



**Norwegian People's Aid**

# PROGRESS REPORT 2020

Cooperation Agreement between  
Norwegian People's Aid and Norad 2020-2024



# CONTENTS

<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 Results</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 The global pandemic	5
2.2 Decision-makers' policies and practices changed (CS)	6
2.3 People and communities acted and participated to influence	18
2.4 Civil society organisations strengthened to influence	22
2.5 Result examples, Civil Society for Reduced Inequality	27
2.6 Oil for the Common Good (South Sudan, Mozambique and Myanmar)	46
2.7 BREL - Building Resilience and Livelihoods in South Sudan	52
2.8 Project implementation	54
<b>3 Overview of finances</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>4 Date and attestation</b>	<b>65</b>

# INTRODUCTION

Name of grant recipient: **Norwegian People's Aid**

Norad agreement number: **QZA-0878 QZA-19/0262**

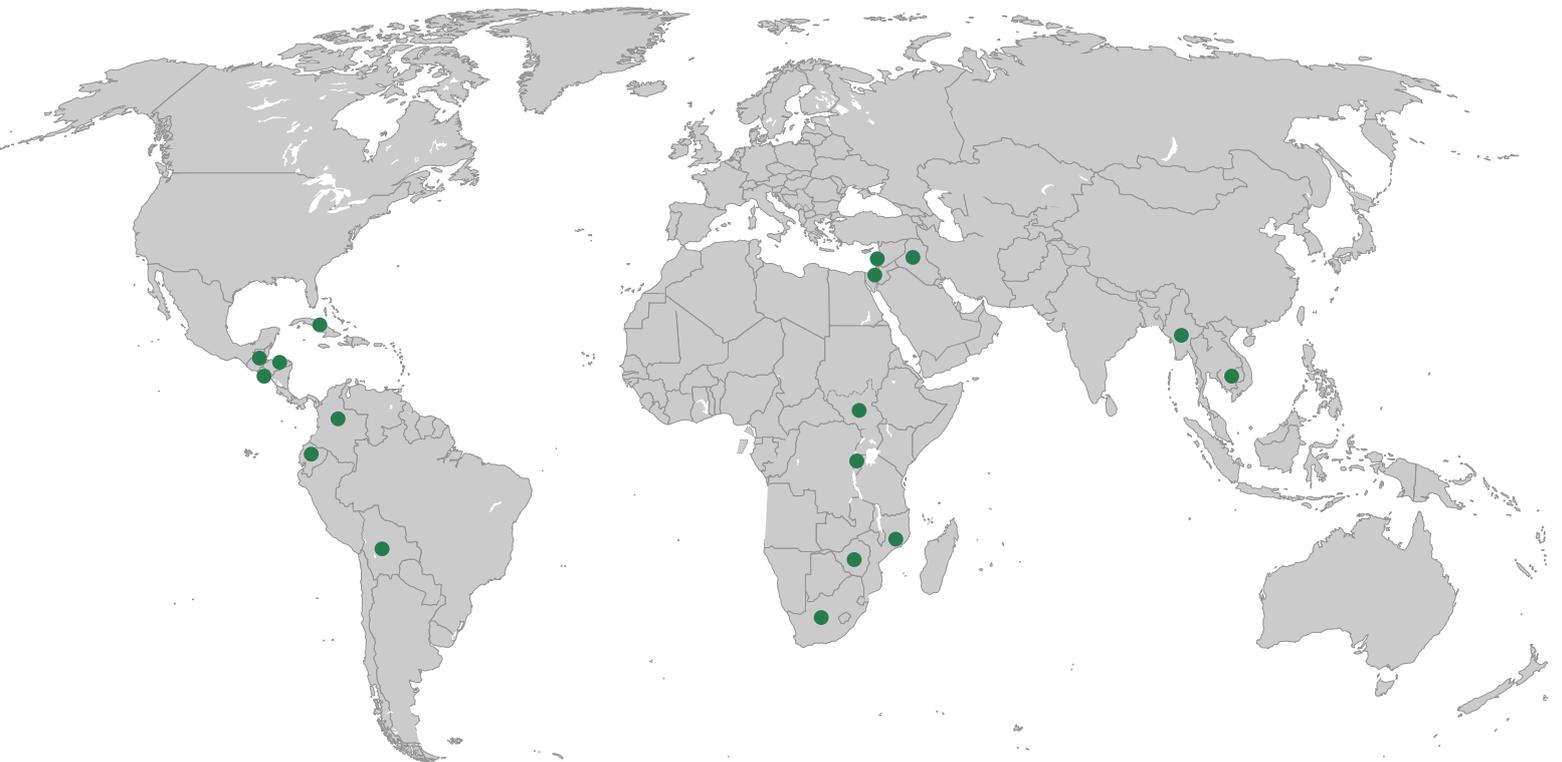
Agreement period: **2020-2024**

Reporting year: **Progress Report 2020**

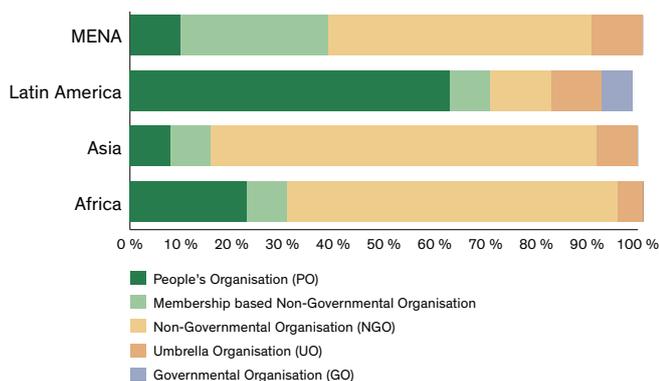
Norwegian People's Aid's programmes in the Cooperation Agreement with Norad, particularly contribute to SDG 10 Reduced inequality, as we actively work against discrimination based on gender, ethnicity and/or class. NPA also enhances equal rights to economic resources, access to basic services, ownership and control over land and natural resources, in line with SDG 1 and 2, an end to all discrimination and violence against women and girls, in line with SDG 5, and to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels, in line with SDG 16.

**N**orwegian People's Aid (NPA) is a politically independent membership-based organisation working in Norway and in more than 30 countries around the world. Founded in 1939 as the labour movement's humanitarian solidarity organisation, NPA adheres to the fundamental values of the labour movement: unity,

solidarity and human dignity. NPA's values are equal rights for all, irrespective of sex, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability and social status. "Solidarity in action" is our vision, and characterises our work and engagement. Our work is based on solidarity, not charity.



Countries where NPA has programmes that are included in the Cooperation Agreement with Norad: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Cuba, Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq.

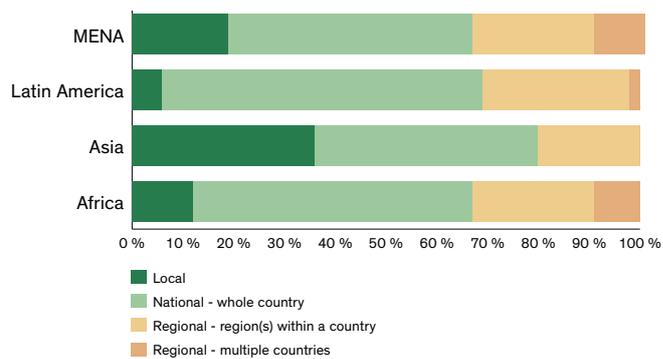


Type of partner organisation % share of partners per region

NPA believes that unequal power relations and unequal distribution of resources in society cause poverty, conflict and injustice. Therefore, we prioritise to work to reduce inequality. Inequalities in power relations and resources are complex; hence, we consider it necessary to focus on different forms of inequalities, including economic, political and social inequalities. It is important to address inequality both between individuals and between groups to avoid systematic discrimination or marginalisation of certain groups of people or individuals. Democratic processes are important to reduce inequality, but holding elections is not enough. Democratisation processes relies on civil society actors, men and women, with capacity to engage in collective action, defend the interests of their constituencies, hold decision makers accountable and advocate for an equitable society.

NPA firmly believes that popular organising, to enhance peoples' participation, influence decision-making, and challenge power structures, is key to reduce inequality and unfair distribution of resources. Popular mobilisation and collective organising is essential to ensure lasting change, and organisations rooted in their social, cultural and political context are best placed to mobilise people for just distribution and claim rights from decision-makers. Inequality affects marginalised people most, therefore we prioritise to engage with people's organisations representing marginalised groups, but we also cooperate with NGOs, umbrella organisations and networks, who can support popular organising, and through complementary methods contribute to reduced economic, political and social inequality.

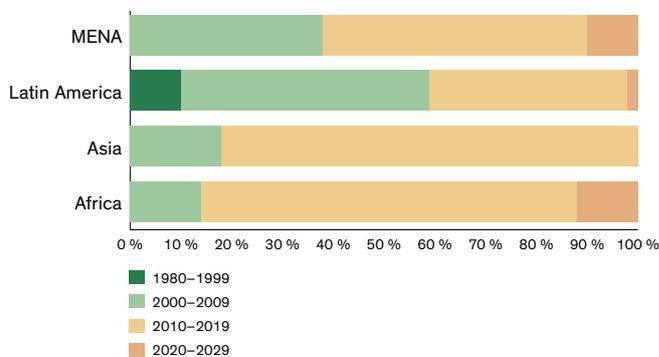
NPA signed a new Cooperation Agreement with Norad in 2020 for the period 2020-2024. The agreement covers three programmes; Civil Society for Reduced Inequality (CS), includes 17 country programmes, a regional programme in MENA, and the global programme GLII (Global Learning and Innovation Initiative). Oil for the Common Good (OCG) programmes operate in Mozambique, South Sudan and Myanmar, as part of Oil for Development, and Building Resilience and Enhanced Livelihoods (BREL) in South Sudan. The latter is financed over the Regional Funds budget line.



Partner organisations' scope of work. % share of partners per region

In 2020, Norwegian People's Aid supported 175 partners in 17 countries through the CS and OCG programmes the Cooperation Agreement. The BREL programme has 13 partners.

We have structured the Progress Report for 2020 in three chapters. The **first chapter is an Introduction** to NPA and the programmes in the Cooperation Agreement, including graphic profiles of our partners. The **second chapter on Results** is split in eight sections. The first section briefly presents the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on programmes and partners. The second section presents how partners in the CS programme have sought, and achieved, to influence decision-making in their particular contexts. The third section reflects on CS partners' capacity to mobilise target group around common issues, and the achievements made. The fourth section reflects on CS partners' capacity to organise people with a common cause, and achievements made in strengthening competencies and capacities. The fifth section presents selected result examples from each CS country programme. The sixth section presents results from the three **OCG** programmes. The seventh section presents results from the **BREL** programme in South Sudan. The eighth section reflects on Project Implementation, including cost efficiency. **Chapter three is an Overview of finances.**



Time period of partnership establishment % share of partners per region

# RESULTS

**N**PA's vision for this programme is “a society with just distribution of power and resources”. In such a society, economic, political and social inequalities are low, the majority of its citizens consider the distribution of resources to be fairly just, and people do not experience discrimination based on gender, class or ethnicity. People have the right to organise, participate and express their opinions in a climate of respect and safety, and possibilities to hold decision-makers accountable and influence the development of their societies.

The strategies partners use to influence for a more just distribution of power and resources differ, depending on the context they work in and on the type of organisation they are, and NPA has designed its programmes to support partners in their strategies adapted to context. They may present policy proposals to decision-makers, conduct campaigns, organise mobilisations, take legal action to challenge breach of human rights committed by authorities or others, or facilitate dialogue meetings - often in alliances with other likeminded organisations. Some partners mobilise target groups to stand up for their rights, challenge decision-makers, and combat discrimination. NPA's assumption is that civil society actors are more effective and sustainable in their efforts to influence if they are organised. Organising has shown to be an effective tool for marginalised people to assert power. NPA's main method in supporting popular organising is to contribute to their organisational development based on the organisations' own priorities and ways of working.

In the following sections we will present partners strategies and achievements in 2020, within the three outcome areas: Decision-makers' policies and practices changed (2.2), People and communities from the target group acted and participated to influence (2.3), and Civil society organisations strengthened to influence (2.4)

However, first, some overall reflections on the impacts of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which turned the world upside down in 2020.

## 2.1 The global pandemic

The measures introduced by authorities to meet the COVID-19 pandemic varied from country to country. However, most countries had quarantine regulations and lockdowns. Even when these were lifted in many countries, the pandemic itself made it necessary to live with precautions. The pandemic has enhanced inequalities, some have gained and others have lost, and already marginalised groups, like most of those NPA works with, have been severely affected, posing new challenges for the organisations. Democratic challenges already existing became more severe during the pandemic. At the same time, organisational gatherings, public meetings and protests are

crucial to agree on agendas and push for change, hence, the pandemic deprived the organisations of some of their most important tools to influence.

