



# *Power of Dialogue*

## Baseline cover report

**Power of Dialogue Consortium**

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Netherlands Institute for  
**Multiparty Democracy**

## Contents

1. Introduction .....	3
2. Objectives and Scope .....	3
3. Approach .....	4
4. Implications of baseline study for ToC and programmatic choices .....	5
5. Overview baseline and target values SCS and SRL frameworks.....	6
Table 1: Overview baseline and target values SCS framework .....	6
Table 2: Overview baseline and target values SRL framework .....	15
Annex I: Country Baseline Reports PoD.....	19
Annex II: Updated Indicator Frameworks PoD .....	19
Annex III: Indicator Reference Sheet PoD.....	19

## 1. Introduction

This document presents the cover report of the baseline studies for the Power of Dialogue (PoD) Programme. The PoD programme is a Strategic Partnership between the PoD Consortium and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) for the period 2021-2025. The PoD consortium consists of Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD), Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA), Centre for Mediterranean and International Studies (CEMI) and Goree Institute (GORIN).

The PoD programme is funded through the Power of Voices (PoV) grant instrument and falls within the policy framework for Strengthening Civil Society (SCS). The PoD programme aims at making **political and civic actors collaborate, influence and participate in legitimate, transparent and accountable political processes**, to ultimately create **peaceful democratic space, and inclusive, responsive and representative political decision-making at all levels**.

This cover report contains an overview of the objectives and scope (section 2) and approach of the baseline studies (section 3), as well as a reflection on the implications of the baseline studies for the country Theories of Change (ToC) (section 4). Lastly, it presents two overview tables of the PoD indicators and their contribution to the baseline and target values of the Strengthening Civil Society (SCS) basket indicators and Security and Rule of Law (SRL) indicators (section 5).

## 2. Objectives and Scope

The main objective of the baseline exercise was to describe and measure the baseline situation for each intermediate outcome and outcome of the four programmatic pathways of the PoD programme per country/region. Another objective was to set targets for each intermediate outcome (annual) and outcome indicator (end-of programme). Since the PoD indicators do not always correspond to the same outcome/intermediate outcome level of the SCS indicators, country teams were asked to either provide targets per annum for 2021-2025 for the PoD intermediate indicators or a breakdown of the end-of-programme targets into annual targets. So annual targets and cumulative targets are available for all indicators.

The target setting entailed both a qualitative target description and a quantitative value. Only descriptions of baseline situation and targets (expected outcomes) were formulated, where Outcome Harvesting (OH) was chosen as the method to monitor results of a certain intermediate outcome or outcome. Lastly, the baseline exercise, as a *formative assessment*, was another opportunity to collect or review data that could inform programme decisions and changes to the country specific ToCs.

The baselines were conducted in the period July-September 2021, covering the first six months of the PoD programme. NIMD conducted baseline studies in eleven countries (Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mozambique, Colombia, Guatemala, Jordan and Myanmar). AwMA conducted baselines in Horn of Africa (Uganda, Ethiopia and Kenya), CEMI in Tunisia,

GORIN in the Sahel regional (Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger). All country baseline reports can be found in Annex I. With this side note that the baseline in Mozambique was delayed and will be submitted as soon as it is finalized. Moreover, the PoD consortium did not conduct baseline studies in Iraq and Sudan, as they are 'pilot countries'. A baseline study for Iraq will be conducted in the first quarter of 2022, when it becomes a full-fledged programme. Sudan will be incorporated in the regional baseline study of AMwA.

### 3. Approach

The Grant Agreement with the MFA set the parameters for the baseline exercise. The PoD consortium opted to have the baseline studies conducted by country teams, as opposed to centrally guided external consultants, to give substance to *leading from the South*. Other reasons to put country teams in the driving seat were to strengthen M&E capacity within the consortium, enhance programme ownership and cost-effectiveness.

In the run-up to the baseline study exercise, the PoD Secretariat facilitated two training modules, consisting of four and five sessions each, on the PoD monitoring system and Outcome Harvesting as monitoring approach. The first module touched upon the link between the PoD framework and SCS framework, conducting the baseline study, operationalizing the monitoring system, IATI reporting, using the information management system for reporting, and detailing of the ToC into Actor-based Pathways. The second module was about identifying and formulating outcome statements and guarding the quality and credibility of the outcomes.

The trainings prepared country teams for the baseline exercise. Moreover, there has been continuous remote 1-on-1 support to country teams to conduct the baseline exercise. In addition, an Indicator Reference Sheet (IRS – see Annex III) was developed to support country teams in the operationalization and further contextualization of the indicators.

The PoD Secretariat developed the initial set of indicators (see IRS) to cover all intermediate outcomes and outcomes of the four pathways of the PoD ToC and are aligned with the SCS framework and Security, Rule of Law framework of DSH. It partially used indicators that worked well in previous NIMD programmes. Country teams in turn made their initial selection from this set, when the submission of the PoD proposal was due. The indicator selection was further refined in the inception phase, when the ToC and programme were more defined. During the baseline exercise the indicators were further operationalized.

