

ANALYTICAL REPORT 2018 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

**CAPACITATING CHANGE:
RESTORING THE SOCIAL CONTRACT IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS**

APRIL 2019



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1. INTRODUCTION

The strategic partnership (SP) program “empowering people in fragile contexts” aims to strengthen the voice and capacity of civil society to effectively engage in, and influence, peacebuilding and state-building. In each of the six fragile countries where we work, we focus on a selection of our five themes.

The changes we aspire to achieve in the different themes in each country (referred to as thematic trajectories) are captured in 16 Theories of Change (TOCs). These TOCs describe the national lobby and advocacy (L&A) efforts and are supported by an additional TOC for international lobby and advocacy. The table below presents an overview of the trajectories per country.

Strategic topics	Afghanistan	Burundi	CAR	DRC	Nigeria	South Sudan	International L&A
Inclusive and engendered peace							
Security and access to justice for all							
Accountable and responsive health services							
Extractives/Inclusive economic growth							
Space for civil society							

Throughout 2018 we harvested expected and unexpected outcomes. Our local partners for each trajectory meet every quarter to reflect on whether their lobby and advocacy activities have managed to change the behavior of the stakeholders that they have tried to influence. The outcomes are documented and compared to the Theories of Change for each trajectory and priorities are set for the next quarter. The mid-term review has served as an additional moment for reflection, for which a selection of the harvested outcomes has been evaluated. In this year’s progress report for 2018 we will present the highlights that were achieved through the program’s lobby and advocacy efforts. There is insufficient space in this report to explain how the results were achieved, so we have included a number of brief case descriptions in the annexes.

2. PROGRESS PER COUNTRY

2.1 Afghanistan

The number of security incidents and civilian casualties in Afghanistan remains very high. The conflict persists because it cannot be won through force by either side. The long-awaited parliamentary elections – originally scheduled for 2016 – took place on 20 October 2018. Due to armed clashes and other security incidents, voting was not possible in all provinces, especially not in those with a strong presence of armed opposition groups. However, even in this difficult setting the relationship between civil society and the government is improving. Civil society organizations (CSOs) have got influence and opportunities to negotiate their interests with government actors, although the level of civic space differs between the capital and rural provinces. However, meaningful representation of women in the judiciary, health, extractives and other sectors remains very low.

Inclusive and engendered peace

In 2018, growing insecurity and clashes within the government complicated the work of this trajectory. However, our partnership achieved some meaningful results. Our partner the Afghan Women’s Network (AWN), together with other like-minded CSOs, continued their attempts to increase the number of women and youth involved in the peace process, among others by supporting the efforts of eight youth and women’s platforms at the provincial level (see case in annex #1). As a result of this community-based lobby through the Provincial Peace Councils (PPCs) and our media work, the High Peace Council (HPC) established new advisory boards for youth and women in the PPCs. The president and the

HPC have given assurances that youth advisory groups will indeed be created in the PPCs. At the national level, the representation of women in the HPC's board increased to 35% in 2018. During peace talks HPC's women representatives successfully advocated for a [ceasefire](#) during Eid-al-Adha. Unfortunately the situation has changed in 2019 under the current US-initiated peace talks with the Taliban, as [women](#) are no longer included in the delegations.

Security and access to justice for all

Our partner, the SALAH consortium, put a lot of effort in improving coordination between the justice sector, community representatives and local CSOs at the provincial level (see case in annex #2). This approach was successful. With the support of tribal elders and communities, SALAH managed to influence decision-makers and gain access to provincial government authorities. At both the national and provincial levels, (social) media coverage and events organized on International Human Rights Day in Kabul, for example, proved to be effective to persuade authorities to improve the implementation of existing laws and police, e.g. that the police can have a detainee in custody for a maximum of 48 hours. Also, SALAH improved its relations with the Supreme Court, and its request for an MoU is currently under revision, with support of the chief judge.

Accountable and responsive health services

To compensate for diminishing funding from the international community, the health trajectory has been lobbying to increase domestic revenue as a way of achieving universal health coverage (UHC). In 2018, both Cordaid and SP partner the Alliance of Health Organizations (AHO) continued to participate in a committee that monitors health spending against the healthcare budget to ensure there are no irregularities. The committee consists of representatives of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and CSOs and is an important forum to advocate for increasing the health budget. We were also part of a civil society committee that conducts regular roundtables for the health sector to sensitize decision-makers such as the MoF and parliamentarians. Our efforts resulted in the MoPH approving an alternative healthcare financing strategy that includes a public-private partnership with the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and the private health sector. In spite of the usual priority for security in the national budget (47% of total resources in 2019), there has also been a slight increase of 0.3% in the budget allocated to the MoPH.

Extractives

This trajectory focuses on decreasing the negative effects of mining on local communities. Research by our partner HRRAC shows that there are between 14,000 and 20,000 illegal mines around the country that do not respect socio-environmental regulations. HRRAC has capacitated women's and youth committees as well as the elders and leaders of local communities in Parwan province on mining issues and on advocacy. Representatives from the communities and five CSOs have formed the Parwan Mine Watch Committee. The complaints collected by this committee have been shared with the Mining for Development Forum in Kabul as an input to their lobby work at the national level.

2.2 Burundi

Citizens in Burundi are facing a deteriorating security situation. Youth wings, the so-called "Imbonerakure", act as unofficial defenders of the government's interests, fueling insecurity in the country. Citizens are suffering from new taxes and fees that are being imposed to fill gaps in the government budget. For example, an obligatory contribution for the upcoming elections in 2020 was introduced. Sometimes people are asked to present a receipt for their contribution if they wish to access to public services.

Civic space is still shrinking and the working environment for CSOs deteriorated in 2018. The government of Burundi imposed a series of new measures on all international organizations operating in Burundi. The government has established procedures for field visits, it monitors CSO bank accounts and has made it obligatory that it be involved in the recruitment of personnel.

Inclusive and engendered peace

In 2018, our partners strengthened community networks working on topics such as peace and conflict resolution, social cohesion and economic empowerment. We are proud of the progress made by women and youth who have significantly gained space in different local committees. All in all, 3,548 youth and 3,319 women were nominated to communal development committees and local committees that address topics such as security, health and water.

State institutions are generally willing to address gender issues. During a workshop held by partner *l'Association des femmes journalistes* (AFJO), the Minister of Communication took the initiative to establish a media charter on gender. The Ministry of Gender has set up a committee to follow up on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325. Furthermore, program partners *Association des Femmes Rapatriées du Burundi* (AFRABU), *Réseau des Organisations des jeunes en actions pour la paix, la réconciliation et le développement* (REJA) and *Appui au Développement Intégral*

et à la Solidarité sur les Collines (ADISCO) have invited state officials to workshops on the participation of women in decision making. One of the results of the workshops is that the Bank of Burundi has increased access to microcredit for women in communities, enabling them to initiate income-generating activities (see case in annex #3).

Security and access to justice for all

An important achievement for this trajectory has been the constructive engagement of members of parliament in the justice sector. Program partner Observatoire de l'Action Gouvernementale (OAG) has initiated community campaigns that saw the permanent justice and the rule of law commission of the National Assembly visit various communities. This approach to creating space for dialogue between elected parliamentarians and local citizens on access to justice was appreciated by both sides (see case in annex #4). It has resulted in the approval of a ministerial ordinance for the elaboration by the technical commission of a new law on legal aid. New SP partner *Barreau* will be part of the commission. In addition, the ethical code for magistrates is being analyzed by the national legislation commission.

2.3 Central African Republic

As a result of a surge in armed conflict in the Central African Republic, 80% of its territory is now occupied by armed groups. The continuous abuses have forced thousands of people to migrate to camps for internally displaced persons or seek refuge outside the country. Government institutions are generally weak and lack the capacity and resources to address the problem. Various CSOs are carrying out advocacy activities asking the government to promote justice and put an end to the recurring atrocities. The advocacy efforts are not always well received. In some cases, marches have been stopped or prevented by the government and activists have been arrested.

