



Gaining Momentum on the Ground

1. Assistance to Countries before the PBC

Burundi: Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon allocated US\$ 35 million to Burundi in 2007. As of December 2007, 12 projects for US\$ 26.9 m were approved in the four priority areas of the priority plan: (1) governance; (2) security sector; (3) justice and human rights; and (4) land issues.

The execution rate in Burundi as of December 2007 stands at less than 10%, due to delays in the early stages of several projects. Several projects have moved forward quickly though - for instance the funds allocated to the Judiciary (courts and tribunals) were almost fully disbursed. The Steering Committee met more than 17 times already and is now considering 6 new projects.

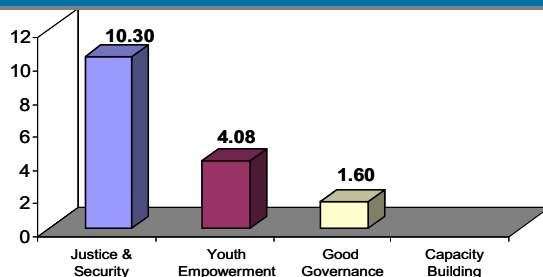
Sierra Leone: The Secretary-General allocated US\$ 35 million to Sierra Leone in 2007. The Fund has approved 7 projects as of December 2007 with a total budget of US\$ 15.9 million in the priority areas of good governance, security and justice sector reform, youth employment and empowerment, and capacity-building.

The execution rate in Sierra Leone stands at 34% as of December 2007. The PBF played a critical role last fall, when the country faced a serious financial crisis, and was used to fill a funding gap for the 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections. Salaries for over 36,000 polling staff were paid through the PBF, thereby making the elections possible.

The 7 approved projects in Sierra Leone focus on: Youth Enterprise Development; Support to National Elections Commission Polling Staff; Improved Public Order Management Capacity; Capacity Development of Human Rights Commission; Emergency Support to the Security Sector; Capacity Development to the Justice System; and Rehabilitation of Water and Sanitation facilities for Armed Forces (RSLAF) barracks in Freetown.

SIERRA LEONE APPROVED PROJECTS (in \$M)

Approved projects: \$ 15.9 M – Disbursed: \$ 5.5 M



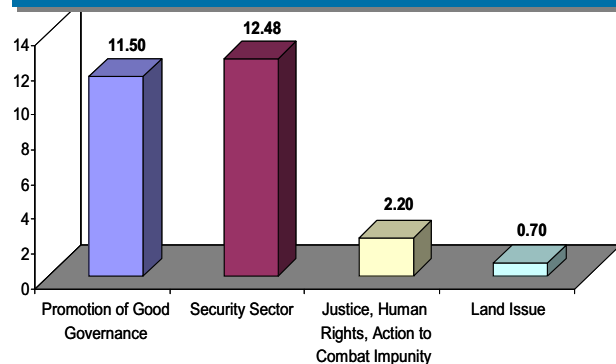
BASIC FACTS

Pledges:	\$255,769,083
Commitments:	\$236,041,517
Deposits:	\$198,779,815
Donors:	42
Projects:	23
Countries:	Sierra Leone, Burundi, Liberia, Nepal, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea Conakry.

The 12 approved projects in Burundi are the following: Mechanisms to fight Corruption and Embezzlement; Improving Frameworks for Dialogue and Consultations among National partners; Role of Women in the Process of Reconciliation and Community Reconstruction; Youth Participation for Social Cohesion and Community Work; Independent Nat. Commission of Human Rights; Rehabilitation of Judicial Systems; Disarmament and prevention of small arms proliferation; Barracking of Nat. Defence Force (FDN); Support to National Security Service; Support to National proximity and Police; Support to Pacific Resolution of Land Disputes; and Reduction of Violence and Reinforcements of legal Institutions.

BURUNDI APPROVED PROJECTS (in \$ M)

Approved projects: \$26.9 M - Disbursed: \$2.5 M



The Peacebuilding Fund is funding a \$ 3 million project to rehabilitate the role of women in the community reconciliation and reconstruction process in Burundi.

Picture: BINUB



The PBF played a vital role during elections in Sierra Leone. (right: Executive Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Sierra Leone, Victor Angelo).

2. Assistance to Countries Declared Eligible by the Secretary-General (Second Window)

Liberia: On 4 October 2007, the Secretary-General declared Liberia eligible to receive assistance from the Fund. The Fund has since allocated \$15 million to support the ongoing peacebuilding process in this country, funding projects to reduce poverty, promote national reconciliation and provide employment and other opportunities for ex-combatants and young people.

Nepal: The Secretary-General declared on 28 December 2007 Nepal eligible to receive assistance from the Fund.

Central African Republic: The Secretary-General declared on 11 January 2008 the Central African Republic eligible to receive assistance from the Fund.

3. Assistance to Countries via 'Emergency Window'

Côte d'Ivoire: In August 2007, the PBF approved emergency funding in the amount of US\$ 700,000 to support the ongoing "Direct Dialogue" between President Gbagbo and the armed opposition in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The funds, implemented by UNOPS in collaboration with UNOCI, have enabled the continuation of dialogue between the ex-belligerents and further implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, ahead of the organization of elections. The project has established an Office of the Facilitator in Abidjan and has been critical for supporting the ongoing dialogue.