The implications for partners' plans, and their responses to the crisis varied, but there are some common trends. Country programmes report that the activities mostly affected were related to travels and face-to-face assemblies of people, such as training programmes, board meetings, and congresses, as well as street mobilisations, cultural events, exchange visits and meetings with authorities at different levels.

In all country programmes the pandemic has affected women differently. Domestic violence and gender-based violence, particularly affecting women and girls, increased dramatically during the quarantines and lockdowns. Further, women constitute the majority among health workers, making them particularly exposed to contamination, and in the informal sector, where many have lost their livelihood and income. Women also bear the main burden of reproductive tasks at home, such as looking after children and elderly, and searching for water, food and basic household goods.

Partners in all country programmes have shown an impressive ability to adapt to the situation. They have used digital meeting spaces to maintain organisational practices and developed digital training platforms. They have provided information, advice, and educational campaigns related to the pandemic, often in local or indigenous languages. They have promoted the importance of healthy food production and consumption, delivered food and protection materials to vulnerable communities and community members, distributed seeds and agricultural inputs, and established online mental and emotional health support. They have revised campaigns and advocacy work, using printed materials, community radio programmes, SoMe (social media) and web sites. They have influenced decision-making and denounced anti-social government policies, held authorities accountable for policies and practice, monitored human rights abuses, and initiated awareness campaigns on human rights.

Partners' responses to the crisis will be reflected in the following sections, and many of the result examples illustrates how partners dealt with issues that arose during the pandemic.

For instance, in **South Africa**, Women on Farms (WoF), in cooperation with SERI and other organisations, challenged the unfairness in that workers in precarious employment, like farmworkers, were excluded from applying for benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund - and won. In **Cuba**, the TTIB workshops coordinated local solidarity

work and helped state institutions reach the most vulnerable neighbourhoods in Havana. In **Honduras**, Ofraneh, together with people in the Garifuna communities, organised community health houses and health committees in 36 communities, using ancestral indigenous knowledge, to face the pandemic. In **El Salvador**, Equipo Maiz adapted its training methodologies and advocacy work to maintain the social struggle during the pandemic. In **Lebanon**, due to the pandemic, the Beirut blast and the general economic collapse, people could no longer afford migrant domestic workers and thousands were thrown out to the streets without income and food. The Anti-Racism Movement (ARM) provided emergency support and advocated for their right to be evacuated.

## 2.2 Decision-makers' policies and practices changed (CS)

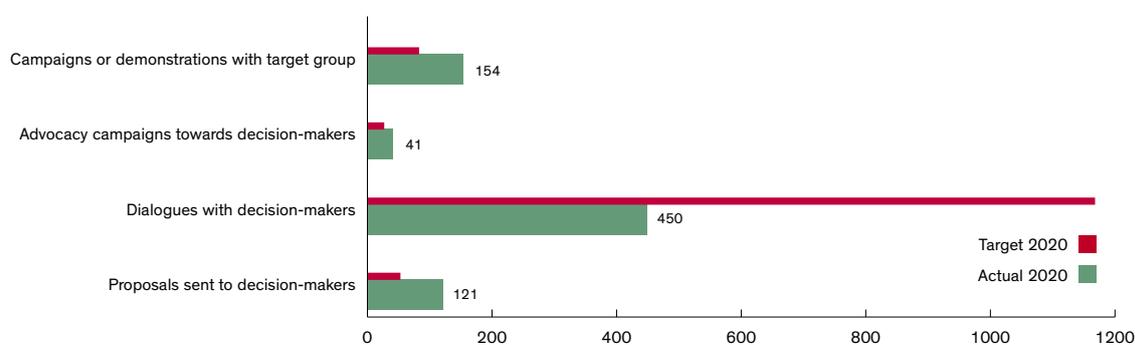
In 2020, partners presented 121 policy proposals to decision-makers. This exceeded the expected target, and was an effect of COVID-19 restrictions that led to needed policy changes. For the same reason, partners organised more campaigns than expected, with a total of 27 advocacy campaigns and 83 mobilisation campaigns. Although the campaigns were more in number, each of them involved less people due to the pandemic. Partners held fewer dialogue meetings than expected, 450 in total, mainly as the COVID-19 situation restricted access to decision-makers.

Setting targets on political influence is challenging for a number of reasons. Policy amendments are difficult to foresee, political change is often more time consuming than anticipated, a change of government, a tighter political climate, or a natural disaster may cause delays, and a global pandemic may have unexpected consequences.

NPA's partners vary according to type of organisation, size, capacities and space to influence. For some, presenting a policy proposal is an achievement, for others the achievement is to influence decision-making. In some countries, partners find that influencing national politics is risky or impossible, whilst there are more opportunities at municipal or regional level. In some countries, the political space is relatively inclusive, and influencing decision-making is the order of the day, whilst in others it is closed, people and organisations are victims of persecution and prosecution, and maintaining a minimum of activities to uphold the existence of the organisation is an achievement in itself.

For NPA, local ownership to change processes is key. NPA's focus is on supporting partners' organisational development and priorities, not to support predefined thematic areas. Partners define their political agendas based on local priorities in their specific context. Hence, there is a variety of issues partners engage in, but some topics are common; rights and access to land and other natural resources, minorities and indigenous people's rights, gender equality and violence against women, the right to organise and mobilise, and freedom of expression.

NPA's partners work in very different contexts, but common for all is extreme political, economic and social inequality. The majority of our partners operate in fragile and politically unstable contexts, where the space for civil society is limited due to pressure from government, opposition groups, military, para-military and/or the corporate sector. Some partners operate under war-like conditions, some in societies where companies use violence against people defending their rights, and some in countries with long-term repressive regimes. In 2020, the global COVID-19 pandemic added to the challenges.



Number of advocacy actions by partners. Outputs ontributing to outcome 3.1 - Changes in decision-makers/policies

Below, we present some examples of efforts partners have embarked on in the 2020 to influence political decision-making in their countries, reflecting the contexts they operate in and the achievements made. A list of partners appears in the beginning of each part.

## SOUTH AFRICA

ABM	Abahlali baseMjondolo
TCOE	Trust for Community Outreach Education
WoF	Women on Farms
CORMSA	Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa
AIDC	Alternative Information and Development Centre
SERI	Socio Economic Rights Institute
R2K	Right 2 Know
MACUA	Mining Affected Communities United in Action
SJC	Social Justice Coalition
EE	Equal Education
SALO	Southern Africa Liason Office
Section 27	Section 27
PHM	People's Health Movement
AA	Africa Alliance

The pandemic exposed systemic political, governmental and economic shortcomings. Class, race, gender, and urban/rural inequalities exacerbated. The government took loans to mitigate the impacts, had excessive leeway to exercise its powers, and corruption prevailed.

Forming the C19 Coalition, with 350 civil society organisations, including several partners in key roles, was a critical strategy to demonstrate one voice from civil society. Despite lockdowns, the government has shown an increased openness to civil society engagement and responsiveness to policy submissions.

Several partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Government's policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*. WoF and SERI succeeded in amendments to the temporary relief schemes, securing benefits for dismissed farmworkers (see result). During the lockdown, shack dwellers and farmworkers faced evictions and, together with SERI, TCOE and Abahlali, challenged evictions through the courts, and succeeded in achieving a moratorium prohibiting evictions during lockdown. Following EE's submissions to national authorities and legal proceeding to urgently resume the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP), the court ruled that the Ministry of Basic Education was in violation and that NSNP was a necessary component of the right to basic education.

Partners made 37 submissions, largely related to changes made due to COVID-19, ranging from loss of income and

employment, to lack of response to gender based violence, and land evictions. SERI made submission on the draft Gauteng Township Economic Development Bill, which requires comprehensive revisions to have its intended effect, to develop township economies. MACUA submitted a policy proposal to develop a new legal framework for mining affected communities and workers, and challenged Parliament on the validity of the Mining Charter.

MACUA organised a 100 K signature campaign, petitioning national authorities to take immediate steps to ensure the voice of mining-affected communities in mining-related legislation, according to the constitutional right to Free Prior and Informed Consent, recognised in national mining laws.

## ZIMBABWE

WLZ	Women and Land in Zimbabwe
WCDT	Wadzanai Community Development Trust
SMAIAS	Sam Moyo Africa Institute of Agrarian Studies
MISA	Media Institute of Southern Africa
Magamba	Magamba Network
CHRA	Combined Harare Residents Association
WCoZ	Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe
CiZC	Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition
ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe Coalition on Dept and Development
ZILAN	Zimbabwe Land and Agrarian Network
ZCIEA	Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations
ZELA	Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association
Zim Rights	Zimbabwe Human Rights Association

The pandemic worsened the already dire living standards of many, deteriorated public service delivery, and there was a massive clampdown on human rights activists and anti-corruption campaigners. Magamba in cooperation with Zimcodd, CHRA and Transparency International (TIZ), organised the campaign *Open Covid Contracts* to advocate for transparent tendering process of COVID-19 related goods and services. Partners criticised the COVID-19 task forces for excluding women, highlighting their tripartite role in society. After the advocacy work of ZCIEA and other vendors associations, the government gave rental deferment for informal traders for six months. Although the ZCIEA's high court application to stop demolition of informal vendors' stalls was dismissed, the government acted swiftly to stop demolitions across the country.

Partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Decision-makers' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*. CHRA and its network alliances pushed for the Harare town council to adopt the City of Harare Stakeholder Engagement Policy and draft service charter, with standards for accountability and improved

service delivery, which was finally adopted. They won three high court applications, in cooperation with local activists, compelling the local authorities to provide constant water supplies to residents during lockdown, reopen 42 community clinics, provide public transport for urban commuters, and develop legislation on decentralisation.

MISA's mobilisation and advocacy efforts, in cooperation with Magamba and Zim Rights, led to a delay in the declaration of the Cyber Security and Data Protection bill and the Zimbabwe Media Commission Bill (see result example).

SMAIAS and ZILAN continue to mobilise women small producers to promote the advancement of rural women's land ownership and involvement of women in traditional village courts and other local structures. WLZ facilitated for rural women's participation in the review of the National Land Policy to ensure protection of women's land tenure and security at divorce or death of husbands. The gender sensitive land policy was proposed with recommendations from ZiLAN, WLZ, WCDT and SMAIAS. The WCDI "She can" campaign has given women the opportunity to demand equal access to resources and decision-making structures, and men to appreciate gender equity issues. Their trainings on land rights for traditional leaders and communities resulted in two village heads enabling previously disinherited widows to regain their land.

## MOZAMBIQUE (CS)

UNAC	Small Scale Farmers National Union
UPCI	Small Scale Farmers Provincial Union - Inhambane
UGCAN	Cooperatives Union of Farmers in Nampula
UPCZ	Small Scale Farmers Provincial Union - Zambezia
UCA	Cooperatives Union of Farmers in Niassa
ORAM-Maputo	Mutual Rural Support Association - Maputo
ORAM Niassa	Mutual Rural Support Association in Niassa
MULEIDE-Maputo	Women, Law and Development - Maputo
MULEIDE Cabo Delgado	Women, Law and Development - Cabo Delgado
ODHL	Legality and Human Rights Observatory
ADECRU	Academic Action for Development of Rural Communities.

Restrictive measures due to the pandemic, and terrorist attacks in different parts of the country, have impacted negatively on human rights and the space of civil society. In Cabo Delgado, partners advocated for women's participation in the peace process, and responded to humanitarian needs of internally displaced people, with a particular focus on securing women's rights.

The government (GVT) launched a revision of the land policy, which is seen as a manoeuvre to open the land market, and criticised for limiting CSOs' and people's participation. Partners have engaged in various ways. ORAM-Maputo signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Land and Environment to participate in the technical commission to ensure a consultation mechanism. ODHL and ORAM organised debates on the Land Policy revision with the Provincial Government, communities and CSOs in five Provinces, and participated in several media debates. ADECRU submitted a petition to the National Parliament Petitions Commission and the Ministry of Land and Environment, denouncing irregularities in the revision of the Land Policy, e.g. that the new element on land privatisation should not be included as it is against the constitution.

ADECRU, UNAC, ORAM contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Decision-makers' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*. The controversial ProSAVANA project has been cancelled as a result of CSO's advocacy efforts to block the initiative, since 2012, accusing it of promoting land grabbing and banning local seeds' in favour of GMOs. Partners launched advocacy campaigns, presented position letters to authorities at local, national and international levels, in Mozambique and Japan respectively.