Inclusive and engendered peace

Work is being done with state institutions and survivors of (sexual and) gender-based violence (S)GBV. The program partners are working closely with the mixed intervention unit UMIRR that was created by presidential decree in 2018 and which consists of representatives of the police, gendarmerie, and the ministries of health, justice and social affairs.

Work has continued with the National Unit for Combating (S)GBV in Schools, which was created as a result of collaboration between the SP program and the Ministry of Education. In July 2018, the unit became an official part of the Ministry of Education with the signing of Presidential Decree No. 18/195. A new ally in the fight against (S)GBV has also been found in ANEEH, an association for disabled students (see case in annex #5).

After a broadcast on the role and function of listening centers, program partners *Association des femmes juristes de Centrafrique* (AFJC), *CERCLE*, *Maison Prisca* and *Les Flamboyants* saw a rise in the number of (S)GBV survivors coming to them for support. In Berberati 20 groups of survivors of GBV were given support enabling them to undertake economic activities that will help them to reintegrate in society. These women and girls have formed an association to promote their actions as rural entrepreneurs and agents of change in their respective communities.

Security and access to justice for all

All advocacy directed towards the government, the United Nations peacekeeping operation MINUSCA and the armed forces that is carried out as part of this trajectory is done in close collaboration with survivors of violent conflict. They are also represented in a committee initiated by program partner *Ligue centrafricaine des droits de l'homme* (LCDH), which lobbies on issues of security and the needs of survivors. The committee has 14 members including representatives from the ministries and LCDH (see case in annex #6). The associations of survivors AVED and ASVI provide support to 3 listening centers and follow up on dossiers of victims with lawyers and judges. Furthermore, prevention activities are carried out jointly with local peace and reconciliation committees in the 8 districts of Bangui.

Program partners ASVI and LCDH represent civil society in a steering committee that guides the process of setting up the Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR). The committee's work has resulted in a new law (No. 18.010 of 2 July 2018) that defines the proceedings to be taken to bring offenders before the Special Criminal Court.

2.4 Democratic Republic of Congo

The year 2018 was marked by the political crisis around the general elections. Although the elections finally did take place in December after several postponements, the conditions under which the elections were organized gave little hope that relations between civil society and the government would improve. The citizens of DRC face numerous obstacles in expressing their opinions and defending their rights, including the repression of peaceful demonstrations, arrests and even assassinations of activists and opposition leaders. In 2018 the Congolese government proposed legal and

administrative hurdles to CSOs, which, had they been approved, would have substantially reduced civic space. Despite this difficult working context, local and international CSOs have remained very dynamic and influential in defending the interests of the population and in guaranteeing civic space. The eastern and central regions of the country remained unstable because of armed conflicts with serious humanitarian consequences, including the massive displacement of civilians inside the country. The outbreak of Ebola and cholera in the eastern, south-eastern and western regions of the country further aggravated the humanitarian crisis.

Inclusive and engendered peace

Our partner Centre d'Etudes sur Handicap, Justice et Résolution 1325 (CEHAJ 1325) continued its awareness-raising campaign with university students. As a result, 9 youth groups were formed for the prevention of (S)GBV at universities (see case in annex #7).

One of the participants in our efforts in 2017 to promote women's political participation was a candidate in the December 2018 general elections. Also our advocacy related to the National Action Plan 1325 continued, emphasizing the specific needs of vulnerable women (with a handicap, indigenous, etc.) in the area of peace and security. These were included in the operational plan drafted by the authorities.

Security and access to justice for all

In South Kivu, the number of security incidents decreased in communities where we helped to set up local security committees (12 in total, see case in annex #8). These committees consist of local authorities, police and community representatives. In this same area, the police commissioner set up three new sub-police stations, thus strengthening state authority and improving local security. Furthermore, in late 2018, the governor of the province of South Kivu sent a draft decree on the regulation of transhumance (the seasonal movement of livestock) to the Provincial Parliament for its adoption. Following on our 2017 research on access of women to justice, our partner *SOS Information Juridique Multi-sectorielle* (SOS IJM) lobbied for the establishment of mobile courts in South Kivu. As a result of our advocacy, a working group on mobile courts was set up, in which representatives of all relevant government authorities participate.

Accountable and responsive health services

Building on our advocacy work of 2017, North Kivu adopted the provincial law on health cooperatives and compulsory health insurance in 2018. In both North and South Kivu, decrees were approved on the establishment of provincial committees for the coordination of health cooperatives (see case in annex #9). In North Kivu, the budget for the health sector increased from 1.9% of the total budget in 2018 to 3.1% in 2019. We also worked on improving accountability of the health sector in Kinshasa. In 5 communes, commune members and other stakeholders drafted communal plans for health.

Extractives

At the beginning of 2018, a new mining law was enacted, which included many of the amendments proposed by civil society, e.g. on community development and artisanal mining. Information on the new law was disseminated to communities in mining zones, so that they are aware of their rights. Our partners also contributed to the draft law to regulate traceability and certification initiatives. A workshop organized in Goma in July 2018 was instrumental in harmonizing civil society's views about the role that different national certification and traceability initiatives should play in formalizing artisanal mining.

2.5 Nigeria

Communities in the Niger Delta have been suffering for decades from the negative consequences of oil exploitation. Moreover, the problems in the Niger Delta are not limited to oil pollution. The population feels neglected by the federal government, which has failed to create economic opportunities in the region and protect its citizens against criminal activities.

Extractives

In 2018, most of our advocacy efforts targeted the Hydrocarbon Remediation Project (HYPREP), the public institution responsible for carrying out the clean-up of Ogoniland (see also case in annex #10). Our efforts yielded results: HYPREP received a sum of US\$187 million from the federal government and international oil companies. With these funds HYPREP has now awarded the first round of contracts for the clean-up of 21 oil-impacted sites across Ogoni, and about 20,000 Ogoni people benefited from medical outreach in 2018. In order to prevent cleaned-up sites from being repolluted, our partners carried out a pilot project in two communities in Bayelsa State, as part of the DFID-funded Market Development in the Niger Delta project (MADE II). In the pilot, they test the viability of alternative livelihoods (agriculture) to draw youth away from artisanal refining and oil bunkering in the region. The experiences from Bayelsa

State will be repeated in Ogoniland to facilitate dialogue with communities on reducing conflict and pollution caused by artisanal refining. Following a series of consultations with communities in Ogoniland by SP partners and HYPREP, these communities are becoming more engaged in the clean-up process. They also identified issues that will be taken up in our lobby and advocacy: the apparent exclusion of Ogoni indigenous firms from the first round of clean-up contracts, and the provision of clean drinking water for oil-impacted communities.

SP partners Publish What You Pay Nigeria (PWYP) and the African Centre for Leadership, Strategy & Development (CentreLSD) were invited by the National Human Rights Commission to become members of the National Working Group on the domestication of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). This working group is currently developing a national policy for the extractive industry and presents an opportunity to advance the inclusion of Environmental, Social and Human Rights Impact Assessment (ESHRIA) in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Law.

2.6 South Sudan

A fragile peace deal signed in September 2018 has seriously reduced violence, but it did not yield a definite political solution yet for the conflict. Juba is secure, but widespread violence persists in other areas of the country and the ceasefire that came into effect on the 1st of July has been violated. The effects of years of civil war are felt throughout the country, with hundreds of thousands on the brink of famine and an estimated two million people displaced. Parties to the conflict committed a range of heinous crimes. Sexual and gender-based violence is used as a warfare strategy, for instance in Bentiu, part of the program area, where 125 women and girls on their way to food distribution sites were raped, beaten, and robbed in broad daylight in November 2018.

Civic space in South Sudan remains under threat. Launching civil society initiatives requires cumbersome approval and registration procedures, and communities are pressured to not cooperate with CSOs. The South Sudanese security services have used sweeping powers to round up anyone perceived to be in opposition to the government. Broadcast media are not allowed to freely express realities on the ground. This impedes CSOs' efforts to transmit information, influence public debate and hold government and other stakeholders accountable. The implementation of the peace agreement should lead to elections in 2019. Hopefully this will result in a diverse and inclusive government that will give civil society a stronger voice.

