements for UN support.

DPPA continues its work on the UN Climate Security Mechanism, a joint initiative with UNDP and UNEP to address the interlinkages between climate change, prevention and sustaining peace. During the second quarter, the Mechanism convened the first of its kind experts meeting of UN practitioners and non-UN researchers working on these issues in Berlin, Germany, which made a critical contribution to the ongoing work on a UN system-wide approach to the assessment of climate-related security risks and their impact on conflict dynamics. Moreover, MYA funds enabled the Climate Security Mechanism to support preparations for the first joint workshop on the environment, climate change and peace and security with the RC and senior officials from peace operations in East Africa, which was held in May in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop provided an important opportunity to train operational leaders from the field on how environmental aspects can link to conflict and explore how DPPA can best support their work on climate-related security risks.

## 2 CRISIS RESPONSE

The Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers - entirely funded by the MYA - deployed more than 31 times during the second quarter. The Team's members provided expertise on security arrangements, gender and inclusion, process design and constitutions, in contexts as varied as Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Papua New Guinea or South Sudan.

### EXAMPLES OF STANDBY TEAM DEPLOYMENTS

A security arrangement expert was deployed to Colombia to conduct a lessons-learned study on the tripartite monitoring and verification mechanism of the ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP. The expert met with a range of different stakeholders that were closely involved in the design and implementation of the mechanism, including government representatives, members of the FARC-EP, as well as colleagues from the UN Mission. The study aims to extrapolate lessons learned from the Colombian experience to provide guidance for UN



Representatives of the Dinka Bor and the Murle communities in the Greater Jonglei region in South Sudan signed an agreement to establish a joint, UN-coordinated committee faced with the task of tackling age-old hostilities over stealing children and cows from each other. March 2019. UNMISS / Eric Kanalstein

practitioners involved in supporting or mediating ceasefires and will be finalized during the third quarter of 2019.

At the request of the Special Envoy of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), DPPA deployed a security expert from the Standby Team to South Sudan to facilitate a

workshop exploring the modalities for the reconstitution of the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Commission. The meeting was attended by official representatives of the political parties and other South Sudanese stakeholders, including representatives of women, youth, private sector, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, and imminent personalities. The workshop produced a signed consensus document on the mandate, functions, structures, and funding sources for the DDR commission to be reconstituted pursuant to provisions of the 2018 revitalized peace agreement.

#### EXAMPLES OF ONGOING CRISIS-RESOLUTION PROCESSES

Support to the Office of the Special Envoy on Syria, Mr. Geir O. Pedersen, continued to focus on how to better consider north-eastern Syria dynamics within the UN mediation process given the delicate balancing act between different stakeholders. In addition to direct support to the Special Envoy, this stream of work has also included participation in Track II events in Caux, Geneva, Erbil,



Above: Under-Secretary-General Rosemary A. DiCarlo meeting the President of Colombia, Ivan Duque. Photo courtesy of the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia

Below: Special Envoy for Syria Geir O. Pedersen during a visit to Syrian refugees in Mafraq and Zaatari camp in Jordan. UN Photo

and Oslo. The Department successfully convened an internal roundtable in June to exchange ideas with experts and UN senior leadership on how to build a credible political process that leads to the successful implementation of Security Council resolution 2254 (2015). The main objective was to provide the UN Special Envoy with an “outside” look

at the situation and generate thoughts on the way forward for the UN-led political process.

On Yemen, despite important achievements made in Sweden with the Stockholm Agreement in December 2018, progress in the political process has encountered challenges. During the reporting period, MYA funds were

*Family from Hodeidah, Yemen, that has been forced to flee. Photo: WFP/ Jonathan Dumont*



used to continue supporting the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Mr. Martin Griffiths, and convene a meeting of the Yemeni Women’s Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to discuss ideas for bringing the Yemeni parties together for broader political consultations. TAG members were also supported to take part in a training course on negotiations.

In June 2018, almost a year after the closing of the Conference on Cyprus, the Secretary-General conveyed his intention to request a senior UN official to conduct in-depth consultations with the parties to the Conference on his behalf to help determine whether conditions have matured at this stage for a meaningful process. He entrusted Ms. Jane Holl Lute with the consultations.

MYA funding supports Ms. Lute in carrying out these consultations. She

has visited Cyprus on five occasions for separate meetings with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders, Mr. Anastasiades and Mr. Akıncı, respectively. She has also met and maintained contacts with representatives of the guarantor Powers, Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom as well as of the European Union in the context of its role as an observer to the Conference on Cyprus. In his 16 April 2019 report to the Security Council, the Secretary-General expressed his hope that the ongoing consultations will lead to a return to negotiations, to which he could devote the full weight of his good offices, with the aim of reaching a lasting resolution of the Cyprus issue. He called upon the two leaders, their communities, the guarantor Powers and other interested parties to engage in these efforts constructively, creatively and with the necessary sense of urgency.