## RWANDA

ADENYA	L'association de pour Développement de Nyabimata.
ADI-Terimbere	Association pour Développement Integre
AJPRODHO	The Youth Association for Human Rights Promotion and Development
CLADHO	Collectif des Ligues et Associations de Défense des Droits de l'Homme
COPORWA	Communauté des Potiers du Rwanda.
GLIHD	Great Lakes Initiative for Human Development
HDI	Human Development Initiative
IMBARAGA	IMBARAGA
PAX PRESS	PAX PRESS
RWAMREC	Rwanda Men's Resource Centre.
RWN	Rwanda Women's Network
T.A	Tubibe Amahoro
TI-Rw	Transparency International Rwanda chapter.
NAR	Never Again Rwanda

The pandemic resulted in a spike in social injustices, including gender-based domestic violence and corruption. Despite lockdowns and restrictions, NPA partners contributed to policy reforms and devised approaches to

increase awareness of the benefits of good governance, transparency, democracy and human rights.

NPA PPIMA (Public Policy Information, Monitoring and Advocacy Project) partners contributed to outcome (O3.1) *Local and national government have formulated policies and plans that reflect the concerns raised by citizens.* Pax Press, Never Again and TIR, assessed the “Ubudehe polyi”/Social Categorisation Policy. Their findings influenced the review of the policy, as the citizen socio-economic categorization was changed. The new policy was endorsed by the cabinet in June 2020.

NPA partners have a strong commitment to put an end to GBV (gender-based violence). Rwandan gender policies, laws and strategies have been put in place to curb GBV at all levels. NPA PPIMA partners continue to prioritize advocacy for improved gender policy implementation, accountable governance, and protection of human rights and respect to the rule of law.

Partners facilitated dialogues between citizens and authorities to influence district and national budgets for 2020/2021. Through the Community Scorecard (CSC) tool, citizens priorities were registered, and 18 % of were incorporated in district plans and budgets. Nine district plans made gender-related commitments as a result of budget hearings, and 72% of CSO recommendations was considered at the national level.

Despite a tightly controlled political context, PPIMA partners have contributed to several ‘sensitive’ policy issues, such as; advancing corruption and bribery issues through the annual Rwanda Bribery Index, presenting a policy brief on gaps in the implementation of the Whistleblower Protection Law, and challenging issues such as abortion.

GLIHD continued to monitor implementation of the recommendations made by the Human Rights Council linked to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). NPA’s PPIMA programme supported a national level policy dialogue, led by GLIHD and HDI, in collaboration with the National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR), the Rwanda UN Office for Human Rights and the EU, through which recommendations from CSOs’ analysis on the human right status in Rwanda were disseminated, shining a light on the government’s poor human rights records.

### **SOUTH SUDAN (CS)**

ACSS	Active Citizen South Sudan
ACR	Action for Conflict Resolution
CAPAD	Christian Agency for Peace and Development

MUYSA	Mvolo United Youth and Sports Association
ONAD	Organisation for Nonviolence and Development
OAF	Okay Africa Foundation
RYSA	Rumbek Youth Sports Association
GBLA	Greater Bahr El Ghazal Land Alliance
GELA	Greater Equatoria Land Alliance
PIDO	People’s Initiative Development Organisation
SSLS	South Sudan Law Society
CSCNR	Civil Society Coalition on Natural Resources
SSCSF	South Sudan Civil Society Forum
HRSS	Hope Restoration South Sudan
UNYDA	Upper Nile Youth Development Association
NIHE	Nile Initiative for Health and Environment
WTUPM	Workers Trade Union for Petroleum and Mining
AMDISS	Association for Media Development in South Sudan
CRN	Catholic Radio Network
COMNETSS	Community Media Network South Sudan
AAI	Anataban Arts Initiative
AMALNA SS	Amalna South Sudan
SSANSA	South Sudan Action Network on Small Arms
STW	STEWARDWOMEN
UNYMPDA	Upper Nile Youth Mobilization for Peace and Development Agency
ALA	Africa Life Aid
WAO	Women Advancement Organisation
SMAPD	St. Monica Agency for Peace and Development
ROG	Root of Generations

There are severe delays in the implementation of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS), 2018. Sub-national conflicts have increased in 2020, causing deaths, displacements and suspension of humanitarian services in some areas. The pandemic is a threat to the already fragile health system, in addition to the social and economic challenges. Torrential rains and flooding added to the dire humanitarian situation. Partners advocated for the government to provide testing kits, organised information campaigns, and provided citizens with daily updates.

Partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *National and local authorities’ policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*, as they were able to influence authorities to draft land policies in Unity and Eastern Equatoria State. Although the final policies are not yet approved, the authorities’ acceptance to engage indicate a gradual shift from previous practices of handling land issues without a policy framework.

The civil society has made efforts to push the government to combat misinformation and incitement to violence, as well as tackling impunity and enhancing justice for sexual and gender-based crimes, and other crimes against humanity. In an effort to mitigate censorship in the media, media rights partners campaigned for the freedom of expression. South Sudan Youth Coalition, including four NPA partners, submitted a policy proposal on Youth Enterprise Development Fund to Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports. The proposal was used to draft a Youth Enterprise Development Fund Bill.

CSCNR held two stakeholder consultations on the implementation of the Mining Act 2012 with 17 participants from Ministry of Mining, local authorities, local chiefs and CSOs. Ministry officials requested civil society's support to push for a review of the Mining Act 2012 and the development of a Mining Policy, while local authorities revealed that the mining companies are obliged to consult communities to ensure their rights are adhered to.

GELA and GBLA supported 120 (66 F) IDPs, women and other marginalised people, who could not afford to acquire land through other available mechanisms, to obtain land documents. It showed the local authorities' willingness to cooperate with local organisations to promote land rights and created awareness about land rights in the communities.

## MYANMAR

AD	Another Development
ALARM	Advancing Life and Regenerating Motherland
MESCA	Myanmar Environmental Study and Conservation Association (formerly MCPWC)
MFE	Myanmar Fifth Estate
MLAW	Myanmar Legal Aid Network
MYNFREL	Myanmar Network for Free and Fair Elections
PACE	People's Alliance for Credible Elections
PK	Paung Ku
YSPS	Yangon School of Political Sciences

Freedom of expression, movement, and assembly have been even more limited during the pandemic. Activists and organisations critical to the government were arrested on the pretext of violating the COVID-19 restrictions. CSOs were not able to implement plans, many websites were blocked, and labour unions were unable to gather. The National League for Democracy (NLD) won 83% of available seats in the November elections. This victory should not hide the mixed tally of NLD, but people perceived it the best way to end military control and marginalise the ethnic parties. Women accounted for 17 % of the elected. NLD's massive win, and the defeat of the army's party, divided

rather than unified the country, and led to the coup on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

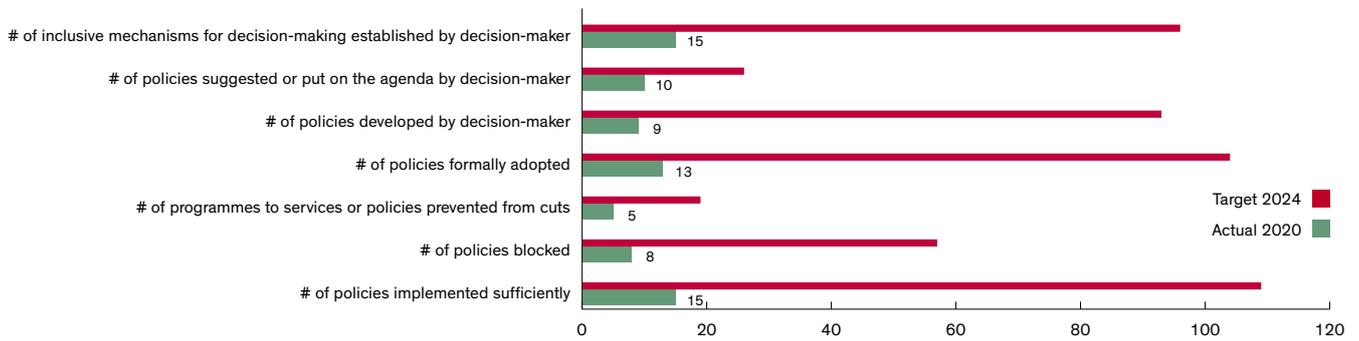
NLD's centralised culture slowed down the legislative reform, countered political opposition, disregarded ethnic minority demands and silenced civil society. Coupled with COVID-19 and increased political and armed tensions, it was a challenging year for partners to influence political changes. Nevertheless, partners organised 29 dialogue forums and presented 25 policy proposals and amendments to government officials.

For instance, YSPS organised four meetings with parliamentarians, CSOs representatives and legal analysts to provide policy recommendations and advocate for policy change on four draft bills, including on the Prevention and Control of Communicable Disease bill, Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women bill, and the Ground Water bill. PK submitted 12 policy recommendations, including on the labour law, the mining law, and vacant, fallow and virgin land management law to parliamentarians. PK also conducted advocacy aimed at local, regional and national authorities, on issues such as the amendment of social welfare procedures, increased minimum wages, and implementation of an employer-employee dispute court, human rights, women's rights and the rule of law, land rights issues and socioeconomic implications due to various investment projects.

As Members of Parliament (MP) lack institutional support to help them with technical issues pertaining to some laws, they welcome partner's support, and were often keen to listen to their expertise. Partners used of a mix of direct interactions, online activities and resources sharing to reach government staff and MPs, and facilitated field visits and townhall meetings to build trust between MPs and their constituents.

## CAMBODIA

AFD	Action for Development
API	Advocacy Policy Institute
CCC	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia
CCFC	Coalition Cambodian Farmer Communities
CENTRAL	Center for Alliance of Labor And Human Rights
CIPO	Cambodia Indigenous People Organisation
COMFREL	Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia
DPA	Development and Partnership in Action
EC	Equitable Cambodia
GADC	Gender and Development for Cambodia
LICADHO	Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defend for Human Rights
NGOF	The NGO Forum on Cambodia
NTFP	Non-Timer Forest Product Organisation
PAD/CGCN	People's Action for Development Organisation



On the way to achieve outcome 3 indicators. Actual's share of target 2024.

The pandemic allowed the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) to rush legislation to grant itself almost unlimited powers to restrict freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association. The garment sector has been particularly hit by the European Commission's partial withdrawal of preferential access to the EU in response to the government's disrespect for human and labour rights.

Despite limited civic space, partners contributed to outcome (O3.1) *Cambodian government's policies and private company practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among marginalised groups*. Most CSOs inputs, coordinated by CCC, were included in the Deconcentration and Decentralization Policy Reform, including increased participation of local communities in decision making. The Ministry of Women's Affairs accepted 23 out of 28 recommendations proposed by GADC to the National Policy on Gender Equality, including gender responsive budgeting. The Ministry of Land Management accepted 90% of the inputs to the Land Allocation and Social and Economic Development framework (LASED III), coordinated by NGO, including on communal and indigenous land, livelihood and gender. Further, after CSO pressure coordinated by EC, the Australian and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) committed to reviewing its human rights policies and complaint mechanisms, and compensated affected communities.

Partners submitted numerous proposals to laws and policies. For instance, GADC submitted a proposal, signed by 64 CSOs, for the immediate discard of the repressive draft Law on Public Order, which would put severe restrictions on the basic freedoms of citizens, and provided inputs on the draft National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women. Despite CENTRAL and trade unions' proposals to the law on Trade Unions, the law continues to restrict workers' abilities to join and form trade unions. CENTRAL called for a new amendment to make it in line with international standards.

Partners informed private companies about regulations to improve CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility). For

instance, EC negotiated solutions to land conflicts between communities and selected companies. DPA did awareness rising on the importance of CSR towards four companies, urging them to provide local jobs, construct community roads, and provide compensation to affected communities. NTFP addressed a company on polluting land and water resources of local communities, and urged them to implement the guidelines in relation to Mining laws. As a result, the company installed a storage for chemicals waste.

## BOLIVIA

FDMCOIC BS	Departmental Federation of Peasants and Indigenous Women of Cochabamba, Bartolina Sisa
CNMCIQB BS	National Confederation of Peasants and Indigenous Women of Bolivia, Bartolina Sisa
FDMCIOSC BS	Departmental Federation of Peasant and Indigenous Women of Santa Cruz, Bartolina Sisa
FSUTCC	Federation of Peasant Worker Unions of Cochabamba (La Unica)
FSUTCAT SC	Federation of Peasant Workers Union of Santa Cruz (La Unica)
CAIB CEFREC	Bolivian Indigenous Peoples' Audiovisual Council, CAIB
CSUTCB	Foundation for the Development of Intercultural Communication, CEFREC
CEPRA	Confederation of Peasant Workers Union of Bolivia, CSUTCB (La Unica)
CEPRA	Radio Education and Production Center
Radio Soberanía	Community Organisation of Radio and TV Soberanía del Trópico

2020 was a turbulent year. The Añez transitional government, following the coup in October 2019, governed with extreme repression and racism, in stark contrast to the previous 13 years of the MAS (Movement for Socialism) government. Repression was particularly virulent in Santa Cruz, where members of La Unica (indigenous peasant movement - NPA partners) were targeted by violent groups of armed civilians and security forces, many were detained

and wounded, and 12 indigenous peasant communities (FSUTCAT SC) were evicted from their land.