Inclusive and engendered peace

Bringing people together in networks is an important strategy for the program. Women, peace and security forums have been launched to highlight women's peace and security concerns. At both the national and local levels many platforms have been established to address (S)GBV. The national (S)GBV coalition has monthly meetings with the Ministry of Gender. In Gudele, Munuki, Torit and Lirya working groups comprising women and youth, as well as traditional and faith-based leaders, continue to engage decision-makers in face-to-face dialogue and on radio talk shows. The working groups make it possible for citizens to raise common concerns and engage with decision-makers (see case in annex #11).

Measures by the police to tackle (S)GBV are still insufficient. Most of the Special Protection Units (SPUs) that were established in 2015 at police stations to address (S)GBV cases are not operational. The situation at the Wau and Munuki police stations has improved thanks to lobbying by (S)GBV working groups. The lobby to improve the functioning of the SPUs will focus on reviewing the Police Act, training more female police officers to be deployed in SPUs, and creating awareness among police leaders to understand the roles and functions of the SPUs.

Security and access to justice for all

The signing of the Maputo protocol in 2017, which among others guarantees women's right to take part in the political process, is a milestone after years of intensive lobbying spearheaded by the Coalition of Civil Society on the Ratification of Maputo Protocol (CCORPS). The 40 CCORPS members organize a monthly women's forum and plan activities such as radio talk shows, follow-up sessions with the first lady and with the parliamentary women caucus to ensure accountability for the implementation of the Maputo Protocol.

Training various stakeholders in the justice sector not only builds capacity but has also proven to be a good advocacy strategy. A training activity with 25 justices, including the chief justice, lawyers and judges has resulted in a resolution to document precedents on women's rights in South Sudan. Partner CSOs have trained 44 women and men as paralegals in Torit, Nimule and Magwi. They will provide advice to community members on case handling, referral and good case documentation. The current safety situation means that communities are increasingly reluctant to report injustices committed by armed forces. Nonetheless, a reported backlog of cases in Nimule and Magwi detention facilities was the

impetus to organize mobile court visits to these places. With the support of lawyers, judges and magistrates trained by the program, 20 cases were handled successfully.

Extractives

Advocacy on extractives focuses on exposing the negative aspects of oil exploitation and on the release of funds from oil revenues for community development. The Sudd Institute shared its research findings on environmental pollution with key stakeholders of the oil sector in Juba. Youth from Melut also attended the Stakeholder Forum and confirmed the research findings, which prompted parliament to carry out a fact-finding mission in the region and summon responsible ministers to parliament together with the governor of Unity state for clarification (See case in annex #12).

After building awareness among Bentiu community leaders on environmental pollution in their area, program partner Assistance Mission for Africa (AMA) helped them to engage with members of the State Legislative Assembly to advocate for bills that would protect their environment. Legislators agreed to form an Assembly Caucus to work with the community lobby groups in linking state-level lobby and advocacy efforts to the national platform.

3. PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL L&A

3.1 Analysis per topic

3.1.1 Inclusive and engendered peace: youth, peace and security

One of the highlights of our international advocacy on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) was the One Young World 2018 Summit in The Hague. On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and inspired by the UNSC Resolution 2250, we called on the 1,800 youth ambassadors present to become global change agents. Together with civil rights organization Kompas we facilitated an exchange of ideas between 45 youth delegates from different nationalities. The youth ambassadors translated the UDHR into concrete and tangible ideas for action by youth in their own communities. On the final day, the audience adopted [The Hague Youth Declaration on Human Rights in Action 2018](#) (see also out conference video [bringing Human Rights back home](#)). The Declaration has been shared with the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights in Geneva, which has created an entry point to further discuss collaboration for youth engagement on human rights.

The advocacy efforts of our key partner the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), which consists of 80 youth organizations, continued in 2018. Amongst others, UNOY played a leading role in a two-year consultative process that culminated in a report entitled “The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security.” On June 6th, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2419, reaffirming its commitment to the comprehensive implementation of UNSCR 2250. It also focuses on the inclusive representation of youth for the prevention and resolution of conflict. Cordaid Burundi started to work with two Burundian members of UNOY, which has led to the development of a joint program to promote the civic engagement of youth leaders. In 2019, we envision closer cooperation with the Afghan youth-led member organizations of UNOY, who will join forces to promote the role of youth in the peace process.

3.1.2 Inclusive and engendered peace: women, peace and security

The SP program works on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) issues often in the context of harmful patriarchal systems and negative gender norms and roles. An extensive gender Training of Trainers was organized for SP staff. Each country office now has the necessary gender expertise to support partners on negative gender norms and roles and to provide training adjusted to their context.

The WPS Barometer has enabled us to collect over 300 stories on the daily safety situation of local women in the most fragile communities in the DRC and CAR. In community workshops we also asked for their perspectives on how to improve security. Various formal and informal decision-makers in the community were surprised by the level of detail and the concrete requests put forward by these women. The data from the WPS Barometer provides compelling messages for lobby and advocacy at all levels, including international decision-makers.

During the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN headquarters in New York (March 2018), Cordaid worked together with the Dutch permanent representation and our colleagues from the DRC to edit the language of the new humanitarian mandate for the DRC so that it is fully gender sensitive. The CSW also provided the momentum to build a partnership between organizations advocating for WPS at the UN in New York and our regional partner organization Isis-WICCE working at the African Union level. The case of Burundi is an interesting

example of the collaboration: there is little political willingness at the UN level to push Burundi to change, but new openings have been created by working with Isis-WICCE at the AU level.

3.1.3 Security and access to justice for all

In 2018, the major focus of Cordaid's global advocacy was still to ensure high-quality security and justice for people living in fragile contexts. The main international framework within which this influencing takes place is the SDG 16+ Forum. In 2018, Cordaid used the SDG16+ Forum Annual Showcase in Sierra Leone as an opportunity to demonstrate its country-level experiences with promoting accountable and effective security and justice provision. Our experience with results-based financing for security and justice in the DRC was highlighted in the outcome document of the Annual Showcase, mentioned during the Big Think on Justice (The Hague, November) and referenced in a research report by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) on effective financing for justice.

Building on research conducted by Cordaid and ODI in collaboration with partners in Afghanistan and South Sudan, the International Task Force on Justice, launched in February 2018 at the initiative of the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, intends to incorporate customary and informal approaches in its report to the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). Furthermore, the World Justice Project will include customary and informal justice in the agenda of the 2019 World Justice Forum. Cordaid's contributions in 2018 to the various international policy discussions all helped to build momentum towards the 2019 HLPF, which will focus on SDG 16 and how international actors can help to improve local security and justice provision in fragile settings.

In December 2018 Cordaid and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) started research focused on the influence of international actors on the local social contract and security dynamics in the DRC and CAR.

The strategic partners of the Dutch Foreign Ministry's Department for Stability and Humanitarian Aid (CARE NL, Cordaid, GPPAC, NIMD and PAX) teamed up to provide input on the Integrated Foreign and Security Strategy (GBVS) of the Dutch government in 2017. As a follow-up, in 2018, this group of SPs was invited to give input on the Netherlands' new conflict prevention approach. This fed into the interdepartmental conflict prevention framework that came into force later that year, for which a working group called 'early warning, early action' was formed, which regularly consulted Cordaid and other NGOs.

3.1.4 Accountable and responsive health services

At the national level in the DRC and in North Kivu, Cordaid has lobbied for affordable healthcare through community health insurance. Conversations at the World Health Assembly with the delegation from DRC resulted in a request by the Minister of Health for a training event in Kinshasa and for advice on how to design a community health insurance. A workshop was held with the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) and the School of Public Health of the University of Kinshasa (PNMPS) for officials of the Ministries of Health and of Social Affairs, NGOs, and health cooperatives for police and teachers. In close consultation with the Secretary General of the Ministry, Cordaid is analyzing experiences with existing community health insurances as input for a policy design. A feasibility study for community health insurance for the National Police in North Kivu and Ituri that is currently being carried out will also provide interesting perspectives for police reform. The National Police expects that improving health insurance for the police will also improve labor conditions and reduce corruption.