The monitoring framework, hence the baseline, is set up to measure change that happens as a result of the programme interventions. With this approach, the scope focuses on the contribution of the PoD programme and less so to the larger context. For instance, not any (relevant) L&A initiative is described and measured, but only those targeted within the PoD programme. Subsequently, many of the baseline values are zero, as in many cases programme activities had

not been implemented yet in the first six months and the SCS indicators are at output level directly measuring results of activities.

The baseline studies used mixed methods to collect data, including data review, focus groups discussions (FGDs) and structured interviews. In many cases country teams limited their primary data collection to reviewing their Political Economy Analysis (PEA) and other documents to best describe the baseline situation.

Aside from a focus on PoD results, the baseline exercise also accommodated the provision of qualitative information. Country teams have been asked to provide a description of the baseline situation as well as a description of the target value. Moreover, many intermediate outcomes and outcomes are monitored through Outcome Harvesting. For the target descriptions of the Outcome Harvesting, country teams formulated outcomes they'd like to harvest in 2021 (or 2025) or copied change steps from the Actor-based Pathways of Change which have the same syntaxes (*who did what differently when*).

Country teams set numerical targets for indicators by taking into account their experiences with implementation of democracy support activities and the outcomes of that, as well as the ambitions in the multi-annual and annual plans, and identified enabling and disabling factors and actors by the PEA and context analysis. The usefulness and accuracy of targets might prove limited in light of the complex and often fluid operational environments of the PoD programme, which require an adaptive approach to programming.

#### 4. Implications of baseline study for ToC and programmatic choices

PoV consortia were invited to make the baseline exercise a formative assessment, as the baseline study is yet another opportunity to gain insights in the validity of the ToC and the relevance of programmatic choices. A thorough revision of the ToC and programmatic choices had been done earlier in the inception phase already, however, when the implications of the PEA for the ToC, Actor-based Pathways of Change (ABPoC) and programmatic choices were reviewed. As a result, the formativeness of the baseline study remained limited. In some cases, the indicator framework has been updated prior to baseline study, as a more refined choice for indicators could be made. The updated indicator frameworks you can find in annex of the respective baseline studies.

## 5. Overview baseline and target values SCS and SRL frameworks

The tables below provide an overview of how contextualized indicators contribute to SCS basket indicators and the SRL basket indicators. Full indicator frameworks, including indicators that do not link directly to the SCS and SRL frameworks can be found in Annex II. Since the PoD indicators do not always correspond to the same outcome/intermediate outcome level of the SCS indicators, country teams were asked to either provide targets per annum for 2021-2025 for the PoD intermediate indicators or a breakdown of the end-of-programme targets into annual targets. So annual targets and cumulative targets are available for all indicators.

It is important to note that these do not represent the full intended scope of results of the PoD programme, as country teams have picked and choose indicators as they saw it fit and some activities and outcomes are monitored by indicators that we could not align with the SCS basket indicators or Outcome Harvesting. Also to avoid double counting indicators that are used to monitor collaborative efforts of PoD partners, especially in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, are presented only once.

Table 1: Overview baseline and target values SCS framework

										Gorin	Horn of Africa		Sahel											
										Sahel	Kenya	Ethiopia	Uganda	Mali	Burkina	Niger	Baseline	Target 2021	Target 2022	Target 2023	Target 2024	Target 2025	Target 21-25	
		Kenya	Mozambique	Uganda	Ethiopia	Colombia	Guatemala	Jordan	Myanmar	Tunisia							1	50	56	55	55	55	83	
<b>SCS 1 # of laws, policies and norms, implemented</b>																	<b>1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>SCS 014 # of by-laws implemented for sustainable and inclusive development</b>																	<b>1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>83</b>
	B	1			0									0	0		1							

# of political/civic actors taken measures enhancing representation of women and youth	T21	3		47								0	0			50						
	T22	3		47								2	4				56					
	T23	2		47								2	4					55				
	T24	2		47								2	4						55			
	T25	2		47								2	4							55		
	T21-25	12		47								8	16								83	
SCS 2 # of laws, policies and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, improved																0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCS024 # of bylaws, blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development																0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# international L&A resolutions on democratic space adopted	B															0						
	T21																0					
	T22																	0				
	T23																		0			
	T24																			0		
	T25																				0	
T21-25																				0		
SCS 3 # of times that CSOs succeed in creating space space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage																47	89	187	231	243	168	813
SCS031 # of times that CSOs succeed in creating (at national, international, and/or regional level)																42	81	141	169	189	149	624
# of inclusive policy-making processes (at regional level)	B											0					0					
	T21																	0				
	T22																		10			
	T23																			15		
	T24																			20		
	T25																				25	
T21-25																				25		