Partners contributed to outcome (3.1) *National, municipal and local authorities' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*. In August, a third electoral delay, triggered a massive national mobilisation, led by the trade unions and the indigenous peasant movement. The mobilisations shut down the country for 11 days, and succeeded in reverting the decision to indefinitely postpone the elections and the legal banning of MAS Movement for Socialism.

In Cochabamba, the Bartolinas and La Única led a broad alliance actively opposing to the government. In June, in alliance with the Governor and local mayors, the Bartolinas and the Association of Municipalities, obtained the release of fiscal funds retained as punishment for belonging to MAS, as well as additional funds to confront the pandemic. They also obtained authorisation for peasants to sell their products in the cities. The Bartolinas (CNMCIQB BS) also succeeded in eliminating an article from the Añez government's COVID-19 decree that restricted the freedom of expression. Several partners also conducted media campaigns to call attention to the massive corruption of the authorities in their response to COVID-19.

Finally, in October, MAS won the elections and established a new government. MAS won 55.10% of the presidential vote, and still has majority in the Legislative Assembly. Gender parity is maintained, with 88 men and 87 women, and women are in majority in the Senate. There is also a generational shift, the average age is 44, and the majority were elected for the first time.

The new MAS government launched several economic initiatives, including a monthly payment for those most in need, eliminating neo-liberal policies, such as the privatisation plan for public companies related to lithium and hydrocarbons, and stimulating growth with measures such as low interest loans. 351.5 million dollars were returned to the IMF as the conditions were deemed unfavourable and contracted without authorisation from Parliament. Land was returned to the 12 peasant communities in Santa Cruz. Further, a commission to establish policies for gender equality was established based on the agenda proposed by Women's Political Alliance proposal.

## ECUADOR

UOCE	Union of Peasant Organisations of Esmeraldas
Kayambi People	Confederation of the Kayambi People
MICC	Indigenous and Peasant Movement of Cotopaxi
Kawsay Foundation	Foundation of Indigenous Cultures KAWSAY
AUCC	Assembly of Unity of Cotacachi
FDA	Amazonian Defence Front
CNC-EA	The National Peasant Coordinator Eloy Alfaro

The tensions and polarisation stemming from the indigenous and popular uprising in October 2019, continued in 2020. Leonidas Iza, president of MICC, and Agustín Cachipuendo, of Pueblo Kayambi, are still under investigation, accused of terrorism for their role in the uprisings. The neoliberal policies implemented by the Moreno government, in compliance with IMF (International Monetary Fund), resulted in substantial reduction of social services. The preparations for the 2021 elections intensified towards the end of the year.

The social, economic, and health effects of the pandemic are profound, the incompetence of the government evident, and the cases of state corruption numerous. Partners repudiated all corruption cases. MICC and the unions mobilised against the *humanitarian law* and other decrees undermining labour rights and allowing for increased militarisation, while CNC-EA filed a complaint against the default payment of 40% funds to retirees, and publicly rejected the privatisation of the State Bank.

When three oil pipes ruptured due to the construction of a dam, FDA presented an *amicus curiae* (assisting the court by offering information, expertise, or insight) in the lawsuit filed by the affected communities against companies and the State. They also presented an *amicus curiae* in a lawsuit for the elimination of gas lighters permanently burning in many oil wells.

CNC-EA rejected the revisions to promote agrobusiness in the Law of Agricultural Development in Parliament, and issued a public complaint on the import of fruits and vegetables. MICC organised provincial mobilisations to defend water and territory, and reject the environmental damages caused by agribusinesses, and obtained the approval of the hydric protection area for the highlands of Pujilí, from the Ministry of Environment.

Kayambi people marched to the Ministry of Education demanding participation in strategic decisions on bilingual education, and were included in the meetings to discuss reformations of the Law of Intercultural Bilingual Education, together with CONAIE (the national indigenous organisation).

## COLOMBIA

ONIC	National Indigenous Organisation of Colombia
PCN	Black Communities' Process
CNA	National Agrarian Coordinator
ANZORC	National Association of Peasant Reserve Zones
Congreso	Peoples' Congress

The pandemic had severe social, economic and health related impacts, exposed raging inequalities more clearly, and thwarted the expected continuation of the historic national strike in 2019. Many indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and peasants confined themselves in their territories and established their own contingency plans.

Duque took the advantage to govern through extraordinary powers granted due to the emergency. Peoples' Congress participated actively in denouncing several presidential decrees, including the decree 444 redirecting State funding from regions to private companies experiencing economic troubles, and a decree aiming to reduce labour rights. The dismantling of the peace agreement (2016) continues.

ANZORC participated in several hearings in Congress, demanding the implementation of 1. *Comprehensive rural reform* and 4. *Illegal crops substitution* in the Peace Agreement, denouncing the critical situation in the countryside. CNA and ANZORC contributed to the draft law for Production, Use and Transition of Coco Crops, underlining that campesinos must have rights to livelihoods, and not be treated as criminals for planting coca.

Armed groups disputing territories to control illicit economies, leave indigenous, afro-descendant and peasant populations displaced, confined, and subject to violence and assassinations. The violence intensified, with 91 massacres, 310 social leaders were assassinated, and several faced false judicial accusations. Exposing this social genocide nationally and internationally, and to defend their organisations and the social leaders, have become the principal job for all partners. Several partners were active in ongoing campaigns "Being a social leader is not a crime" and "Stop the genocide now!". PCN succeeded in establishing territorial humanitarian agreements, signed by different actors in areas heavily impacted by the conflict, to alleviate the situation for local communities.

At the permanent table for consultations among indigenous peoples and the government, ONIC contributed to 34 articles related to the Royalties Law (e.g. negotiating distribution of royalties from oil wells, etc.). CNA and Congreso's proposals for peasants to have access to credits were included in the draft Universal Basic Income Law. The law was blocked by the right-wing in Congress, but the

debate will continue in 2021. CNA participated in 10 virtual hearings in Congress on e.g. oil exploitation, the Escazú agreement, glyphosate sprayings, and the Special Development Zones (state owned land meant for campesinos, but given to agribusiness).

## EL SALVADOR

ARPAS	Association of Participatory Radios and Programmes of El Salvador
RACO	Eastern Network of Community Radios,
EM	Association Equipo Maíz.
CCR	Association of Communities for the Development of Chalatenango.
CONFRAS	Confederation of Cooperatives for Agrarian Reform.
MAM	Mélida Anaya Montes Women's Movement.
MPR12	Popular Resistance Movement October 12
COMANDOS	Comandos de Salvamento
JPS	Popular Youth of El Salvador

President Nayib Bukele's (June 2019 -) authoritarian management continued, including threats to dissolve Parliament, suspending funds for local governments, and strengthening his business entourage. The government closed 13 national social programmes in health, education, agriculture, and women. Nevertheless, Bukele's centralising and confrontational management, with an effective use of social media, maintains ample popular support. The only left-wing opposition, FMLN (former guerrilla, legal party since 1992, presidency 2009-2019), is weak due to the internal divisions and poor election results.

The Bukele administration used government advertising in media as a reward for those aligned with the government, and a punishment for those critical. It also developed an aggressive campaign against community media, particularly against ARPAS. As a result, political parties and CSOs expressed their solidarity, and ARPAS requested multi-partisan support for a draft Law on State Advertising, to regulate the distribution of state funds. The draft law was expected to be approved, however, with the new Parliament (May 2021), it is not likely to pass.

Partners challenged national authorities through virtual campaigns, demanding the implementation of previously approved policies, such as the reformed Telecommunications Law (2019), to enhance equitable distribution of radio and television frequencies, the National Policy on Civil Protection (2019), and better use of the law to end violence against women (2011).

Through printed media, radio and online, several partners developed joint campaigns related to deficiencies and

corruption in government responses to the pandemic, and engaged in educational campaigns related to the pandemic. The militarisation during the first months of the pandemic was also denounced by several partners.

CONFRAS presented an analysis of the agricultural policy of the government. While the previous FMLN government (2009-2019) bought seeds from local cooperatives as part of the many agricultural “packages” to peasants throughout the country, the Bukele government buys these seeds from transnational companies. CONFRAS demands the restitution of government purchase of seeds, and a pandemic crisis policy and resource allocation for the peasant sector.

Municipal authorities led by FMLN are more inclined to engage in dialogues with partners. Hence, several municipal authorities were informed about MAM’s demands, e.g. budgets to implement gender policies, infrastructure, and employment in the communities, while only some were open for dialogue. In cooperation with the community radio network (RACO), MAM denounced the municipal authorities that refused to meet women groups.

## HONDURAS

COPA	Coordinadora de Organizaciones Populares del Aguán
CNTC	Central Nacional de Trabajadores del Campo El Progreso
OFRANEH	Organización Fraternal Negra de Honduras
ERIC	Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación
COPINH	Consejo de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras
CDM	Centro de Derechos de Mujeres
MADJ	Movimiento Amplio de Dignidad y justicia

The pandemic, and damages caused by two hurricanes, deepened the already critical situation and have plunged the country into a historic crisis. Women are particularly marginalised, 70% work informally, with no medical coverage or labour rights, only 8% own land, and 11% have access to productive loans or government support. There is a setback of social, political and economic rights, and rife violations of human rights by the government, army, and paramilitary groups, in collusion with organised crime and extractive companies.

In 2020, 279 activists were the victims of severe persecution, including 14 dead, and five community leaders of OFRANEH kidnapped and still missing. OFRANEH blames the government and the police for the missing community leaders, as the kidnappers arrived in a police car wearing police uniforms, and has made an inquiry to the Special Prosecutor’s Office for Ethnic Groups and Cultural Patrimony. They have also created an Independent

Investigation Committee (SUNLA) to file an international complaint.

Despite the pandemic and repression, important mobilisations occurred, as well as actions to defend territories threatened by extractives companies. Partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Decision-makers’ policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*, by defending numerous territories and block attempts of eviction or extractive projects.

Decision-makers were informed and challenged by partners in different ways. For instance, MADJ denounced the extractive projects in three communities before the Specialised Prosecuting Unit Against Corruption (UFERCO) of the Public Ministry and requested a mechanism to monitor the cases, and challenged authorities in another community to ratify the declaration that states the municipality as an area free from extractive projects. COPA sent complaints to the Public Ministry on mining concessions in a mountain range in Tocoa.

MADJ initiated a legal action against the new Criminal Code for violating the right to social organisation and protest. COPA presented a complaint, before the Mechanism of Protection for Human Rights Defenders, on the violation of rights of the activists who were arrested for defending the Guapinol-river from mining, and organised street mobilisation to demand their release, together with ERIC and OFRANEH. COPINH has combined systematic mass media campaigns and alliances with actors with considerable influence in Europe or the U.S., in a massive campaign to condemn those responsible for the death of Berta Cáceres.

## GUATEMALA

MMT	Movimiento de Mujeres T’z’ununija
CPT	Consejo de los Pueblos de Tz’ulután
PRECOM	Prensa Comunitaria
CODECA	Comité de Desarrollo
COINDI	Cooperación Integral para el Desarrollo Indígena

COVID-19 has further contributed to the political and socio-economic crisis, particularly affecting the poor and indigenous population. 61% of the population live in poverty and 24% of them in extreme poverty, in rural areas the numbers are higher. In addition, two hurricanes, IOTA and ETA, affected many who lost their land and harvest.

Many indigenous communities and organisations, including CODECA and MMT, mobilised for the right to work under lockdown as the closure of mobility between departments and municipalities limited the transfer and sale of agricultural products, but did not limit large companies and supermarkets.

Violence against women increased dramatically during the lockdown, with 57 femicides and almost 19 000 attacks on women, approximately 95% of the attacks remain unpunished. MMT has lobbied the Public Ministry to change the protocols for attention to violence against indigenous women, but there was no significant progress.

Despite restrictions and lockdown, civil society organisations, including partners, mobilised against the corruption and inefficiency of the government in relation to the pandemic, to prevent contamination, and to maintain vigilance on extractive industries concessions, and their implications. The response from the government was increased repression and persecution. There was a sharp increase in attacks on human rights activists and journalists, and 14 human rights activists were murdered in 2020, including three members of CODECA. The CODECA network of 300 young communicators organised massive social media campaigns in 16 departments demanding constitutional changes, a Plurinational State, and the resignation of the President.

With Congress controlled by a conservative, corrupt majority and a record of corruption, it is impossible to achieve improved national policies. However, partners continue to present proposals to decision-makers. For instance, PRECOM has suffered serious repression, and has, unsuccessfully, worked to get the protocol for protection of communicators accepted in the Congress. They also prepared complaints included in the 2020 OHCHR report.