In December 2018, on UHC Day, Cordaid organized a public debate in Goma with all important provincial stakeholders, and invited national and international stakeholders. After the debate the provincial governor requested Cordaid to become part of a Technical Committee for Coordination of Community Health Insurance in North Kivu.

Public healthcare in Afghanistan is a success when measured against international indicators for the health sector. The challenge facing public healthcare there is that it depends almost entirely on foreign funds. Cordaid experts had several meetings with the Afghan delegation in preparation for the World Health Assembly in Geneva to present the positive results of public healthcare in Afghanistan and secure longer international support. At the same time, Cordaid is lobbying the Afghan government to find more Afghan funds for universal health coverage and to push for financial sustainability. The conversations during the World Health Assembly resulted in several joint activities between the Cordaid country office and the Afghan Ministry of Public Health, such as a workshop held by MoPH and the World Health Organization (WHO) on health financing and a public debate on UHC Day in December. Public Health Minister Feroz was filmed in a promotional video for UHC Day.

3.1.5 Extractives

The participation of our Congolese partner organization BEST in the OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains in Paris (April) helped to increase awareness among our DRC partner organizations on the use of the OECD's due diligence guidance for improving social and economic conditions in mining communities. Different initiatives for

responsible mineral chains were analyzed in the subsequent workshop held in Goma in July 2018, and an agenda for action was prepared with recommendations for national and international stakeholders. During a lobby meeting in Brussels (August), policymakers at the European Commission (EC) took an interest in these recommendations, especially the observation that the costs of due diligence and traceability schemes seem to be borne by artisanal miners instead of downstream supply chain actors. This will be followed up in 2019, both at the EC as well as via EPRM, the European Partnership on Responsible Mining, of which Cordaid is a member.

3.1.6 Space for civil society

In 2018, we witnessed a continuation of the worrying global trend of shrinking space for civil society organizations. Cordaid, through its active role in networks such as Concord, Partos, the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) and the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness has consistently highlighted this issue at various international fora. An example is the World Bank Global Partnership for Social Accountability conference (November 2018) where Cordaid's CEO participated in a panel about the space and enabling environment for CSOs working in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

The situation in Burundi was – and still is – particularly bleak for CSOs. Cordaid convened a Dutch NGO meeting (Burundi platform members and non-members), and coordinated with European-based international NGOs working in Burundi on the dossier of INGOs suspended by the Burundian government. Close dialogue and collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the Dutch Embassy in Bujumbura as well as with the European External Action Service and EC's DG DEVCO has taken place during the last 3 months of 2018. Cordaid's role in these deliberations has been highly appreciated by the peers and institutions involved.

Cordaid has contributed to a number of Multi-Annual Country Strategies developed by the MFA in 2018. A group of Dutch NGOs jointly lobbied to be invited to the MFA's consultation on the South Sudan multiannual country strategy and provided input. As a result, policymakers at the MFA and the embassy are considering several of Cordaid's policy proposals in the South Sudan multiannual country strategy, e.g. on the need to protect civic space. In the case of the DRC, the Dutch ambassador reached out to ask for input in the Multi-Annual Country Strategy for that country. And in the case of Afghanistan, Cordaid provided extensive input in response to questions put forward by the MFA's Asia Department on the priorities for Dutch policy in Afghanistan in the coming years.

One of the countries under SDG review in the 2019 HLPF is the CAR. The CSPPS, supported by a grant from the French government, plays a crucial role in supporting civil society engagement in preparation of the SDG voluntary national review (VNR) reports in several fragile and conflict-affected states, including the CAR. Considering the importance of the 2019 HLPF – in which SDG16 is under review – Cordaid is preparing a publication on the state of civil society in all 6 strategic partnership countries. This publication will be launched in the run-up to the HLPF, and a side event will be organized during the HLPF.

In addition to addressing the issue of shrinking civic space in the context of its formal engagement in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS), the CSPPS discussed the issue at the Platform's membership meeting in the Netherlands (see: [The Hague Declaration](#) April 2018). Moreover, the CSPPS also successfully lobbied for the International Network on Conflict and Fragility to recognize the issue of shrinking space in the [communique](#) issued after its Director-Level Meeting in November 2018.

Topics that we also worked on extensively in 2018 were the transparency of multilateral organizations and the role of faith-based organizations in conflict areas. Cordaid, Hivos and the Open State Foundation developed, after conducting thorough research on data from 20 multilateral organizations (UN organizations, the World Bank and NATO), the website openstate.eu to make information on awarded contracts publicly accessible. This initiative was undertaken to raise awareness among policymakers and politicians of the importance of open data, and to put pressure on multilateral organizations to open up their data in a more consistent manner. Another alliance has pushed for religious literacy in Dutch foreign policymaking. As a result of these efforts, Ministers Blok and Kaag put this topic on the agenda for the ambassadors' conference (late January 2019), and an international conference will be organized by the MFA, Cordaid, Mensen met een Missie, Prisma, PAX and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in The Hague in May 2019.

3.2 Links of international lobby and advocacy with countries

Empowering people in fragile contexts, as we named the program, is what we work towards mostly within the six program countries. Additionally, we try to influence international processes and their key actors through international lobby and advocacy. Our thematic experts link the country lobby and advocacy activities by engaging local partners and country office staff and capacitating them to act on the international stage. Below we give a number of examples.

- In 2018, Cordaid's partner the Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) from South Sudan addressed the UN Security Council on various occasions. Grace John briefed the UNSC on the peace process and women's participation in South Sudan using video tele-conferencing.
- A network of women in and outside Burundi has been established with the aim of securing a voice at the national dialogue on the political crisis in Burundi, which took place in Arusha. A few women were directly involved in the dialogue process, and the roadmap prepared for the last official session contains some of their views. Furthermore, they organized advocacy meetings with the AU, the East African Community and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to ask for their support. Through WO=MEN we facilitated an expert discussion on the situation in Burundi and the role of women in the peace process during the UNSCR 1325+18 week in October.
- Nadia Fournel from our SP partner *Association des Femmes Juristes* (AFJC) shared several stories on (S)GBV in the Central African Republic at a well-attended side event on the CAR during the UNSCR 1325+18 week, which was hosted by the Dutch embassy. The event attracted positive attention as policymakers in New York do not often have the chance to exchange experiences face-to-face with women from fragile countries. The exchange enabled the representatives to go into negotiations for the new MINUSCA mandate well informed when it came to gender, peace and security.
- A large delegation of SP program staff and local partners visited a number of organizations in Brussels. They discussed how we can improve cooperation with EU missions in the different countries with senior advisors of EEAS and DEVCO in Brussels. The delegation from Afghanistan also had a lengthy meeting with the special envoy for WPS at NATO.
- Our Congolese partner organization BEST participated in the OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains in Paris. In the subsequent workshop in Goma, the OECD's due diligence guidance was discussed and different initiatives for responsible mineral chains were analyzed, resulting in an agenda for action for national and international stakeholders.

Our thematic experts have the responsibility as international lobbyists to bring together international and national perspectives. For them it is important to have an accurate understanding of developments in SP countries and to translate that into strong messages suitable for the international policy arena. The lobbyists' work of linking national and international perspectives in turn strengthens the capacity of our SP partners and country teams to grasp the essence and relevance of policy discussion at the international level.