# of inclusive policy-making processes (at national level)	B	4			0	2					0					6				
	T21	7			0	2					0					9				
	T22	5			2	1					8					16				
	T23	6			2	1					7					16				
	T24	4			2	1					4					11				
	T25	5			3	1					2					11				
	T21-25	27			9	6					21					63				
# of created/opened spaces for women/youth (at regional level)	B									0				0		0				
	T21													0		0				
	T22									10				2		12				
	T23									20				0		20				
	T24									30				2		32				
	T25									40				0		40				
	T21-25									40				4		44				
# of created/opened spaces for women/youth (at national level)	B			1					2			0	0	0	0	3				
	T21			2					2			0	0	1	0	5				
	T22			8					1			10	1	1	2	23				
	T23			13					0			15	1	2	2	33				
	T24			18					0			10	1	2	4	35				
	T25			0					0			0	1	0	0	1				
	T21-25			41					3			35	4	6	8	97				
# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (at international)	B	3							0							3				
	T21	4							4							8				
	T22	1							4							5				
	T23	1							4							5				
	T24	1							4							5				
	T25	1							4							5				



subnational level)	T23	2				3						3							8			
	T24	2				0						3								5		
	T25	2				0						0									2	
	T21-25	10				7						9									26	
# of created/opened spaces for women/youth (at subnational level)	B			2								0				2						
	T21			2								0				2						
	T22			10								5					15					
	T23			10								10						20				
	T24			10								15							25			
	T25			1								0									1	
	T21-25			33								30									63	
# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (at sub-national level)	B					0	0	0								0						
	T21					0	3	0								3						
	T22					15	8	0									23					
	T23					24	8	2										34				
	T24					10	8	5											23			
	T25					0	8	7													15	
	T21-25					49	35	14													98	
# of interparty dialogue meetings (at subnational level)	B							0								0						
	T21							0									0					
	T22							0										0				
	T23							0											0			
	T24							1												1		
	T25							1													1	
	T21-25							2													2	
SCS 4 # of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs , for, by or with their membership/constituency																52	43	66	75	85	67	305
SCS041# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs at national (or international/regional) level																52	41	62	71	81	63	287







programme (women led)	T21			5		2	0			10							17						
	T22			2		6	2			15								25					
	T23			2		6	2			20									30				
	T24			2		6	2			30										40			
	T25			0		6	2			40											48		
	T21-25			11		26	8			40													85
SCS062 # of CSOs included (youth led)																	18	36	49	75	79	89	203
# of CSOs included in the PoD programme (youth led)	B						0		18	0							18						
	T21						3		18	15								36					
	T22						5		19	20									49				
	T23						5		20	40										75			
	T24						5		21	50											79		
	T25						5		22	60												89	
T21-25						23		100	60													203	
SCS063 # of CSOs included (other led)																	0	39	45	47	48	33	212
# of CSOs included in the PoD programme (other)	B				0		0		0					0	0			0					
	T21				2		30		0					7	0				39				
	T22				2		30		2					7	4					45			
	T23				4		30		2					7	4						47		
	T24				4		30		3					7	4							48	
	T25				0		30		3					0	0								33
T21-25				12		150		10					28	12									212

Table 2: Overview baseline and target values SRL framework

														Gorin	Horn of Afrika			Sahel										
														Sahel	Kenya	Ethiopia	Uganda	Mali	Burkina	Niger	Baseline	Target 2021	Target 2022	Target 2023	Target 2024	Target 2025	Target 21-25	
3. Peace processes & political governance - States, regional and local authoritis and societies at large are able to effectively prevent and resolve conflict in a non-violent and inclusive manner																												
b) Number of dialogue processes organised for (local/national/regional) conflict management														33	70	103	119	115	88	495								
# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (at international)	B	3					0								3													
	T21	4					4									8												
	T22	1					4										5											
	T23	1					4											5										
	T24	1					4												5									
	T25	1					4																5					
	T21-25	8					20																	28				
# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (regional level)	B														0													
	T21															3												
	T22																5											
	T23																	10										
	T24																		15									
	T25																						20					
	T21-25																							53				

# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (at national level)	B	8		0	5	0	0						0	0		13						
	T21	10		1	8	8	0						0	6			33					
	T22	5		1	5	8	0						9	12				40				
	T23	5		1	5	8	2						9	12					42			
	T24	5		1	5	8	3						9	12						43		
	T25	5		1	5	8	3						9	0							31	
	T21-25	30		5	28	40	8						36	42								189
# of interparty dialogue meetings (at national level)	B	2	6		7			2									17					
	T21	3	6		10			4										23				
	T22	4	13		5			8											30			
	T23	2	13		5			8												28		
	T24	2	13		5			8													28	
	T25	2	1		5			8														16
	T21-25	13	46		30			36														125
# of multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (at sub-national level)	B				0	0	0										0					
	T21				0	3	0											3				
	T22				15	8	0												23			
	T23				24	8	2														34	
	T24				10	8	5															23
	T25				0	8	7															15
	T21-25				49	35	14															98
# of interparty dialogue meetings (at subnational level)	B							0									0					
	T21							0										0				
	T22							0											0			
	T23							0												0		
	T24							1														1





Annex I: Country Baseline Reports PoD

Annex II: Updated Indicator Frameworks PoD

Annex III: Indicator Reference Sheet PoD