## CUBA

CMMLK	Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Centre (NPEP and EN)
ACPA	The Cuban Association for Animal Production
ANAP	The National Association of Small Farmers.
FCOM	School of Journalism and Social Communication
GALFISA	Latin America Group in Social Philosophy
CIERIC	Centre of Exchange and Reference for Community Initiatives
CEPRODESO	Education and Promotion Centre for Sustainable Development

The pandemic was managed with abundant information from the government, which most find reliable. The economic situation deteriorated due to the pandemic, the slow pace of the promised reforms, and the increasingly aggressive measures of the U.S. government. One reason for the slow pace in applying reforms is that they will inevitably intensify inequality and widen the social gaps that have increased in recent years. Peoples' access to basic goods remained severely inadequate. Greater flexibility for SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) and registration of non-agricultural cooperatives, did not materialize as

promised. Cuba sent medical brigades with 3,000 health professionals to 39 countries, and produced four potential vaccines.

The 300 peaceful protesters at the Ministry of Culture in November, were accused of being accomplices of USA by the government, and dialogues did not prosper. Sectors identifying with the Cuban revolution criticised the authoritarian and intolerant response, and called for the need to recognize the increased economic and social diversity in Cuban society.

CMMLK issued a public statement promoting depolarisation and calling for a respectful dialogue. It was posted on digital sites and reproduced by several media, although not by official press. The statement was apparently well received by the different actors involved. Neither a public protest in front of state institutions, nor a public statement from a CSO, are common events in Cuba, and this might be the beginning of a period in which CMMLK will make similar posts. As official media is closed for criticism, the use of SoMe for critical debate is growing.

FCOM engaged in dialogues with national government officials on the implementation of the Social Communication Policy, approved in 2019. They also organised meetings between local government and local leaders on information and communication between the government and the population, on issues such as health, housing, education, and legal procedures, in four municipalities. GALFISA and CIERIC conducted gatherings between municipal authorities and leaders of local organisations and municipal councils, to debate citizen participation mechanisms, in La Palma and in central Habana.

## MENA (MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA)

ANND	Arab NGOs Network for Development
WHRDMENA	Women Human rights Defenders Middle East North Coalition
Coalition	Africa Coalition
SMEX	Social Media Exchange

As of October 2019, the MENA region erupted in protests demanding social and economic justice, political rights, and an end to corruption. Authorities responded with severe restrictions applying illegitimate surveillance and crack downs to silence protestors. Women human rights defenders were particularly targeted.

The pandemic is adding to the dramatic economic and social challenges in the region, and the restrictions were further utilised to limit protesting and organising. In return, civil society organisations in MENA magnified their presence online to conduct advocacy and campaigning.

Partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Regional and international organisations more forcefully enhanced policies for reduced inequality*. Since 2012, ANND has participated at the annual Civil Society Political Forum (CSPF) that the IMF and World Bank organize. During the 2020 session, ANND organised a side event examining the policies of the International Financial Institutions' (IFI) and their impact on inequality in MENA. Further, on October 29th, IMF organised a first-time CSO consultation, with the Executive Directors of the IMF in the MENA region. ANND members and partners from the region played a key role in this consultation (see result example).

ANND and collaborators held six consultation meetings, with different levels of the IMF and WB (World Bank), to discuss COVID-19 implications on socio-economic rights. ANND also held a meeting with IMF and the WB to discuss the recent negotiation of loan programmes in the region, due to concerns from civil society organisations on the social and economic implications of such loans. ANND published an article on potential implications of IMF policies in Lebanon, and initiated a social media advocacy campaign #DebunkingIMF, which is still ongoing, featuring videos from different countries sharing experiences on the implications of IMF loans.

ANND and 20 likeminded organisations and experts created a social protection “collective”, to address the IMF and WB as a united front. They developed a policy paper on social protection and facilitated for two virtual meetings with IMF and WB senior staff.

ANND is using the Arab Watch, a bi-annual report, to enhance civil society involvement in the socio-economic policy-making. The thematic focus for 2020-2021 is on private sector accountability.

## LEBANON

APCC	Arab Palestinian Cultural Club
ARM	Anti-Racism Movement
KW	Knowledge Workshop

The 2019 ended with national protests demanding the government’s resignation, an independent cabinet, and structural economic reforms. In 2020, the combined impact of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Beirut port explosion and the economic freefall on people’s livelihoods has become catastrophic, particularly for the most marginalised Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians, such as youth, informal workers, and women-headed households.

Following the different crises, youth are looking for immigration opportunities. The situation for migrant

workers has gone from dire to catastrophic. Hundreds were abandoned by their employers and having little to no legal protections in Lebanon. After the explosion, ARM closed their Migrant Community Centres (MCCs) to focus on more urgent needs of migrant workers, such as food and shelter. They engaged in advocacy initiatives to get support for the migrant domestic workers from the Lebanese government, and assistance to evacuate from the governments of their countries of origin (see result example).

Despite the circumstances, ARM successfully submitted eight policy proposals and advocacy campaigns. The campaign to exempt penalty fees for migrant workers resulted in reduced fees. Other campaigns, such as the inclusion of migrant workers in the Ministry of Public Health’s COVID-19 response, prohibiting evictions during the pandemic, prosecuting employers abandoning domestic workers, and including domestic work in the Labour Law, are ongoing. They also called on the Nigerian and Sri-Lankan governments’ embassies to evacuate migrant workers.

APCC had to implement the majority of their activities through online platforms. Since Facebook shut down their most used online platform, which they did with many Palestinian Facebook pages for political issues, they found other alternatives, like YouTube.

APCC facilitated for young Palestinian refugees to meet with decision-makers in the Palestinian refugee community, such as popular committees, parliamentary sub-committees, and political parties and factions in Fatah.

## IRAQ

RID	Reform Institution for Development
PAO	Public Aid Organisation
PFO	Peace and Freedom Organisation
IAA	Iraqi Al-Amal Association
AIM	Alliance for Iraqi Minorities
JNP	Justice Network for Prisoners

The COVID-19 pandemic added to already existing crisis, with a fragile government structure, weak rule of law, collapsed economy, rife corruption, ethnic conflicts, armed groups, radicalisation, regional and international disputes, and environmental hazards, all impeding peace and democracy.

The 2019 protests continued throughout 2020. Protesters denounced the ethno-sectarian political system and demanded an end to the socio-economic injustices. Iraqi security forces have been criticised for using excessive force against protesters, more than 700 protesters were killed and 27,000 injured, many were persecuted and prosecuted,

including partners. NPA partners, and other CSOs, monitored the protests and recorded human rights violations. Others maintained a distance to not jeopardise their relationship with the government(s) and other formal and informal power holders, which has paved the way for women and youth to have a stronger role in the protests.

Partners have contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Government officials and members of provincial councils' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group.* PAO, RID, AIM, JNP conducted research and organised workshops to draft policies. They submitted 11 proposals to local and national authorities, on issues such as civil society laws and procedures, youth immigration, Iraqi election law, prisoners' rights, minority rights and violence against women. Decision makers have taken recommendations from local communities, legal experts, CSOs, and journalists, into considerations in drafting and reviewing new policies.

Partners protested when the KRI (Kurdish Region) parliament established a committee to regulate media work, which would have limited freedom of speech. After continuous discussions, negotiations, and an online campaign, the committee was abolished. Similarly, a new policy proposal to take court petitions to an online system, which would cost money, was successfully blocked because it would stop many people from filing court documents. Partners also blocked a policy proposal for online studying for students outside the cities, as many families are unable to access computers and internet.

A new policy to improve corporation between CSOs and the government was adopted, and four regional and federal decision-making centres were established to involve CS actors in decision-making processes, to be facilitated by RID and AIM.

## PALESTINE

GUCC	General Union of Cultural Centres
PCDCR	Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution
PFU	The Palestinian Farmers' Union
PNGO	The Palestinian Non-Governmental Organisations Network
REFORM	The Palestinian Association for Empowerment and Local Development
SDF	Social Development Forum
SFI	Student Forum Institute
TFS	Al-Tawasol Forum Society
UAWC	Union of Agriculture Work Committees
UPWC	Union of Palestinian Women Committees

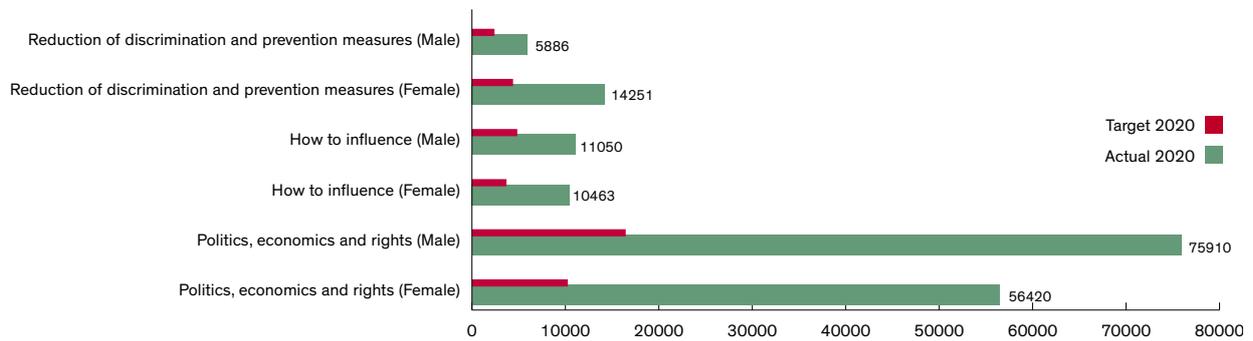
The spread of COVID-19 has exacerbated the deteriorating health and socio-economic conditions of Palestinians. The

massive loss of jobs hits women disproportionately, and social protection systems are particularly weak for women. The blockade of Gaza leads to economic decline and deteriorating living conditions. REFORM coordinated several meetings with different Palestinian authorities to discuss the importance of social protection for vulnerable groups in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the socio-political participation of youth.

Access to natural resources is particularly difficult for farmers and fishermen, due to the Israeli blockade, settlement expansion and annexation. Farmers living in Area C in the West Bank, and in the Access Restricted Area (ARA) in Gaza, have limited access to agricultural land, property and water sources, due to military orders and restrictions on movement. Fishermen in Gaza are also heavily restricted by Israeli control. UAWC produced two videos, eight reports about the situation for farmers in area C and ARA, and a semi-annual report on Israeli attacks on farmers. They also produced monthly reports, and one annual report, on the Israeli attacks on fishermen.

PFU trained Farmers' Associations' (FA) on advocacy and campaigning skills to enhance their influence on decision makers in West Bank and Gaza. PFU and FAs conducted a study on dumping of selected Israeli crops in Palestinian territories, and organised a campaign based on the findings. As a result, the Ministry of Agriculture decided to prevent dumping of Israeli potatoes, and other selected crops, into the Palestinian market until local produce is fully marketed and sold out.

Civil society spaces continue to shrink, due to Israel's conduct, the Palestinian authorities. The absence of democratic processes and limited communication channels between citizens and decision-makers weakens the role of citizens in society. REFORM's initiative Accountability Taxi is an initiative for young people to advocate for change and put pressure on the decision-makers. While a decision-maker drives a taxi around in the communities, the young passengers ask what they are doing to improve things. Similarly, REFORM uses TV and radio to organise live discussions between decision-makers and REFORM and its beneficiaries. Through these activities, REFORM aims for people to learn about issues the government is working on (see result example).



Number of women and men trained on... Outputs ontributing to outcome 2.1 and 2.2 - Changes in people's strength to participate and influence

### Global Learning for Innovation Initiative and (GLII)

NPA supported partners in their efforts to contribute to outcome 3.1 *International and Norwegian decision-makers' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*, whether these efforts were directed to get the international community to engage in democracy and inequality issues in their respective home countries, or changes in policies and practices of multilateral organisations.

The pandemic worsened already existing inequality and democracy problems, and raised new issues to be solved. To develop, produce and distribute vaccines were identified as major challenges impacting inequality and the ability to recuperate from the pandemic. NPA engaged with Section 27, People's Health Movement and Africa Alliance in South Africa, and together advocated for a just distribution of vaccines, free access, and a patent waiver to allow for broader production and access. This was advocated in meetings with Norwegian political parties and the Minister of Development Cooperation.

Zimbabwe Europe Network (ZEN) continued its active dialogue with European policy makers and published the policy paper *"Towards a more strategic engagement with Zimbabwe - Moving beyond the polarisation of the sanctions debate"*, which was well received. A number of European ambassadors indicated that the findings of the report were referred to in EU meetings, particularly between ambassadors, and quoted in internal European policy documents. It also provided ZEN an opportunity to stress the need for increased support to civil society, and to ensure more extended consultation with civil society in the EU programme planning.

As Norway was elected member of the UN Security Council, NPA facilitated Syrian and Colombian partners' views to the NMFA.