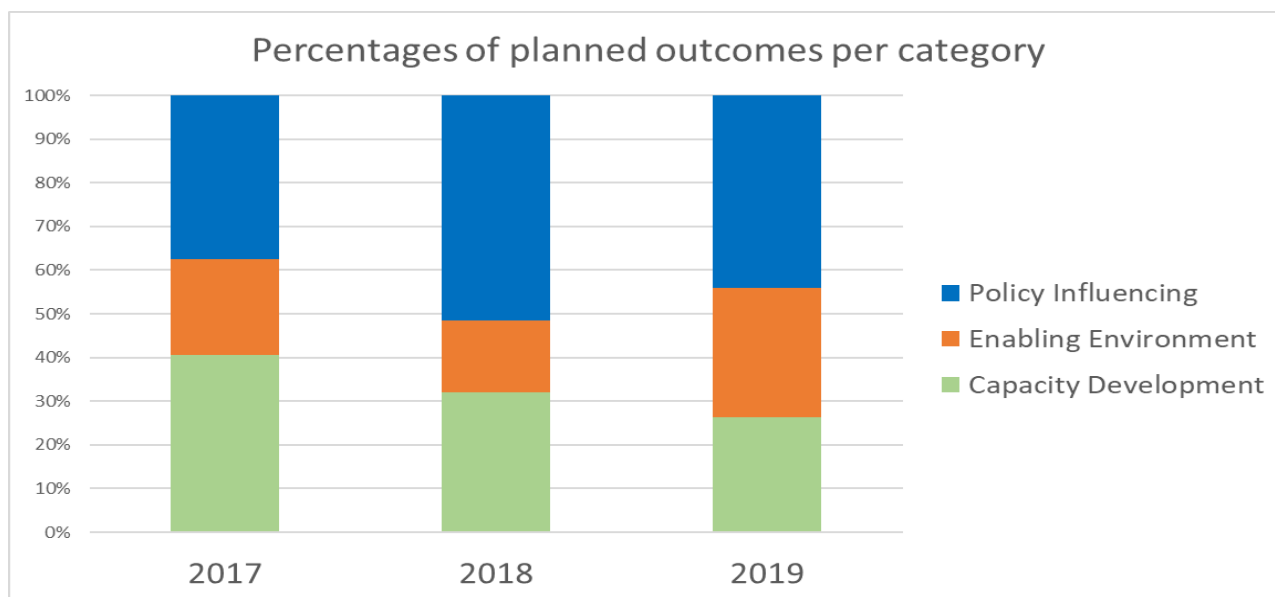
4. DRAWING LESSONS

4.1 Theory of Change and L&A strategies

Working with specific Theories of Change for the different trajectories per country is useful as input for our new planning. Our local partners prioritize the detailed outcomes that they want to achieve and the stakeholders that they wish to influence for each year. At the same time, all program partners fully appreciate that not all L&A can be planned – nor does it necessarily go according to plan. In quarterly meetings, the actual achieved outcomes are harvested and compared to the planned outcomes. The mid-term review conducted in 2018 confirmed the importance of our annual revision of the TOCs in strengthening the ownership of the program partners for the agreed-upon priorities and strategies. Our partners appreciate the use of TOCs, and we observed that they keep improving their capacity to use the TOCs for strategizing, reporting and learning.

Categorizing the planned outcomes in the TOCs reveals that the emphasis has changed over the last three years. The outcomes of the first year of the program, reflected that most of the work had focused on developing the capacity for lobby and advocacy. In 2017, as the program advanced, we observed a shift of attention towards policy influencing. This was reflected in outcomes such as the adoption of new policies and laws as well as improvements in the procedures and practices of existing policies. In the last round of adjustments to the TOCs, creating a favorable environment for engagement with decision-makers has become a priority. This may seem counterintuitive, however, experience has taught us that actively maintaining effective and lasting working relations becomes only *more* important as stakeholders engage in policy change. Many of the achievements presented in this report, as well as in the case studies in the annexes, describe the establishment and successes of networks, platforms and other forms of collaboration. In other words, the

relations between the state and civil society actors, or the building of a social contract, take a prominent place in all program activities and strategies.



4.2 Lobby and advocacy capacity

Our efforts to strengthen the lobby and advocacy capacity of our local partner organizations are crucial for achieving outcomes on policy influencing. Although the Cordaid country offices organize many training activities and workshops, our partners – and Cordaid staff as well for that matter – learn just as much through other methods, such as coaching, experience sharing and the quarterly reflection meetings. As in previous years, we carried out an organizational L&A capacity assessment for each partner organization. The combined capacity assessments for the various organizations resulted in a capacity development plan for each country. The scores on the different L&A capacities are obtained through a guided self-assessment and each score is discussed with the partner organization. While this assessment method does not give a completely independent and objective measure, it does stimulate critical reflection and provides a good indication of the strengths and weaknesses of each partner. We are happy to announce that the scores for 2018 are higher than those for 2017. In the box below we give a few examples of how improved capacity has led to more effective lobby strategies, which should ultimately improve lobby outcomes.

Box 1: Examples of effective capacity development

DRC: based on strategic advice received from the SP team, our partner *Action pour le Développement et la Paix endogènes* (ADEPAE) monitored the commitments made by their lobby targets and found an uptake of 70% of the policy recommendations that were discussed. Our partner *Action Humanitaire pour la Santé et Développement Communautaire* (AHUSADEC), taking the advice of the SP team, decided to strengthen its relations with state actors in North and South Kivu and is now considered a key player on the implementation of universal health coverage.

Nigeria: as a result of an advanced training activity on L&A, our partners diversified their L&A strategies. For instance, they jointly participated in public hearings at the National Assembly in Abuja to present a strong voice in legal reforms for better environmental governance; they organized a public awareness campaign and a protest march to highlight the need for an independent HYPREP; they had high-level policy dialogues with key stakeholders, including the Vice President's Office; and they carried out social media campaigns to raise awareness about the delay in the clean-up process in the Niger Delta.

International: the SP coordinators from the six countries, together with a group of partners from the WPS and extractives trajectories, received e-learning about lobbying at the EU, followed by a face-to-face session in The Hague. In the subsequent lobby meetings in Brussels, they were able to voice their concerns related to EU policy for their country and/or thematic area in a convincing way and make suggestions for improved EU policies.

ABOUT CORDAID

Cordaid strives to end poverty and exclusion. We do this in the world's most fragile and conflict-affected areas as well as in the Netherlands. We engage local communities to rebuild trust and resilience and increase people's self-reliance. Our professionals provide humanitarian assistance and create opportunities to improve security, healthcare and education, and stimulate inclusive economic growth. We are supported by 288,000 private donors in the Netherlands and by a worldwide partner network. This gives us the leverage and implementing power to solve problems and create structural change in the most challenging settings.

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ANNEXES: CASES

Annex 1: Youth participates in peace talks

AFGHANISTAN - Trajectory: Engendered Peace

In line with UN Security Council Resolution 2250, Cordaid and partner organisations in Afghanistan are lobbying to enhance youth participation in political arenas. The majority of the Afghan population is under 25 years old, but most of the administrative positions are occupied by elders. Young people have very few opportunities to voice their interests and needs.

In this dynamic, our local partner the Afghan Women's Network (AWN) established a committee named Youth as Peace Makers. It gathers 160 representatives of youth groups that AWN has set up in eight provinces: Kabul, Kandahar, Kunduz, Ningarhar, Paktia, Herat, Bamyán and Balkh. Girls are well represented in these groups. The youth groups hold monthly coordination meetings and regularly meet with the High Peace Council (HPC), a body of the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Program. They use these meetings to advocate for youth participation in the peace process and to promote peace issues in community development. The HPC has shown to be responsive to the youth groups and has invited them to workshops and events like the peace gatherings. The youth groups also meet with the Peace Councils at provincial level to discuss their needs.

Youth as Peace Makers carries out activities like media roundtables and campaigns, press conferences, coordination meetings with decision-makers, symposiums, and community gatherings. Following the international campaign of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence in November-December 2018, Youth as Peace Makers conducted a successful social media campaign on Facebook. AWN also created "Peace messengers", a group at the district level present in 40 districts. Both groups are advocating for the meaningful involvement of youth in the peace talks.

AWN is closely supervising Youth as Peace Makers and will continue to support the group by providing technical assistance, consultations and capacity development. At bimonthly meetings they discuss their action plans and activities to reinforce the engagement of Afghan youth. The collaboration supports access for young women and men in Afghanistan to State authorities, including representation in the ongoing peace talks in 2019-2020.

