

PROJECT SUMMARY

PEACE SUPPORT FACILITY UNDP YEMEN



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

After more than three years of war, in December 2018, the UN Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen convened discussions between conflict parties in Sweden. The resulting Stockholm Agreement articulates mutual commitment to redeploy forces from Hodeida, exchange prisoners and move forward with initiatives in Taizz. This is a significant step forward and an entry point for further progress on the peace process.

Output and Impact

Implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Yemen, the Peace Support Facility (PSF) will support the peace process by accelerating the implementation of agreements reached in the on-going negotiations led by the Special Envoy.

It will function through two work components. Firstly, the PSF will implement initiatives agreed by the parties – the first of which is the Stockholm Agreement. This is a way to build confidence between the two parties, and between the parties and the UN. It will

also encourage parties to deepen their engagement in the peace process.

Secondly, it will implement initiatives identified by the Special Envoy to support the peace process, at large. Improving conditions in conflict-impacted communities and facilitating the return of displaced families will help establish a foundation on which people can rebuild their lives, and create a demand for peace – particularly in areas and among groups that have typically been neglected.



Framework and Principles

The PSF will work directly with the Special Envoy and parties in the peace process to identify priority areas and initiatives, implementing them in partnership with local authorities, the private sector and civil society. This will include:

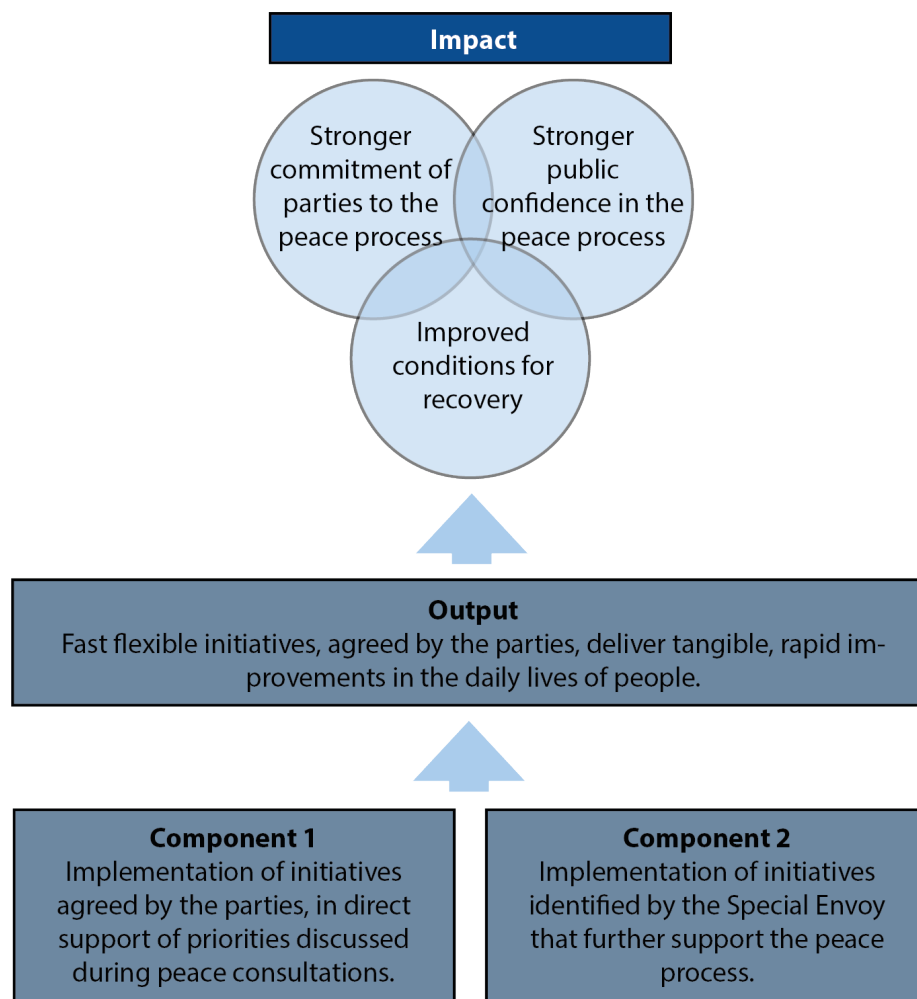
- Narrow strategic focus, linking interventions to political peace process.
- Programmatic, operational and oversight capacities allowing for rapid implementation.
- Bi-annual Steering Committee meetings and customised mechanisms for review of interventions.
- Risk mitigation supported by the Risk Management Unit and Office of the Special Envoy (OESGY).
- Regular stakeholder updates on progress and challenges in implementation.

Implementation

Speed and efficiency are critical to the delivery of time-sensitive, high-impact interventions – core to PSF work. With a view to swift coordination, the Facility will establish a Project Management Unit (PMU), headed by a Facility Manager. Rosters of pre-approved entities will be used to fast-track PMU contracting with implementing partners and, wherever possible, the PSF will award contracts directly to local companies – which will also help invigorate local markets. Conflict-sensitive procurement will be used.

Governance arrangements

The PSF will be governed by a Steering Committee which will hold executive and decision-making authority on the work, priorities and strategic directions of the Facility. Chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator (RC), the Steer-



ing Committee will meet formally twice a year and informally once every month. Priorities will be discussed by the Special Envoy and conflict parties or identified by the Special Envoy in consultation with the RC and the UNDP Resident Representative (RR). The PMU and OCU, and where necessary representatives of OESGY, will assess initiatives, examine feasibility, timelines, risks and estimated costs, make recommendations to the UNDP RR, the RC and the Special Envoy. Once approved, the PMU will proceed with rapid implementation, and the UN RC and UNDP RR will keep the Steering Committee abreast of the status of initiatives.

Risk management

With support from the Operations and Compliance Unit (OCU) in the Resident Coordinator's Office and the OESGY, UNDP will assess and

take steps to mitigate fiduciary, political, social, security, military and reputational risks. UNDP will identify steps to ensure there are appropriate contingency plans in place; the project will establish a framework for addressing, mitigating and monitoring identified risks; and, the RMU will conduct risk and conflict sensitivity analyses.

Budget

The project requires an estimated US\$20 million to establish the PSF and implement the first set of initiatives, which are critical to confidence-building. The PSF will then target a milestone budget of US\$55 million for the next round of peace talks to support initiatives emerging from discussions.

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