### 2.3 People and communities acted and participated to influence

NPA considers that organisations' capacity to mobilise people, including their own members, constituencies or the broader public, to challenge decision-makers, combat discrimination and stand together to fight for their rights, is important for them to gain influence and contribute to changes. Furthermore, mobilising people maintains commitment of members and constituencies to work together for a common cause.

In 2019, there was a global upsurge of people protesting against injustice, and many expected the mobilisations to continue into 2020. However, the global COVID-19 pandemic put an end to large gatherings, and organisations and their constituencies had to find other means to mobilise and express their views. Restrictions imposed to handle the pandemic, such as lockdowns, curfews and confinement, intensified existing inequalities, and led to increased unemployment, repression, and domestic violence.

Partners support people and communities to mobilise around issues, and to claim their rights, depending on the specific context. However, a majority are related to promoting economic, civil and political rights, including women's, indigenous peoples' and minorities' rights, participation, particularly of women and youth, in electoral processes, society and organisations, and access to and control over land and water. Further, they mobilise to denounce violence against women and repression, corruption and tax exemption, and concessions granted to extractive industries and industrial agriculture, threatening peoples' lives, livelihoods, and the environment.

Eleven country programmes contribute to the outcome (O2.1) *People and communities from the target group acted and participated to influence*, and although this is the first year of the agreement, most report on outcomes in 2020.

They report on communities defending their land and water, demanding public services and resisting mining extraction, increased participation in elections, and on people claiming their rights and filing complaints when rights are breached.

For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, six communities, with support from partners, defended their communal land, four communities defended their access to water, three succeeded in stopping mining extraction, and an urban community in Harare won a court case defending their land in a battle against a business tycoon. Further, as a result of Women Can Do It, three communities successfully petitioned local authorities to construct a maternity waiting structure and repair 47 boreholes, benefitting 1500 households.

In **South Africa**, communities in Durban and Cape Town defended their land with support from partners. Abahlali went to court to prevent eviction of 12 communities, AIDC stopped a traditional leader from selling land to a mining company, and SJC secured legal representation and conducted advocacy work, resulting in that five communities in Cape Town can remain on their land. Further, people reported violations of rights. In Durban, 194 women and 77 men reported on burning and confiscation of their belongings during evictions, and in Western Cape, 1909 individuals from 63 farms reported threat of eviction, cutting of services, and dismissals.

In **Mozambique**, 117 communities in four districts recovered 54,000 hectares of land, and four communities received 20% revenue from forest extraction, in the Province of Niassa (see result example). ORAM Niassa signed a MoU with the Provincial Assembly of Niassa, to prevent conflicts over natural resources. Further, when authorities burnt their fishing nets, 72 fishermen denounced violation of their rights at a meeting with government officials. ODHL collected and documented the evidences and submitted the case to court.

In **South Sudan**, GBLA supported marginalised people, including IDPs and women, who lack the formal documents to their land to influence authorities in Wau, Aweil and Kuajok to issue land titles. The authorities responded positively and processed land documents to 120 people (see result example). In **Palestine**, UAWC reported eight legal cases to maintain access to land for Palestinian farmers threatened by Israeli settlers. In addition, 43 farmers were provided with general legal assistance to avoid demolition of agricultural land.

In **Cambodia**, NTFP supported indigenous communities to regain land cessioned to two mining companies. As a result, the Ministry of Environment handed over 1,531

hectares of land to 231 affected families. In Iraq, partners provided platforms for constituencies to raise their concerns and participate in dialogues to influence decision-making, such as workshops, conferences, roundtables, and surveys. Consequently, 202 (52F) marginalised people, minorities, labours and prisoners, reported on violation of rights. 436 people (130F) representing marginalised local communities joined efforts for the purpose of influencing.

In **Rwanda**, with support from partners, approximately 161,060 citizens participated actively in citizen score card processes to inform district plans and budgets. Multiple commitments were made and some of them fulfilled in response to citizens priorities. In **Myanmar**, partners engaged to enhance people's participation in the general elections in November 2020. The more than 70 % voter turnout in general elections, despite fears of COVID 19, in a country where ballots have been disrespected by the army since independence, demonstrates the massive yearning for democracy.

Seven country programmes contribute to outcome (O2.2) *People promoted reduced discrimination in their communities*, but as this is the first year of the agreement, only some report on outcomes in 2020.

For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, gender-based violence at water points became rife, with women being barred from accessing water by powerful men and water barons. CHRA helped establish community led committees in Harare's high-density suburbs to push for gender sensitive service delivery and safe spaces at community water points. In **Mozambique**, MULEIDE-Maputo provided judicial support to nine women farmers who were denied access to their land after their husbands passed away. Six cases were solved outside the courts, while three cases are on-going in court. In **Rwanda**, women leaders, who had participated in leadership training facilitated by Rwanda Women Network, created local community-based model family schools to support women and refer gender-based violence (GBV) and domestic violence victims to responsible Government institutions (see result example).

Thirteen country programmes contribute to outputs related to (OP2.1) *people have knowledge about politics, economics, rights and influencing strategies*, and (OP2.2.1) *about discrimination and how to prevent it*.

In many countries where NPA has programmes and partners, marginalised city dwellers and people living in rural areas, particularly indigenous peoples, minorities and women, have limited access to basic education, and the quality is often poor. Therefore, political formation, or training of people in politics and economics, gender equality, human rights, and existing laws and regulations, is

central in partners work. Such training is necessary for people to understand how society functions, and to mobilise to influence decision-making, and challenge and prevent discrimination.

In 2020, 56 420 women and 75 910 men have received training on politics, economics and rights from partners in nine country programmes. 10 463 women and 11 050 men were trained on how to influence decision-making in eight country programmes, and 14 251 women and 5 886 men received training on discrimination and prevention measures in six country programmes. Partners reached more people using online resources, however, the quality may not have been the same as in face-to-face trainings.

Campaigning is another important method to raise awareness and mobilise people. Use of SoMe has increased in recent years, but the restrictions of movement and gathering related to the pandemic intensified the use of community radios and TVs, and digital platforms, and social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat. Partners are also using art, virtual hearings, and information sharing in public spaces, to reach people and constituencies.

For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, Magamba, MISA and Zim Rights coordinated and trained citizens to attend consultative processes related to the Cyber Security and Data Protection and the Zimbabwe Media Commission Bill, which are a threat to civic freedoms, citizen freedoms and media independence. Robust debates and wide consultations led to a delay in the announcement of the new bills to allow for citizens to input into the bill review process. Contentious repressive clauses were repealed and media practitioners permitted to establish a shadow policy to accompany the Zimbabwe Media Commission Bill (see result example). Further, Magamba, together with 28 tech savvy young people, developed Zimbabwe's first COVID-19 dashboard, which is used to track, analyse and disseminate information on African governments' spending on COVID-19. They also implemented non-gender discrimination policies by recruiting more female contributors, to counter the male dominated media industry. Through its Open Parly platform, 'She Reports', women politicians and gender activists have a platform to express themselves.

In Cuba, FCOM advised local governments and CSOs on communication campaigns related to the pandemic, and trained public officers and CSO representatives on communication techniques for social networks and how to identify fake news.

In **South Sudan**, Anataban launched a campaign called Wagif Corona, meaning "Stop Corona" in Arabic, to raise awareness on COVID-19 using music, comedy, murals and cartoons, poetry and drama. The campaign was conducted

in Juba, and expanded to some state capitals and refugee camps in Kenya and Uganda. Further, several partners held awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19 in Unity State; greater Bhar El Ghazal region and in greater Equatoria. Information in English, Arabic, Nuer, Dinka, Jurchol, Otuho and Azande languages were disseminated in public places, such as churches, markets and schools.

In **Guatemala**, due to restrictions limiting activities in the communities aimed at reducing discrimination, COINDI decided to use their television channel Nojib'al-TW to continue their campaigns, with approximately 8000 daily viewers. The channel transmits information and discussions on to the role of indigenous women, respect for indigenous identity, culture and language. MMT organised artistic and cultural activities emphasizing indigenous culture, to encourage youth participation and promote positive attitudes towards indigenous women and peoples.

In **Cambodia**, CENTRAL applied peer to peer training related to rights and freedoms of trade unions, labour rights, short-term contracts and current employment suspension measures during the COVID-19 pandemic. This format enables participants to pass on what they have learned to other workers in their workplace, as well as to equip workers and their local leadership with the knowledge to subsequently file complaints to the Ministry of Labour or negotiate with employers for better working conditions. 13,179 cases of workers affected by human rights abuses were supported and resolved at different levels, including in court, and 10,000 legal consultations were provided to workers. The numbers are high because many work places were closed due to COVID-19.

In **MENA**, ANND conducted seven sessions, covering challenges in MENA and the implications of COVID-19 on social and economic rights, in an annual regional training course on human rights, with 100 (51F). They also conducted a virtual study week (13 sessions over three weeks) with 14 (8F) participants from members, partners and civil society actors, and 13 experts from the region on macro-economic policies and development. The online meetings allowed for more structured exchanges, including on best practices and new tools. 12 WHRDMENA Coalition's members received training on producing podcasts to influence and advocate for WHRDs and human rights issues. The podcast is a tool to ensure communication and information sharing between WHRDs and to have an alternative media outlet that addresses human rights, WHRDs rights and information sharing.

Although women and youth are active in communities and organisations, leadership positions are often dominated by men. Therefore, many partners have strategically worked to strengthen the inclusion of women and youth in the

organisations and in the communities, to enhance their participation in decision-making on all levels.

For instance, in **Honduras**, CDM, in cooperation with COPA, CNTC, COPINH and OFRANEH, established a Community feminist school, to fight violence and discrimination, and strengthen women's role in the organisations and communities. In 2020, the first 20 young women from four indigenous and peasant organisations graduated, representing communities affected by extractivist projects and the struggle for land. As part of the training, the women had to produce four radio programmes on community feminism to reach a broader audience. CNTC succeeded in increasing the number of men in educational forums on women's rights.

In **Rwanda**, a total of 168 women and 80 men were trained on women leadership and positive masculinity, to empower women to engage in decision-making processes and take leadership positions, and to engage men to enhance gender equality. Partners trained 180 district officials from 9 districts to construct gender-responsive plans and budgets. They also trained female Governance Focal Persons (GFPs) and Women Safe Space facilitators, to collect cases on rights violation, offer mediation and referral to citizens in their respective constituencies.

In **MENA**, WHRDMENA Coalition launched the #SheDefends campaign, with 51,000 online 'hits', to shed light on the importance of wellbeing as a human right, with a focus on healing in light of all the ongoing violations against WHRDs in MENA. The Coalition also joined a campaign entitled "#SupportWHRDs", issuing videos on the situation of women human rights defenders in MENA, providing documentation on the situation of WHRDs in Iraq and Palestine.

In **Lebanon**, APCC conducted a round table discussion on racism with Palestinian leaders and politicians. In cooperation with another CSO, they conducted capacity building on leadership skills, communication, and strategic planning with 10 Palestinian youth in the Shatila camp. Since all the schools were closed, APCC, in cooperation with different schools and teachers, prepared 14 free online learning programs for different age groups on youtube. KW is developing a feminist educational program for women from different communities in Lebanon, reflecting local issues and the global forces that impact them from a feminist perspective.

In **Cuba**, ANAP and ACPA's cooperation with agricultural cooperatives generated new employment options for women, and they were incorporated as partners. The non-agricultural cooperatives and pre-cooperatives accompanied by GALFISA and TTIB/CMLK, constituted

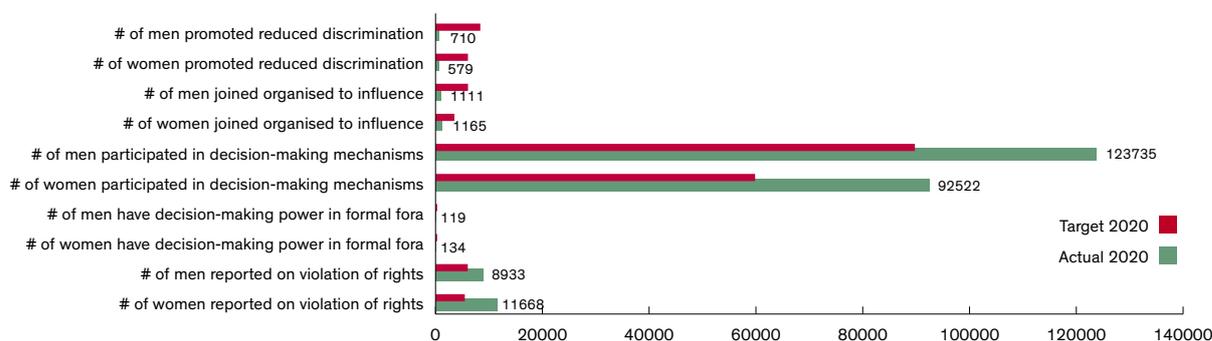
by women, have remained active during the pandemic and guaranteed basic income for the members (see result example). GALFISA promoted the 'Berta Caceres feminist space', which distributed feminist educational material, facilitated debates and provided advice to women victims of violence.