Annex 2: Stakeholders come together to improve justice in Afghanistan

AFGHANISTAN - Trajectory: Security and Access to Justice

In five provinces of Afghanistan - Balkh, Kandahar, Kunduz, Khost and Nangarhar – we have been strengthening the capacity of local CSOs and media organizations to interact with local justice institutions. They have been lobbying for more transparent and inclusive judicial procedures and for greater compliance with [international? human rights standards.

Partner organization SALAH signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Justice, the Attorney General's Office, the Independent Bar Association, the Afghan Women Judges Association, the provincial courts of five provinces, local CSOs, media organizations and community representatives. The purpose was to create a platform that engages key stakeholders in a regular dialogue about pressing justice issues. The MoU signatories have been meeting monthly to discuss violations of human rights that have occurred and to work on improving respect for international standards within the Afghan judicial sector.

Local CSOs and media organizations keep a record of human rights violations happening in their provinces and present these to the platform. The legal experts involved in the platform offer their interpretation and advise, after which the institution most competent to solve the issue is contacted and lobbied to take action. This advocacy happens very efficiently thanks to the wide range of key stakeholders that is involved in the platform. SALAH keeps a record of all human rights deviations that have been shared at platform meetings and shares relevant details with local CSOs. In its quarterly public reporting, statistical data on the human rights are publicized.

The platform has already achieved important results within the 30 months it has been active:

- In the past, CSOs were not allowed to attend court sessions, even if legislation allowed this. After lobbying by the platform, CSOs can now attend trials and take notes in all five provinces.
- Women are better represented in the judiciary. Three women judges have been appointed to the primary court in Kunduz province, which never had any female judges.
- Justice actors are now obliged to wear a uniform during the court sessions in Balkh province.
- Another result for the Balkh province is that the accused are no longer hand-cuffed during the court hearings, thus respecting the civil-criminal procedures.
- Since mid-2018, the SALAH platform has started focusing more on engaging conventional media (TV & radios) and social media (Facebook & Twitter). They have broadcast and disseminated activities organized by the platform such as roundtable discussions on legal empowerment, human rights standards and violations, and the strengths and weaknesses of provincial justice institutions.
- Link to the Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/salah.afghanistan/>

Annex 3: Increasing women's participation by easing access to finance

BURUNDI - Trajectory: Engendered Peace

Program partners AFRABU, REJA and ADISCO organized workshops to raise the awareness of officials on the importance of women's and youth's access to decision making processes. The longer-term goal is to promote the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2250 on youth and 1325 on women, peace and security. The workshops were attended by several State officials, including representatives from the Bank of the Republic of Burundi and the Network of Microcredit Institutions (RIM). They were all handed a political manifest at the closure of the workshops, urging them to implement measures for a better inclusion of women.

To assess the effectiveness of the lobbying strategy, AFRABU visited some of the institutions that participated in the workshops, to see whether any initiatives were taken to enhance the inclusion of women in their activities and policies. Several positive and encouraging actions had indeed been taken. The RIM, which had never emphasized access to microcredit for women, had changed their policy and decided to facilitate women's and youth's access to credit through micro-loans. The loans will be available to women's cooperatives within the communities. This is in line with the National Strategy for Financial Inclusion for 2015-2020 to enhance women's financial autonomy.

A second example is that the Bank of the Republic of Burundi has started trainings in basic financial management skills for women with low incomes living in rural areas. This is a very important initiative given most rural women's lack of autonomy over financial matters and very limited access to financial means. The laws in Burundi also fail to protect women's (access to) financial resources: women usually do not inherit any property or capital, not even their husband's land. Men usually are in charge of household income and spending. Increasing access to funds for women therefore challenges societal norms.

The changes in policies of the RIM and the Bank of the Republic of Burundi are unexpected outcomes that are only indirectly related to the main goal of increasing women's participation in peace and security dialogues. AFRABU will continue its engagement at a political level. It will also support communities to link up with their political representatives, in order to change societal values and norms regarding women's participation.

Annex 4: The elaboration of mechanism for the provision of legal aid

BURUNDI - Trajectory: Security and Access to Justice

Accessing justice is complicated for many people in Burundi. It is expensive and technical, hence requires significant funds and a basic understanding of the law. Cordaid and local partners conducted a range of lobby and advocacy activities, both at the community and government level, to help improve people's access to justice. First, to raise the awareness of community members about their legal rights, we organised several workshops about property and family law, which are the legal areas of most concern to them.

Secondly, our local partners organised community campaigns, which meant that sixteen Members of Parliament, who together form the Justice Commission, visited several communities and engaged in direct dialogue with over 300 community members. People expressed their concerns and needs for gaining better access to justice. Key barriers they stressed included a lack of funding for judicial assistance and legal aid services, and the lack of accountability by justice actors, especially judges, in cases of corruption. The dialogue has contributed to a constructive engagement of the MPs on these issues.



A citizen with a disability addresses issues of access to justice for vulnerable groups during the campaign with MPs.

As a third step, the program partners discussed the outcomes of these meetings with officials at the Ministry of Justice. They focused on two issues: the composition of the Ministry's technical commission on legal assistance, and the government budget for legal aid.

The Ministry of Justice's technical commission on legal assistance is exclusively composed of members of the government. This is not in line with the international standards set in the Paris Declaration, which require the inclusion of lawyers of the Bar Association and a fair representation of CSO members. Lobby with the help of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Burundi resulted in a proposal for a new decree that regulates the composition and tasks of the commission. Following this decree, Barreau, the Bar Association and new partner in the SP program, will become a member of the technical commission. The commission's main job will be to establish and analyse the criteria for legal aid.

In addition to the above-mentioned new decree, discussions with the Ministry of Justice also led to a proposal for an increase in the commission's budget in order to facilitate better access to legal assistance, in particular free legal assistance for vulnerable beneficiaries such as orphans and disabled people. Parliament is yet to decide on both proposals. The budget increase for legal aid is proving the most challenging, and still awaits approval by Parliament.

The program's main achievement in 2018 is that the Ministry of Justice actively supports the process of legal reform. The sixteen MPs of the parliamentary Justice Commission have committed themselves to pushing for a budget increase for

legal aid. Unfortunately, their support has so far not tipped the vote in parliament. The next vote is scheduled for June-July.

Our partner organizations Observatoire de l'Action Gouvernementale (OAG) and Barreau will continue lobbying for improved access to legal aid in 2019. In addition, they are putting together a guide for paralegals that clarifies their roles as well as a manual on legal assistance for judicial commissions, which will be distributed and used by key stakeholders involved in legal aid this year.

Annex 5: High Schools students organize themselves to tackle (S)GBV

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - Trajectory: Engendered Peace

Cordaid and partner organization Cercle des Théologiennes (CERCLE) work together to address the issue of widespread sexual and gender-based violence in the Central African Republic (CAR). Our awareness-raising campaigns especially target the youth. CERCLE organized sensitization campaigns during the 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence in November-December 2018. An open lecture and discussion animated by CERCLE was attended by ANEEH, a large student association that is recognized by the Ministry of Education and which focuses on defending the rights of disabled students. They are often the target of (S)GBV and therefore strongly motivated to fight (S)GBV in schools. Following this event, ANEEH and CERCLE decided to work together.

With CERCLE's support, ANEEH has built the first unit to fight (S)GBV in the Miskine High School of Bangui. This unit will help survivors to raise their voices and share their stories. They will organize activities and events to raise awareness on the issue among fellow students. CERCLE and ANEEH plan to create a network by establishing similar units in five high schools in Lobaye and Bangui.

The initiative to create these units is well aligned with a wider government program aimed at eliminating (S)GBV by prevention and awareness-raising activities in schools. In 2017, after successful lobbying by CERCLE, the Ministry of Education established a Cellule Nationale mandated to combat (S)GBV within the education system. The Ministry of Education, following a Presidential Decree, has included (S)GBV prevention in the high school's curriculum. By establishing (S)GBV units in the schools, students will have a physical place to go to for support, and to find committed fellow students and teachers to work with in their joint fight against (S)GBV within schools and communities.