### 3 INVESTING IN PEACE

**D**uring the reporting period DPPA, with MYA funding, conducted at least 12 different electoral missions and provided technical advice to Member States.

In Ecuador, in response to a request for UN electoral assistance from the National Electoral Council of Ecuador, EAD deployed a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) in May 2019 which engaged with the electoral authorities at national and provincial levels, the executive branch, the legislative and the judiciary, civil society organizations and women's groups. The NAM recommended parameters for UN electoral assistance, within a three-year horizon (July 2019 to June 2022) to assist with the preparation and conduct of the 2021 legislative and presidential elections, lessons learnt exercise, and capacity building activities. In Lebanon, in response to a request by the Government for continued UN electoral assistance, a NAM was deployed at the end of May/beginning of June 2019. The mission made several key recommendations aimed at strengthening the technical capacity of the national



*Special Coordinator for Lebanon Ján Kubiš and the Director of UNRWA Affairs in Lebanon, Claudio Cordone, visited the Palestine refugee camp of Mieh Mieh and Mieh Mieh municipality in southern Lebanon on 24 June. Photo: UNSCOL*

electoral authorities in preparation and implementation of the 2022 parliamentary and municipal elections. The NAM also recommended building the capacity of the civil society involved in elections, and increasing the participation of women, youth, and persons with disability. In Papua New Guinea, DPPA continued to support the implementation of electoral activities by the Bougainville Referendum Commission (BRC). In view of the importance of the timely holding of the referendum, one of the three pillars of the

2001 Bougainville Peace Agreement, MYA funding was used to ensure the continuity of the support provided by an electoral Chief Technical Advisor and other advisors, including advice to the BRC in the early stages of electoral planning and operations, but also intensified outreach to donors for the necessary financial support to the process.

DPPA implemented pre-electoral activities in countries such as Benin, Mauritania and Togo to contribute to peaceful and credible elections in West

Africa and the Sahel. These included supporting initiatives by national stakeholders including women and youth to contribute to a peaceful electoral environment, as well as situational analyses, needs assessments, awareness raising activities, mobilization and sensitization for violence-free elections, engagement with stakeholders, capacity building, and information sharing. This ultimately enabled the dissemination of messages of peace and contributed to national efforts in creating peaceful electoral environments in countries.

Representatives from the Electoral Divisions of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) attended a senior staff exchange programme in April, to become more familiar with the work of the United Nations in the areas of electoral assistance, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution and peacebuilding, and to further strengthen the partnership between the UN and these organizations.

*Special Representative for West Africa and the Sahel Mohamed Ibn Chambas meeting with the President of Mauritania Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz in May 2019, ahead of the presidential elections held in June to stress the importance of the upcoming polls in the consolidation of peace and democracy in the country. UN Photo*



## 4 EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH MEMBER STATES, REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

With MYA funding, the Department supported the creation of the United Nations Liaison Office to the League of Arab States (LAS) in Cairo, Egypt in June 2019. While the Office itself is covered by the UN's regular budget, MYA funding contributed to the establishment of the Office, and supported additional activities such as the UN-LAS staff exchange programme and general cooperation meetings. The new Liaison Office will focus on peace and security issues in the Middle East and contribute to efforts to prioritize early warning and early action on preventing violent conflict; supporting national and regional capacities for facilitation and dialogue; and ensuring that UN good offices are easily and rapidly deployable. The UN and LAS will continue to work together to address global and regional challenges by deepening strategic dialogue, carrying out joint analysis and forging common approaches to issues such as preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, mediation and peacekeeping efforts in the Arab world.

On 6-8 May 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia, a meeting with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Committee of





*A young resident of Santa Rita, Bolivia. UN Photo/Evan Schneider*

Permanent Representatives took place and enabled fruitful discussions on the ASEAN-UN partnership and an in-depth review of existing projects within the ASEAN-UN Plan of Action (2016-2020). The meeting offered an opportunity to review the significant progress on the partnership, with a joint assessment that 90% of the action lines from the Plan of Action had been successfully implemented across all pillars of cooperation. Given ASEAN's focus this year on 'sustainability', under the Chairmanship of Thailand, the

Jakarta meetings dedicated significant attention to the complementarity of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. An important theme of discussion revolved around increasing cooperation with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre), which had just completed its preliminary needs assessment mission to Myanmar. The meetings also paved the way for senior level discussions on the development of the new ASEAN-UN

Plan of Action for 2021-2025, with an opportunity to incorporate new activities on peacekeeping, conflict mediation,

SDGs and other themes. The MYA continues to fund the DPPA Liaison Presence to the ASEAN in Jakarta.

## WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

### New Policy

To further strengthen the implementation of the critical Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda ahead of the 20-year anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) in October 2020, a new DPPA WPS Policy was issued by Under-Secretary-General DiCarlo in June 2019. The Policy identifies the following five priority areas for improving implementation of the WPS agenda and the Department's gender mainstreaming efforts: a) Ensuring gender-sensitive political and conflict analysis; b) Promoting

inclusion and women's meaningful participation in all peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts; c) Promoting women's participation in electoral and political processes; d) Preventing and addressing conflict-related sexual violence as a priority for peace; e) Ensuring gender mainstreaming in all projects through dedicated resource allocations, combined with improved 'gender markers' and tracking. The annex of the Policy lists actions recommended to put the Policy into practice. Gender mainstreaming and promoting gender equality are the responsibility of all DPPA staff and management. The compliance with the Policy is mandatory for all staff at Headquarters and in the field. To support this new Policy, funds have now been made available under the MYA and a call for projects issued to all SPMs.



*The Special Representative for Iraq of the United Nations Secretary-General and Head of UNAMI, Ms. Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, participated in a dialogue with the members of the Women Advisory Group (WAG) to discuss the priorities, planning and activities of the group for 2019. March 2019. UNAMI Sarmad Al-Safy*

## Projects and initiatives

In Bolivia, DPPA supported UN inter-agency (UNDP and UN Women) efforts to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Plurinational Legislative Assembly and women legislators to prevent, identify, report and follow up on cases of harassment and political violence.

As a result, concrete amendments to the Assembly’s internal rules of procedures were proposed, and training materials were prepared, to prevent and address cases of harassment and political violence. In a separate initiative, a consultant was hired to gather data to comprehensively assess “democratic parity” on women political participation

in the case of Bolivia. The product is expected to be finalized in September 2019.

In Colombia, MYA funds continued to support the United Nations Verification Mission in promoting reconciliation and trust-building at the local level. Dialogue initiatives were carried out throughout the country and focused, among other things, on bringing together youth and women organizations and young and female former combatants, respectively; building a collective memory of the conflict; and strengthening the links between former combatants and local representatives of the Truth Commission. Furthermore, the mission continued to support reintegration initiatives led by women and LGBTI former FARC-EP combatants.

Ms. Leymah Gbowee, member of the Secretary-General’s High-Level Board on Mediation, led a technical assessment mission of the African Women Leaders Network to Cameroon. The mission was supported jointly by UN Women and the African

Union, through the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, in close collaboration with UNOCA and ECCAS. The visit sought to advocate for lasting and inclusive peace and stability in Cameroon by advancing the participation and leadership of Cameroonian women in ongoing initiatives to build peace and promote reconciliation and social cohesion in the country.

MYA funds enabled UN actors in Iraq to strengthen their cooperation with the Women Advisory Group (WAG) to advance the women, peace and security agenda in Iraq. The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Ms. Marta Ruedas, and representatives of UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, held an interactive session in June with members of the WAG. They discussed challenges facing women in Iraq as well as ways to promote cultural and political mindsets to advance women’s voices and participation at different levels of decision-making.

# 5 STRENGTHENING UN SYSTEM-WIDE COLLABORATION

As part of DPPA's early warning and conflict prevention support, the Liaison Office based in Gaborone, Botswana, deployed an Officer to Malawi to assist the RC and the UN Country Team (UNCT) in monitoring and responding to political dynamics before, during and after the 21 May elections. The Office also continued to support the RC and UNCT in Botswana, providing political analysis ahead of the general elections to take place in October.

Extrabudgetary funding allowed the Security Council Affairs Division (SCAD) to strengthen partnerships with private sector financial entities, key actors in implementing targeted sanctions. On 13 May, SCAD convened a meeting with over 30 participants from banks, money transfer, insurance and other financial organizations. During the one-day event, participants focused on counter-proliferation and counter-terrorism financing, with presentations from UN Panels of Experts as well as SCAD staff. In addition, participants engaged in a technical exchange on the UN Security Council Consolidated List.



UN Assistant Secretary-General for Africa Bintou Keita on her visit to Burkina Faso to discuss security and humanitarian crisis in the country. June 2019. Photo: UNIC Burkina Faso.

Effective two-way communication with those implementing sanctions is a critical component of ensuring sanctions frameworks are actionable, effective and sustainable. To this end, the discussions highlighted specific challenges in sanctions implementation, in addition to possible solutions. SCAD hopes to continue to hold such fora for dialogue with the financial sector in the future.

In Burkina Faso, an Emergency Task Force has been established to lead the efforts to establish five regional offices in addition to the UN Office in Ouagadougou. Surge capacities have so far been deployed to Burkina Faso by

several Agencies, Funds and Programmes in response to the call to enhance support to sustain peace in the country.