In some countries, people have little experience in democratic participation and electoral voting, especially young people. For instance, in **Palestine**, there have not been elections in a decade, and many young people feel alienated from politics and decision-making. Therefore, REFORM established communication channels between political authorities and citizens to increase young women and men's participation in decision-making, and organised hearings where young women and men could raise their concerns about the Palestinian Authorities (PA) ruling in general, and their response to COVID-19 in particular (see result example).

In **Myanmar**, partners conducted civic and political education training to approximately 130 000 citizens (54 000 F) across the country, particularly targeting youth groups in remote or ethnic minorities areas. For instance, Mynfrel conducted a campaign to mobilise marginalised people in 15 townships to participate in the election, and ALARM conducted community awareness sessions in 47 townships in five regions and states. PACE produced nine animation videos, watched 16,300 times on facebook, and two theatre plays presented on youtube, to encourage active citizenship and voting. They also conducted electoral observation training to 1,930 observers. YRDP conducted awareness raising and trainings to 502 youth (268F) on e.g. democratic governance, critical thinking, active citizenship, climate change response, online advocacy and digital security. GADC conducted awareness raising related human rights, gender equality and domestic violence laws for 397 women.

Gender-based violence is rife in many countries, and increased during COVID-19 confinement. Many societies lack proper reporting mechanisms, people do not trust the police, and impunity and harmful traditions prevail, issues several partners seek to address. For instance, in **South Sudan**, WAO conducted seven community meetings on prevention of child marriage, and gender-based violence and discrimination, and a three-day training with 20 participants (1 F) to strengthen the capacity of traditional chiefs on the rule of law in relation to GBV. St. Monica conducted two radio talk shows on GBV prevention and available services for GBV survivors. ROG trained 20 women leaders to denounce violence against women, and 15 male chiefs on women rights.

In several country programmes partners work to strengthen people's access to natural resources in general, and women's



On the way to achieve outcome 2 indicators. Actual's share of target 2024.

land rights in particular, through negotiating with traditional leaders, local and national authorities, challenging concessions to companies and training community members. For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, CHRA and WCoZ took lead in demanding gender responsive service delivery during emergencies. They trained 1432 women on how to develop networks and build a movement against discriminatory practices in service delivery, resulting in two women becoming co-applicants for a high court case demanding access to public water. Several partners participated in national dialogue meetings with policy makers to present recommendations to the almost final gender land policy, and trained women on property rights and how to use constitutional provisions to claim their rights.

In **South Sudan**, partners engaged with local leaders, land authorities and chiefs to persuade them to allow marginalised persons, including women, to register lands in their own names. This led to a change of attitude, especially among traditional leaders and chiefs (see result example). GBLA, GLEA and SSLS conducted a total of 16 radio programmes in different regions to create awareness on land rights, land ownership, rights of non-citizens, land tenure, land expropriation, land dispute resolution mechanism and land registration.

In **South Africa**, farmworkers, shack dwellers, and mining affected communities have knowledge about politics, economics and human rights. For instance, AIDC organised Right to say No workshops for mining affected communities in Mpumalanga, North West and Eastern Cape. R2K trained 81 Repression monitors (33m) to monitor human rights violation during lockdown. In **Palestine**, partners raised awareness and trained rural women farmers, fishermen and activists in politics, economics and human rights, and on how to defend their rights.

Many partners are engaged in enhancing minority rights, whether ethnic minorities, indigenous peoples, migrant workers, and support people experiencing various forms of discrimination to mobilise to demand their rights. For

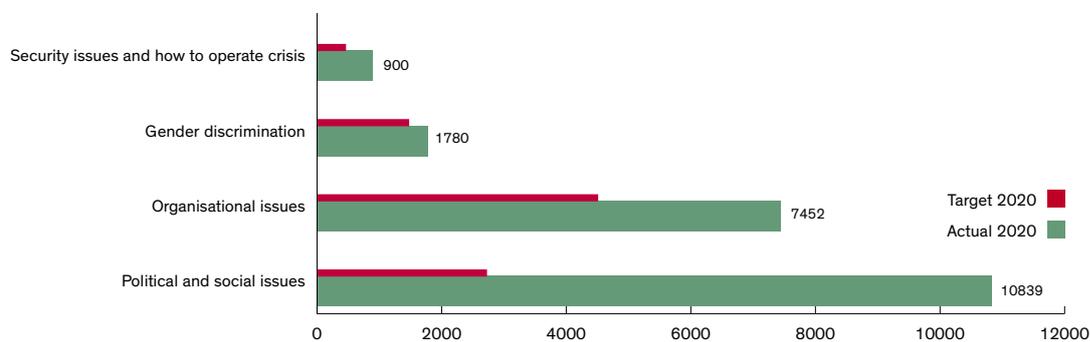
instance, in **Lebanon** Anti-Racism Movement conducted online classes for migrant workers, where they integrated migrant worker rights, health precautions, and daily news. As a result, 822 migrant workers reported on violation of rights. They supported them in their claims for evacuation by their respective embassies, and as a result 170 people were evacuated (see result example). In **Iraq**, where more than 97% of the population are identified as Muslim, and the space for non-religious identity is limited, the Alliance for Iraqi Minority provided a platform for non-believer groups to unite, synergize, and voice their views (see result example).

## 2.4 Civil society organisation strengthened to influence

The global COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating impacts on peoples' lives and livelihoods, but also on their organisational life. The activities mostly affected were related to travels and assemblies of people, such as training programmes, board meetings, and congresses, as well as mobilisations, cultural events, exchange visits and meetings with authorities at different levels. Such organisational gatherings and events are crucial to agree on agendas and strategies, to build strength, and to coordinate with others to push for change and influence, hence, the pandemic deprived the organisations of important tools.

However, partners have shown an impressive ability to adapt to the situation, using digital meeting spaces to maintain organisational practices, such as assemblies and board meetings, developed digital training platforms, and organised and participated in online seminars, workshops and conferences to coordinate with other CSOs and influence decision-makers. In fact, several partners report on advantages of using digital meeting spaces and training platforms, such as reaching more people and spending less money and time on travel, and will continue with a combination of virtual and face-to-face events in the future.

Organising people with a common cause is a central element in all NPA programmes, and strengthening organisations



Number of partner staff/members trained on.... Outputs ontributing to outcome 1.1 and 1.2 - Changes in CSOs strength to influence

is at the core of our cooperation with partners. NPA's partners include popular organisations representing their constituencies, NGOs with and without a membership base, networks and umbrella organisations.

Organisational strengthening, or development, is a method to enhance the role organisations play in the social and political processes they engage in. Organisational development processes must be owned by the organisation itself. NPA and partners regularly engage in dialogues to assess five dimensions of organisational capacity: 1. The policy of the organisation, referring to its values, capacity to analyse and relate to the context, and clarity in strategy and agenda. 2. Their unity and internal democracy, including communication between local and central chapters, recruitment of members, balanced representation (e.g. gender, youth, geography and organisational level) in boards, committees and political training. 3. Their capacity to influence and make changes, including combined strategies to seek influence, develop policy proposals, access media channels, and carry out awareness-raising activities. 4. Their capacity to relate and establish alliances with others who share their goals. 5. Their technical and administrative capacities. Based on this dialogue NPA and partner agree on how to cooperate to strengthen the organisation. We have found that this approach is useful, and well received by partners.

For the period 2020-2024, NPA is implementing ODDAT (Organisational Development Dialogue and Assessment Tool) in cooperation with partners to assess strengths and weaknesses, and set targets for what dimensions to strengthen. Partners and country programmes are only reporting on outcome (O1.1) Partners are more effective in their work to influence and mobilise, and outcome (O1.2) *Partners maintained their work to influence decision-makers despite restrictions and repression* in 2022. However, all report on outputs.

Partners have provided training on different issues. In 13 countries partners organised political training for 10 839

members and/or staff, and 7 452 participated in trainings on organisational issues. 1 780 were trained in gender discrimination and 900 in security issues and how to operate in crisis. Also here, training outreach was greater than planned due to online training means.

As with mobilising people and communities (2.3), political training is an important tool in most programmes to support partners efforts to develop leadership skills and competence. The trainings contribute to building organisational, technical and political skills, but also to motivate members, and to develop unity and purpose.

The pandemic affected partners' training programmes in various ways, and many report on innovations and lessons to be taken forward. For instance, in **El Salvador**, the pandemic accelerated partners' use of multimedia, including banners, printed material, radio, audio-visuals, social media, and web sites, and Equipo Maiz adapted its training methodologies and advocacy work in close cooperation with social organisations (see result example). In **MENA**, ANND moved their workshops to an online platform, allowing them to include more experts and participants, and they will integrate this platform in future trainings as a new form of organising and bringing people together.

The content, scope and methodologies of the political training programmes vary substantially, as the following examples indicate.

In **Zimbabwe**, partners trained 5513 (912M) members and staff in political, economic, social issues and organisational skills. For instance, WLZ, WCDT, ZELA, and WCoZ conducted Woman Can Do It trainings to increase women's participation in national processes. ZELA also conducted trainings on open governance in the mining sector, and Zim Rights trained members on labour and socio-economic rights. Partners trained 176 (39M) staff, board and members on technical and administrative issues such as M&E, programme progress review, policy analysis, and how to write policy briefs and petitions.

In **Mozambique**, UCA and UGICAN trained 60 leaders of associations (27M) in leadership and management, focusing on internal democracy and youth and women participation. UCA trained 64 members (25M) of natural resources management committees (NRMC) to monitor the extraction of natural resources, and 107 people (55M) in forest and wildlife law, to prevent illegal poaching and extraction of timber.

In **South Africa**, SERI organised training in policies and laws on housing and land rights with the national and provincial leadership in Abahlali and CSAAWU (wine farmworkers' union). MACUA trained 27 young people in film production, leading to local branches' improved documentation of challenges faced by mining affected communities. Abahlali offered driver's licence to fifty members, including women, to enable them to drive to communities to mobilise and engage new members.

In **Bolivia**, partners trained 6379 members (3038F) on political, organisational, productive, media and gender issues. For instance, in Cochabamba, Bartolinas and La Unica (FSUTCC) conducted 63 organisational trainings with 4324 participants (1960F). The Bartolinas emphasised combining training with analysis of the context and organisational strategies to confront COVID-19 and the racist violence during the transitional government. In Santa Cruz, the Bartolinas chose to organise activities around production. It was a response to the lockdown, but also a strategy to reduce the risks of political persecution as even talking about organising risked attention from the transitional government and violent groups. Three Bartolina Sisa partners (National, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz) and CEFREC/CAIB organised 16 workshops on gender quality with 528 participants (386F).

In **Colombia**, Congreso organised a 3 months training programme with 43 participants (27M), on political economy, communication and the social struggle, while CNA organised a three-day virtual training with 14 participants on agro-ecology, the agrarian struggle, and communication, and a feminist school with 200 participants.

In **Palestine**, PFU establish two new Farmers' Associations (FAs), and 150 farmers joined PFU through the new branches. The new members were trained in land protection mechanisms, and the impact of the Israeli annexation on the agricultural sector and on the Palestinian economy. The training also covered agricultural policies that PFU is working on, such as tax refund and market protection from dumping of Israeli produce and monopolization.

In **Cuba**, CMLK organised three workshops to discuss content and methodology for political training schools with other Latin American organisations, and produced six

pedagogical audio-visuals on popular education. They also organised political trainings and debates on popular organisation and participation, SoMe activism, religious fundamentalism and gender equality, for the regional coordination teams of the Network of popular educators (NPEP) and the Ecumenical Network (EN), who are present in 50 territories of the country. The CEPRODESO and NPEP organised trainings in political ecology and popular environmental education in Pinar del Río to civil servants and community members.

In **Lebanon**, ARM members were trained in human and civil rights, political and social issues, including organisational skills, emergency intervention, mental health and digital security, while ARM staff were trained in social media strategy, including Facebook and Instagram Ad Basics and advanced excel. In Iraq, 32 staff members from six partners were trained, 16 on international and national policies, treaties of human rights and minorities, and dialogue skills, and 16 on administrative and technical capacities.

In **South Sudan**, NPA provided training for 16 civil society partners covering project cycle management, strategic development and policy development. Nine partners were supported through their own consultants to develop policies, including Gender Inclusion Policies and Anti-bribery policies.

NPA also supports partners' efforts to strengthen their internal unity and democracy, such as congresses and assemblies, which constitute the core of the organisations. At these events they exert accountability from elected leaders, renew their leaderships, reaffirm their membership nature, and discuss their political agenda, mandates and strategies, the challenges they face and their role in the context. The organisations' internal communication and representation are also important dimensions.