Annex 6: A step forward towards reconciliation in CAR

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - Trajectory: Security and Access to Justice

The main flaw of the judicial system in the CAR is impunity. Institutions are not strong enough to ensure that perpetrators are convicted for their crimes and that victims are provided redress. Together with our local partners we support survivors of the violent conflict in the country in seeking justice.

Our partner organisation LCDH (Ligue Centrafricaine des Droits de l'Homme) together with the associations of survivors AVED and ASVI, organised a day of reflection on how security in the CAR can be improved. Government officials from the Ministries of Justice, Humanitarian Action, Defence and Public Security listened to the testimonies of survivors of violence. The day was followed by more lobbying and advocacy meetings with the Ministries. Our partners have put forward four main recommendations to the government:

- Create a fund to ensure that victims of violence receive reparations (Ministry of Justice)
- Investigate the type of reparations that victims wish to receive (Ministry of Justice)
- Provide fast and effective assistance to victims of violence in situations of urgent need (Ministry of Humanitarian Action)
- Provide targeted assistance to ensure the safety and improve the security situation of urban and rural populations (Ministries of Defence and Public Safety)

After extensive lobby efforts with senior officials of the Ministries it was agreed to establish a committee tasked with giving follow-up to the recommendations. The fourteen members of the committee include representatives from the concerned Ministries, survivors represented by AVED and ASVI, as well as two representatives from LCDH. They will meet monthly to plan and assess progress on the implementation of the recommendations. Achieving the ambitious recommendations will require long-term commitment.

The committee's visible power is as yet limited. However, it constitutes a stable platform for CSOs to voice the concerns of the survivors of violence and to build a constructive dialogue with the concerned Ministries. Such dialogue is critical for the reconciliation process in the CAR.

Annex 7: Fighting (S)GBV in universities of the DRC

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Trajectory: Inclusive and engendered peace

Cordaid and our partner CEHAJ 1325 organized a sensitization campaign about the participation of women and youth in peace and security processes in seven universities in the capital Kinshasa. An important topic of the campaign was the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence.

The campaign had a tangible impact. Students decided to build networks within the universities to encourage survivors of (S)GBV to step forward, share their experiences, and contribute to fighting (S)GBV together. With the support of CEHAJ 1325 and Cordaid, seven networks are now operational at universities in Kinshasa while two more are being created.

The network members are raising awareness among students and teachers about (S)GBV prevention, gender issues and the importance of political participation of women and youth. Victims of (S)GBV can contact the networks for support. In cases of student harassment, network members inform and consult with the teachers union and the university management to ensure non-repetition. The networks see their main role in mediation to address (S)GBV within the universities; they are certainly not a substitute for legal action. That mediation can be effective was proven when a professor who harassed a student was demoted after interference by the university network.

The fact that students have responded so proactively to the campaign is an important achievement for Cordaid's trajectory in the DRC. By creating the opportunity and a space for girls and young women to come forward and share their experiences, contributes to making the universities a safer place for them. The presence of the university networks, initiated by students themselves, promotes youth awareness on (S)GBV and means that a generation of future decision-makers is made aware of the challenges caused by (S)GBV. (See this [video](#) made by the students.)

In 2019, CEHAJ 1325 and Cordaid will continue to support the student networks by providing trainings and workshops to reinforce their efforts in preventing and fighting (S)GBV in Kinshasa's academic environment. We also intend to support the networks in obtaining formal recognition from the university management for the important role they have come to play.

Annex 8: Including communities in local security plans: the South Kivu example

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Trajectory: Security and Access to Justice

With our lobby and advocacy efforts to enhance local security, ADEPAE and Cordaid contributed to the deployment of police officers in a number of rural and remote zones in South Kivu where communities have been facing high levels of insecurity.

Field research conducted by our partner organization ADEPAE in 2017 and 2018 revealed a limited presence of police officers in the rural parts of South Kivu. ADEPAE and Cordaid consequently lobbied and organized several work sessions with the Senior Provincial Commissioner and the Deputy Senior Commissioner of Police in Fizi Territory. The response

was positive: the Deputy decided to set up three new police stations and deployed 36 police officers in agro-pastoral zones of the Fizi Territory.

ADEPAE and Cordaid also supported the establishment and work of the Conseils Locaux de Sécurité de Proximité (CLSP, or Local Security Counsels) in the chiefdoms of Buhavu, Bafuliru, Ngandja, Minembwe and Itombwe. This was done in compliance with the Prime Minister's Decree No. 13/041 of 2013 that was enacted as part of the reform of the police. In addition to the five new CLSPs, eight Sub-chiefdom and Village Forums were created and are currently operating with active participation of both men and women representing the communities.

In 2019, Cordaid and partner organizations ADEPAE and SOS IJM will follow up closely on the installation of the CLSPs and focus on strengthening the active participation of community members, especially women, in this new framework of local security management. ADEPAE will also evaluate the communities' satisfaction with the functioning of the councils. With a view to enhancing the sustainability of the CLSPs, the program partners will lobby the governor of South Kivu to create a provincial CLSP fund to finance CLSP activities and meetings.

Annex 9: A new provincial law promotes access to healthcare in North Kivu

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Trajectory: Health

In 2017, partner organisation AHUSADEC conducted field research in North Kivu to identify the challenges that hamper people's access to basic healthcare. What proved to be a major obstacle was the lack of adequate health policies at provincial level as well as access to quality healthcare at community level.

Based on these findings, Cordaid and AHUSADEC decided to lobby the members of the provincial parliament of North Kivu for the adoption of a new law on the issue. Through regular meetings and thematic work sessions, AHUSADEC and Cordaid provided technical support to the MPs in writing a bill on improved access to health care. This resulted in the Provincial Edict 003/2018 adopted by the MPs and subsequently enacted by the governor on July 9, 2018.



AHUSADEC experts investigating obstacles to access to basic healthcare

However, for this new law to be fully effective, implementation decrees are required that regulate the functioning of the provincial Health Cooperatives system. AHUSADEC and Cordaid successfully lobbied the governor of North Kivu, who enacted two provincial decrees: Decree 01/141/CAB/GP-NK/2018 on the functioning of the Provincial Commission in

charge of the coordination of the Health Cooperatives (CPCM) and Decree 01/266/CAB/GP-NK/2018 on appointing the members of the technical sub-commission of the CPCM and assigning a budget for the Health Cooperatives system in North Kivu. The provincial parliament approved a budget line for the new health framework which will be administered by the CPCM.

Together with AHUSADEC, we are in a good position to follow up closely on these important achievements as both our organizations have been given observer status in the CPCM. We will continue to provide technical and administrative support for the full implementation of the Provincial Edict. The creation of a provincial fund to support the work of the health cooperatives is being discussed with the CPCM, the provincial government and the provincial parliament. Two draft Provincial Decrees, one for a Provincial Mutual Fund Management Unit and the other on tax collection for the Provincial Mutual Fund have been drawn up. We will lobby the newly elected members of the provincial parliament and government to strengthen their commitment to the implementation of the Health Cooperatives system.

Simultaneously, we will also invest in raising the awareness of local communities on the new health framework to encourage and support their engagement with the health cooperatives. We are hopeful that the successes in North Kivu will serve as an inspiring example for the expansion of Universal Health Coverage in other provinces of the DRC.

Annex 10: HYPREP and CSOs cooperate for the clean-up of Ogoniland

NIGERIA - Trajectory: Extractives

The oil pollution clean-up in Ogoniland has been a challenge for the last 40 years. In 2011, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) released a report on the clean-up of the Niger Delta and Ogoniland, estimating the operation will take 25 to 30 years. The contamination of rivers, creeks and ground water caused by oil extraction has had severe impacts on the area's environment and ecosystem as well as on the health of the Ogoni people.

In 2016, responding to the guidelines of the UNEP report, the Nigerian government created HYPREP (the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project), which is mandated to organize the clean-up. In the following year, an escrow account for HYPREP was established to warehouse the operational funds for the clean-up. These measures raised the expectations of many that a serious start would soon be made with the much-awaited clean-up.