As part of ongoing efforts to elaborate a National Infrastructure for Peace strategy for Burkina Faso, a Standby Team process design expert also deployed to assist the UNCT to further refine the proposal and introduce the concept of the national infrastructure for peace to local actors. The strategy aims to support efforts to promote social cohesion in Burkina Faso. Its emphasis will be on national ownership and making dialogue permanent within communities from local levels upwards



*The Chairman of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC), Lieutenant General Michael Lollsgaard, visiting the ports of Hudaydah, Salif and Ras Issa to verify the redeployment of Ansar Allah (Houthi) forces. May 2019. UN Photo*

to the 13 regions and 45 provinces and the national level. The goal is to build trust and confidence within communities to enhance social cohesion, build relationships and promote peaceful co-existence regardless of ethnic, religious and other differences.

To better understand the internal dynamics of the current talks and the evolving political environments related

to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and in order to explore a possible UN role in support of ongoing peace efforts led by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group Co-Chairs, DPPA organized, a first of its kind strategic retreat in Vienna on 11 March, with the participation of the South Caucasus RCs and PDAs, relevant UN agencies and

outside experts. The inclusion of all key partners in the event provided a solid basis for ensuring coordination and shared buy-in through the informal Working Group on the South Caucasus co-chaired by DPPA and UNDP for a set of UN projects in support of “Track I” efforts and for developing on that basis a forward regional strategy that will inform high-level political engagement.

# 6

## ENSURING ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The Department continued to enhance organizational effectiveness by focusing on areas such as knowledge management, communication and capacity building of staff at Headquarters and in the field. During the reporting quarter, DPPA and DPO collaborated on a workshop for Policy and Best Practice Officers and Focal Points from 18 field missions. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for the participants to come together to exchange experiences; to build and improve skills; and to discuss emerging trends and issues in peace operations, particularly in the context of the reforms.

In 2019, following endorsement by the USGs of DPPA and DPO, a joint Peace and Security Pillar Guidance Development and Learning Steering Committee was formed, as a mechanism to harmonize pillar-wide knowledge management streams. The Committee held its first meeting in April to discuss learning priorities and opportunities for collaboration.

DPPA completed the evaluation of its Strategic Plan (2016-2019). The report is in its final review stage and will be



Joint EU-UN visit to the Far North region of Cameroon to assess the consequences of and the response to Boko Haram. UN Special Representatives for Central Africa and West Africa and the Sahel were part of this visit. April 2019. UN Photo/UNHCR Cameroon

used to inform the development of the Department's new Strategic Plan (2020-2022).

DPPA also started a study on the tools the UN employed to support Nepal's transition, which will offer recommendations to inform planning for relevant future engagements. In support of the strategic assessment of UNOCA, DPPA updated existing research and analysis that compared the Department's three regional SPMs

(UNOCA, UNOWAS, and UNRCCA) and highlighted recent examples of their preventive engagement.

DPPA's Strategic Communication team launched a new weekly Newsletter in May to continue to scale up its work to raise awareness of the Department's conflict prevention, mediation, peacemaking and peacebuilding work, including the SPMs. To facilitate the distribution of *Politically Speaking*, the team acquired a new e-mail marketing tool that



*During a visit to Addis Ababa, DPPA partners interacted with representatives from the African Union Commission. The discussion explored UN - AU partnership in peace and security, the work of the African Union and its commissions as well as organs. June 2019. Photo: UNOAU*



*Special Representative Hannah Tetteh briefed DPPA partners taking part in a visit to Addis Ababa on the work of UNOAU and its mandate, and touched upon UN-AU partnership in peace and security. June 2019. Photo: UNOAU*

includes the ability to measure audience engagement with the publications.

Finally, DPPA, in cooperation with the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU), organized a Partners' Field Visit in June 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The visit attracted approximately 60 representatives from 27 countries, including delegates from Permanent Missions in New York and from capitals. It included presentations from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union (AU), Ms. Hanna

Tetteh, and the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, followed by meetings at the AU Headquarters with, among others, Political Affairs Commissioner Ms. Minata Samate Cessouma. DPPA presented its multifaceted work in conflict prevention, mediation and electoral assistance, as well as on new priorities, including on climate and security and innovation. Dialogue with DPPA partners will continue through meetings of the Donor Group and more informal meetings.



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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE MULTI-YEAR APPEAL,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE DONOR RELATIONS TEAM:**

Ms. Delphine Bost, Senior Officer ([bostd@un.org](mailto:bostd@un.org))

Ms. Nerea Sanchez Mateo, Programme Officer ([sanchezmateo@un.org](mailto:sanchezmateo@un.org))

Ms. Ninamma Rai, Programme Evaluation Officer ([ninamma.ra@un.org](mailto:ninamma.ra@un.org))

*Front Cover: Bissau Guinean women after voting in the legislative elections in Guinea Bissau. March 2019. Photo: UNIOGBIS*