



Examined projects for spanning 15 countries and territories.²

Total PBF investment in counter-hate speech work between 2017-2022: through projects across 24 contexts.

Hate speech is any kind of communication in speech, writing or behaviour, that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of who they are, in other words, on the basis of their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor.

The PBF/IRF-453 project in Kenya focused on countering hate speech in advance of the 2022 elections and combined online monitoring and detection with community outreach to enable early warning.

Hate speech can be a “precursor” to spikes in violence and large-scale human rights violations and can also create barriers to the right to participate in political and public life, or in economic and social spheres, and limit space for peacebuilding.

of contexts. In addition, programming to counter hate speech has been pioneering hybrid or digital peacebuilding, combining online or virtual detection and dialogue tools with traditional peacebuilding.

PBF-supported work on countering hate speech has contributed to:

Monitoring and countering hate speech that might contribute to electoral violence, including contributions to early warning and prevention platforms.

Addressing the vulnerability of some youth to hate speech, as well as their potential to be positive “change-agents” in relation to hate speech.

Responding to the way that hate speech links with or can exacerbate ethnic, religious or political divisions and strife.

Developing strategies to respond to gender-based hate speech, and how prevention and protection of online targeting contribute to broader work on women’s empowerment.

1. The majority of the projects examined focused on efforts to track, monitor, and otherwise counter hate speech, with only one project focusing substantially on disinformation, and none substantially focused on misinformation. For this reason, the case study within the Thematic Review generically refers to these projects as ‘counter hate speech’ efforts, rather than repeating all three terms in each instance.
2. The hate speech case study projects were implemented by: UNFPA, UN Women, Search for Common Ground (CAR [PBF/CAF/H-1](#)); UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO (Côte d’Ivoire [PBF/CIV/D1](#)); UNFPA, UNDP, UNESCO (The Gambia [PBF/GMB/D-2](#)); UN Women, ILO, UNODC (Guatemala [PBF/IRF-307](#)); UNDP and OHCHR (Kenya [PBF/IRF-453](#)); IOM, OHCHR, UNDP (Liberia [PBF/IRF-482](#)); OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP (Moldova [PBF/IRF-481](#)); Christian Aid Ireland (Myanmar [PBF/IRF-338](#)); UNESCO and UNDP (Myanmar [PBF/IRF-367](#)); UNICEF and UNDP (Sierra Leone [PBF/SLE/B-1](#)); UNICEF and UNDP (Sri Lanka [PBF/IRF-427](#)); UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO (Western Balkans [PBF/IRF-475-476-477-478-479](#)).
3. Kenya ([PBF/IRF-453](#)); Sierra Leone ([PBF/SLE/B-1](#)); Liberia ([PBF/IRF-482](#)); Myanmar ([PBF/IRF-367](#)); Côte d’Ivoire ([PBF/CIV/D1](#)); The Gambia ([PBF/GMB/D-2](#))
4. Côte d’Ivoire ([PBF/CIV/D1](#)), The Gambia ([PBF/GMB/D-2](#)), Myanmar ([PBF/IRF-338](#)); Western Balkans ([PBF/IRF-475-476-477-478-479](#))
5. Sri Lanka ([PBF/IRF-427](#)); Western Balkans ([PBF/IRF-475-476-477-478-479](#)); Kenya ([PBF/IRF-453](#)); Moldova ([PBF/IRF-481](#))
6. Liberia ([PBF/IRF-482](#)); Sri Lanka ([PBF/IRF-427](#))