This initial enthusiasm has since waned and many stakeholders criticize the slow implementation of the clean-up process. Communities feel that their concerns, including access to safe drinking water, are not heard and CSOs notice a lack of cooperation by HYPREP with civil society.

The eight SP program partners have lobbied HYPREP, the Office of the Vice President, and the Ministry of Environment, to address the issues that are delaying the implementation of the emergency measures and clean-up. Engagements with HYPREP by individual partner organizations and collectively as a group, have helped to establish a working relationship between HYPREP and CSOs working on the Niger Delta issues. HYPREP has come to recognize and appreciate the importance of working with CSOs for effectively delivering its mandate. The agency has set up a CSO Desk to coordinate its collaboration with civil society.

The Strategic Partnership has also been urging and supporting HYPREP to step up its engagement with local communities, especially those impacted by oil spills. We have shared the findings of studies showing the dissatisfaction of communities with HYPREP. At a recent workshop organized by a program partner, HYPREP admitted to weaknesses in their engagement with community-based organizations and assured that they would improve their communication with them. The agency's Communication and Community Engagement unit has consequently been tasked with developing and executing a communications plan in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

SP partners and HYPREP are currently discussing the development of key performance indicators (KPIs) for the implementation of the clean-up. The CSOs emphasize the need for indicators that are relevant to the affected communities and that guarantee accountability of the clean-up process on the part of HYPREP. HYPREP and the SP partners will be meeting every quarter to keep a close watch on the development and fulfilment of these key performance indicators.

Annex 11: Local groups and networks help to fight SGBV

SOUTH SUDAN - Trajectory: Engendered Peace

In several communities in the Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal regions working groups on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) have been established to help women come forward with their stories and report cases for redress. The working groups consist of traditional leaders, representatives of faith-based organizations and youth groups, and are assisted by partner organizations of the SP program. The groups hold monthly meetings, during which they follow up on issues raised and on the cases reported during the awareness raising. Some examples of actions taken by the working groups are:

- In Gudele, Munuki, Torit and Lirya, the working groups engaged local decision-makers in dialogues and radio talk shows.
- In Magwi, two by-laws on domestic violence and abuse of alcohol were adopted by the traditional Chiefs.
- In Wau, a dialogue between community members and security actors led to the decision to establish a new police post. Partner organization CEPO initiated a CSO network in Wau. This network cooperates closely with the different working groups and provides updates on the activities and achievements of the groups to the Ministry of Gender. These monthly updates contribute to creating awareness about SGBV among politicians and members of parliament. The idea is that this will contribute to linking action against SGBV at the local and national levels.



CEPO Campaign "Girls are not brides"

The CSO network collaborates with a broader SGBV coalition, in which government line ministries and institutions, national NGOs, international NGOs and UN agencies are represented. This collaboration provides an opportunity to civil society actors participating in the working groups, such as local leaders and youth, to exercise wider influence. CEPO coordinates the coalition and will also be training coalition members on lobbying and advocacy, mobilization within communities, and a better understanding of the UNSC Resolutions 1325, 1820 and 1889 on women's participation, which are implemented through the National Action Plan (NAP1325).

At the legislative level, the working groups and the CSOs network in Wau have joined forces with UNMISS (United Nations Mission in South Sudan) and the International Medical Corps (IMC), in presenting a draft Family Law to the

State Minister of Gender. The draft law incorporates issues raised by women from local communities, for instance on child protection.

Another lobby priority for the SGBV working groups is to improve the functioning of the Special Protection Units (SPUs). These units are part of the police force at state level and were created in 2015 thanks to lobbying by CEPO and UNMISS. Currently, however, only a limited number of these SPUs are operational, and others have limited capacity and impact. In Nimule, for instance, on average 20 to 35 SGBV cases are registered every two months with the SPU, but only a handful of these cases receive follow up. Measures taken by the police to tackle SGBV are insufficient and the functioning of the SPUs is undermined by a lack of leadership commitment within the police. Funds intended for the SPUs are often diverted and trained police officers from the SPUs are regularly transferred to other units. There are also positive signs: thanks to the lobby by the working groups the SPUs in Wau and Munuki police station (Juba) show an improved response rate to complaints filed by SGBV survivors. The SPU in Juba referred most reported cases to court.

Employing various lobby and advocacy strategies to address SGBV through networks and coalitions has resulted into some improved service provision to SGBV survivors, but in the difficult context of South Sudan continuous efforts are necessary to tackle (S)GBV.

Annex 12: The challenges of the enforcement of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act

SOUTH SUDAN - Trajectory: Extractives

In South Sudan, oil is an important resource. However, the revenues of exploitation are not administered in a transparent manner and are not benefitting local communities. In 2013, the Petroleum Revenue Management Act was approved, stipulating that 3% of net oil revenues should be allocated to the communities and 2% to the the government of the oil-producing State. The enforcement of this measure would mean a big step forward towards reducing poverty among the Southern Sudanese population. Cordaid and its local partner organizations have therefore been advocating for the enforcement of the Act and several members of parliament have committed themselves to this.

In order to support the advocacy with evidence-based data, our partner organization Sudd Institute conducted research and wrote a report on environmental pollution by the oil industry and shared its findings at a forum for petroleum stakeholders in Juba. At this forum, representatives from the communities and youth groups from Melut met with stakeholders of the oil sector and discussed how to reduce the environmental hazards caused by oil spills. They shared their observations of the effects of pollution, which include children being born with deformities, blindness, skin problems, impotence, death of animals and reduced harvests.

The findings of the report were also presented to the National Assembly by the Chairperson of the Petroleum Committee in Parliament. This prompted the house to set up a committee to go to the oil producing states and verify the claims made by the community. The committee indeed substantiated the claims by the communities. Five national ministers and one state governor were summoned to appear before parliament to explain why they had not taken adequate measures to control the large-scale pollution caused by oil exploration in the oil producing states. The summoned ministers included the Minister of Finance, Taxation and Economic planning; Environment; Petroleum; Health; and Justice, as well as the Governor of Upper Nile. However, the ministers failed to appear before parliament, which threatened to impeach them. Unfortunately, despite the fact that regulations for impeachment are in place, parliament lacks the power to enforce it unless supported by the President who nominates the ministers.

In order to gain further support, Sudd Institute convened a meeting with the 13 MPs from the oil producing areas. At this meeting, our partner presented its study on the failing implementation of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act. assessment of the. The MPs responded that the presentation was an eye-opener to them. They wished they had had the information when the Minister of Finance and Planning presented the budget in 2018, so that they could have insisted on receiving the lawful 2% (for the state government) and 3% (for the communities) of net petroleum revenues. They requested Sudd to continue supporting them with information and promised to insist on full incorporation of the oil revenues share within the 2019/2020 budgeting phase of the national government. Due to the formation process of the transitional government, the vote for the budget has been postponed to June 2019, and might be delayed even further.



State legislators and community leaders after a consultative meeting on oil pollution in Bentiu

Engagement with politicians is also sought at state level. Our partner AMA has translated the Petroleum Act into the local Dinka and Nuer languages. They disseminated 2525 copies of the translated Act to build awareness with community leaders in Bentiu on environmental pollution in their area. As a next step, AMA facilitated meetings between communities and MPs at the state level. The state MPs resolved to form an Assembly Caucus on environmental conservation that will meet regularly. In 2019, MPs from oil-producing states will visit Juba in order to relate the concerns of their communities to national MPs.

Achieving the full enforcement of the Act will be a long process given the instable situation of South Sudan, which has known war for over 30 years. Decision-making up to the highest political levels is often non-transparent and guided by financial interests. Although pressure by MPs and parliament has not had the desired outcome yet, the considerable influence of our lobbying highlights the importance of keeping up political pressure to ensure that the Petroleum Act becomes more than a paper reality. When managed in a transparent way, oil extraction could be a solid resource for stimulating development of both the State and the population.