Central African Republic: In September 2007, the PBF approved emergency funding in the amount of US\$ 801,975. The funds, implemented by UNDP in collaboration with BONUCA, will support political dialogue, including a period of mediation by international facilitators, between the Government, civil society members, opposition political parties and armed opposition groups. To date, several consultants have traveled to CAR on mission, and met with armed opposition groups and zaraguinas (highway bandits); they are also providing advice on the draft presidential decree on the composition of a preparatory committee representing all stakeholders.

Guinea Conakry: In November 2007, the PBF approved emergency funding in the amount of US\$ 963,284 implemented by UNDP, to assist with confidence-building among the various political actors in Guinea Conakry and facilitate discussions on electoral procedures ahead of the organization of free and fair elections.

Liberia: On 3 December 2007, the PBF approved emergency funding in the amount of US\$ \$788,644 to support reconciliation in Nimba County, Liberia. The project, implemented by UNOPS through Interpeace, aims to foster reconciliation, create conditions for the return and reintegration of refugees, develop a strategy for continued reconciliation for the County and identify mechanisms that prevent the emergence of conflict and promote the resolution of property disputes.

First Meeting of the PBF Advisory Group, 6 September 2007

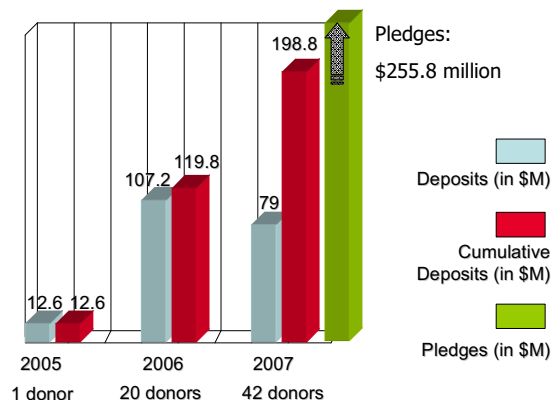


DSG Asha-Rose Migiro (centre, front row) addresses the inaugural meeting of the PBF Advisory Group, at UNHQ in New York. Also present: Assistant Secretary-General Carolyn McAskie (left); Marjatta Rasi, Chair of the Advisory Group (right); Susanne Frueh, Chief of External Relations (far right).

The PBF Advisory group met for the first time on 6 September 2007. It will meet again in March 2008. On the basis of their deliberations, members of the Group issued the following recommendations: The PBSO should draft a strategic paper to help define the scope of the Fund and how it can be used most effectively; the PBSO should further clarify the relation between the PBC and the PBF, ensuring that a structural separation be maintained while improving upon the strategic coherence between the two; the PBSO should develop detailed proposals on how to improve upon monitoring and evaluation mechanisms; and the PBSO should increase the frequency of reporting to the PBC so as to ensure better strategic linkages.

MEETING THE FUND'S TARGET

PBF DEPOSITS (as of 28 January 2008)



Pledges: The PBF has reached its \$ 250 million target. On 11 January 2008, total pledges amounted to \$255.7 million.

Donor Base: The PBF enjoys an increasing number of donors, which illustrates the uniqueness of the Fund: 1) there is concrete support by several new and emerging donors, which shows the broad ownership of the Fund and 2) non-government actors that include regional organizations and private individuals have joined the list of donors. A few donors are still crucial to the overall size of the Fund: 10 donors account for 93% of the funds committed.

Recent Pledges by New Donors (since 09/2007): Mexico; Morocco; Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC); Romania; Russia; Saudi Arabia; and one private donor.

Additional Pledges by Current Donors: Australia; Czech Republic; Finland; Italy; Luxembourg; Spain; Sweden; Turkey.

Value Added: The PBF fills critical funding gaps for peacebuilding. The Fund channels resources for focused and time-limited activities deemed critical to the peace process, where funding is traditionally insufficient, and for priorities in sectors that are usually difficult to finance. The PBF also plays a catalytic role. In the preparation and implementation phases, the Fund not only kick-starts critical peacebuilding interventions, but also catalyzes additional resources. Other advantages of the PBF include:

- ✦ Global peacebuilding outreach - including non-PBC countries;
- ✦ National ownership - once approved, the Fund is managed locally through a national steering committee co-chaired by Government and the UN with membership from civil society, international financial institutions and donors, and the committee makes all funding decisions;
- ✦ A spirit of partnership - it builds on common understanding of critical gaps, through a Priority Plan agreed by key local stakeholders, while projects are implemented in partnership between UN agencies and an implementing partner;
- ✦ A potential for innovation - the Fund can kick start innovative approaches and work with a range of partners on innovative ideas.

For more information on the work of the Peacebuilding Fund visit: www.unpbf.org or contact:

Jeremy King, Communications & Media Officer
Peacebuilding Support Office
917-367-3184 - king11@un.org
PBF Bulletin No.2 update