The political crisis and the effects of COVID-19, forced partners in **Bolivia** to redefine their forms of organising and ways of influencing, and strengthening the capacity to use communication technologies was prioritised. CEFREC/CAIB organised an intensive training for 303 (147F) leaders and indigenous communicators from the various organisations in the Unity Pact, including partners. The 10 workshops, lasting 43 days, combined political analysis with the use of digital media and representation, and learning to use information and communication technologies (ICT). After the coup in October 2019, indigenous women in traditional skirts were attacked and insulted by racist hordes. In response, the Bartolinas, with the support of CEFREC/CAIB, initiated the campaign "We are Bartolinas", with seven short videos for SoMe, to raise self-esteem and political and social legitimacy.

In **Colombia**, ONIC presented its political structure and governance strategy, “Law of Origin”, developed through a process where the late leader Luis Fernando Arias (1979-2021) and the Senior Council visited the 51-member organisations over a period of 18 months to compile elements on how to govern ONIC in a manner that reflects indigenous peoples’ traditional values and organisational traditions. ONIC also organised a three-day creative writing workshop with 20 men and women leaders from different regions to preserve the memory of the organisation. They wrote about their personal lives, their struggles and organisational experiences.

In **Cuba**, CMLK used the confinement to move forward with their 2021-2024 institutional strategy, which includes advocacy towards the State and awareness raising of broad audiences. The process included wide consultations with the national networks they accompany and other CSOs.

In **Rwanda**, partners have updated their advocacy strategies using the knowledge and skills acquired from the training on advocacy monitoring, and mainstreamed gender in their implementation strategies as a result of the training on gender inclusion.

In **South Sudan**, SSSCF (South Sudan CS Forum) conducted meetings in five locations within South Sudan and three in neighbouring countries to share its Charter, Governance Protocols and Membership Application Form, adopted in 2019. 62 CSOs and 12 individual activists from all ten states and neighbouring countries formally registered for membership. Over 100 CSOs and individual activists are now formally registered and they have been connected through a WhatsApp social media platform to facilitate coordination of information and activities among CSOs.

Although women and youth are active in the organisations, leadership positions are often held by men. Therefore, many partners have strategically worked to strengthen the inclusion of women and youth in the organisations, and to enhance their participation in decision-making on all levels. Many partners are also engaged in combatting SGBV (sexual and gender-based violence) and gender discrimination.

In **Colombia**, several partners took steps to strengthen their gender equality policies. ANZORC approved their gender strategy and launched a campaign against GBV, Congreso decided to become a strong voice against patriarchy, both internally and in their advocacy, and both Congreso and CNA developed ethics committees to deal with GBV within the organisations. In **Honduras**, at the CNTC 2020 assembly, three women were appointed to the regional board of directors, and local chapters’ assemblies were encouraged to train new women leaders. In

**Guatemala**, partners have prioritised leadership training for women, particularly young indigenous peasant women, and to strengthen their capacities in their struggle against discrimination and social and structural violence. While in **Zimbabwe**, WLZ, WDCT and WCOZ have addressed gender issues in a way that it is taken seriously at all community levels in their programme areas.

In **Cambodia**, eight partners participated in a training on gender discrimination, gender roles, and gendered practices in families and workplaces, provided by another partner, GADCE. In **Iraq**, partners were encouraged to enhance gender balance in their staffing and gender equality in their organisations, through steering committee meetings, political dialogues, a workshop on strategy development, and trainings on women participation. In **El Salvador**, political dialogues on gender issues were conducted between NPA and ARPAS, RACO and Comandos, including reflections on the scarce influence women have in the structures of direction in the two latter.

In **South Sudan**, ACSS, ACR and CAPAD developed gender mainstreaming policies to guide their internal procedures and programming. As a result of seven gender mainstreaming dialogues between NPA and partners, CAPAD and ACR developed new organisational structures and hired coordinators for Gender, Monitoring and Evaluation. ACSS, ACR and OAF developed their advocacy plans and strategies with NPA’s support. SSSCF developed a one-year strategic plan through wide consultation with members, and St. Monica and AnaTaban developed strategic plans for 2021-23. In **MENA**, ANND and SMEX developed internal policies, including on Code of Conduct and anti-corruption, while WHRDMENA Coalition held an online general assembly to formalize all internal processes including elections.

In **Ecuador**, the women in MICC built their own collection centre, exchanged products with the Amazon peoples and led a province march against the impact of agribusinesses, while the Kayambi women played an important role in the agro-ecological production and sales. UOCE discussed community feminism and, developed strategies on how to handle domestic violence in the communities, while AUCC rejected the local government’s elimination of the municipal regulation on gender violence, and UOCE conducted an intensive two-month internship in political training for young leaders.

Working together makes one stronger. Hence, alliance building with other likeminded organisations is important when pushing for changes and influencing decision-makers. Several partners have also established cooperation mechanisms with authorities at different levels to strengthen the organisations’ effectiveness to influence.

In **Zimbabwe**, some partners demonstrated increased capacity to influence and organise through coalition and consensus building. For instance, CHRA collaborated with local activists and like-minded networks to file court applications compelling the government to provide public services. ZCIEA made two high court applications to stop demolitions, which were dismissed, but the government stopped ongoing demolitions across the country. It became an unexpected opportunity for dialogue between ZCIEA and the government, which has resulted in authorities beginning to improve informal sector vending spaces. Others experienced a boost in scope, for instance WLZ was invited by women in neighbouring wards, and are now working in ten new wards.

In **Colombia**, solidarity caravans are means for organisations to cooperate to express solidarity with people living in conflict ridden areas with little or no state presence, attract attention to their problems, and demand that authorities take responsibility (see result example). In **El Salvador**, partners coordinated campaigns to denounce deficiencies and corruption in government responses to the pandemic.

Partners in **Myanmar** increased their cooperation on sensitive issues like extractive industries and natural resources management. MESCA and ALARM were actively involved in the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) with the Multi-Stakeholder Groups (MSGs) at national and regional levels.

In **Rwanda**, PPIMA partners, and other CSOs, coordinated advocacy actions at both district and national level to amplify their voices in raising pertinent issues for change in policies and practices. The PPIMA partners also strengthen collaboration with different government institutions to facilitate open and legitimate interaction, and conducted 92 cross-learning events between CSOs and government to share experiences and best practices.

When the local government administrator prevented them from collecting data on people affected by land conflicts in the district of Mulevela, **Mozambique**, UPCZ negotiated with the local traditional leader who then mobilised for the affected population to participate in the land conflict mapping. In **Zimbabwe**, four partners signed agreement with local authorities, for instance, ZCIEA signed MoUs in 12 cities to allow for advocacy for informal sector to claim their rights, and WLZ signed MoUs with three new local district councils to implement activities and expand its work. In **Palestine**, SDF signed an MOU with the municipality of Gaza on actions and priorities, including participation of youth in local elections.

In **Cuba**, FCOM advised local governments and CSOs on communication campaigns related to the pandemic, and

trained public officers and CSO representatives on communication techniques for social networks and how to identify fake news. In **El Salvador**, several municipal authorities were informed about MAM's demands related to budgets to implement gender policies, infrastructure, and employment in the communities, but only municipalities led by FMLN were open for dialogue. In cooperation with the community radio network (RACO), MAM denounced the municipal authorities that refused to meet women groups.

In most country programmes, civil society organisations and their members and leaders experience restrictions on freedoms of expression, movement, organising and assembly. Many are also exposed to prosecution, persecution, abductions and assassinations, and unfortunately impunity is rife. Therefore, maintaining organisational life, and to influence decision-makers despite restrictions and repression, is an achievement in itself.

For instance, in **Honduras**, when the state did not investigate the abduction of five community leaders belonging to OFRANEH, they created their own investigating mechanism with an operational team and several working groups, including national and international interdisciplinary experts in forensic sciences, anthropology, psychology, medical sciences, spiritual guides, researchers and human rights professionals, lawyers and relatives of the disappeared.

In **Colombia**, 310 social leaders and environment and human rights defenders were killed in 2020. Defending their social leaders and organisations have become the principal job for all partners. They organised campaigns and took to the streets to protest against persecution, prosecution and assassinations. They presented national and international complaints and organised press conferences denouncing every assassination and arbitrary arrest, and accompanied imprisoned members and staff. They organised regional meetings to discuss what to do in case of HR abuse incidents, and how to protect people at risk, for instance relocation, safe houses, new phones and psycho-social support.

In **Zimbabwe**, Zim Rights assisted 22 human rights defenders with safety packs in situations of repression, and MISA procured panic buttons for journalists.

In **South Sudan**, AMDISS conducted advocacy seminars with the Media Authority and Judiciary to push for safety of journalists. 25 senior judges and the Deputy Chief Justice attended the first seminar, resulting in the Chief Justice to order more printed copies of the media laws for judicial officials' access since laws are not digitised. The second seminar was attended by female journalists and 25 female

advocates. The aim was to create networks between female advocates and journalists to defend freedom of expression, including protection of journalists during arbitrary arrests and unlawful detention by security organs. AMDISS also trained 35 journalists (26M) on security and how to operate in conflict context for eight months.

In **Cambodia**, partners enhanced resilience by utilising online campaigns and produced joint statements. For instance, calling for the withdrawal of all charges against an arrested union leader, and for the draft Law on Public Order to be immediately discarded, as it contains many provisions that criminalize legitimate everyday activities.

Several programmes continue to report concern that authorities are increasingly controlling social media and **surveilling communication**, not least in light of COVID-19 restrictions. For instance, in **MENA**, SMEX held their annual BreadNet online, a regional meeting space for civil society actors and activists to discuss human rights, digital rights and freedom of expression, with 800 participants

attending 63 sessions. BreadNet highlighted the wave of state-backed internet shutdowns infecting the region, how restrictions and oppressive measures amplified amidst COVID-19, and the increased use of online sphere as a space to organize and mobilize. **In Zimbabwe**, partners initiated awareness campaigns, strategic alliances, and dialogues targeting citizens and policy makers when the government introduced new restrictive media bills. The result was that the government agreed to review the restrictive clauses in the new laws (see result example). NPA is increasing its support to strengthen partners' digital security.

## **2.5 Result examples, Civil Society for Reduced Inequality**

On the following pages you will find result examples from all the 17 country programmes, and MENA, included in the Civil Society for Reduced Inequality programme in the Cooperation Agreement.

## South Africa: Farmworkers secure COVID-19 relief benefits

**When businesses deemed non-essential were closed, due to lockdown, in March 2020, workers in precarious employment, like farmworkers, were excluded from applying for benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF). Women on Farms (WoF), in cooperation with SERI and other organisations, challenged the unfairness – and won!**

To mitigate the loss of income for workers due to the lockdown, the Minister of Employment and Labour introduced the Temporary Employer and Employee Relief Scheme (TERS), administered by the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), and employers were instructed to apply for it on behalf of their employees. According to TERS, only employers registered with the UIF could apply. However, the majority of the farmworkers are not registered by their employers with the UIF, despite the law saying they should be.

Women on Farms (WoF) organised a social media campaign, where women highlighted challenges with accessing UIF and TERS benefits, and developed and distributed 10,000 information pamphlets about the UIF and COVID-19 related benefits to farmwomen activists. They distributed the pamphlets on in the communities and compiled information about violation of COVID-19 regulations on farms.

WoF enlisted Women's Legal Centre to write a legal communicate to the Minister of Employment and Labour. Together with SERI, Casual Workers Advice Offices, Izwi Domestic Worker Alliance and Simunye Workers Forum

(SWF), they made a court application to amend government policies. When farmwomen participated in a virtual meeting with the provincial Chief Inspector on labour violations during lockdown, specific attention was given to non-compliance of COVID-19 Health and Safety regulations, and women's struggles in accessing UIF and TERS benefits.

Facing a court application, the Department of Employment and Labour opted for a settlement and made amendments to the TERS directives. Farm workers are now eligible to apply for UIF irrespective of whether or not their employer had complied with the laws regulating the fund through contributions. It has broadened the definition of an eligible worker from being a UIF contributor to every worker affected by the COVID-19 lockdown.

A lesson learnt was the importance of involving the communities in the process, getting women to understand what was going on and sharing their insights. Due to COVID-19, it was difficult to engage directly with the department of labour. Legal action and online campaigns will become more critical bearing in mind the inaccessibility of government.

**Partner: WoF (1996): NGO working to improve the working and living conditions of farmwomen through increasing their knowledge and assertion of their rights as a means of contributing to rural gender justice.**

### Cost:

NPA partner since 2020 NPA transferred NOK 1 000 000 to WoF in 2020. Beyond funding, NPA had political dialogues with the partner around the challenges faced by farmwomen during and best ways of supporting them.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.newframe.com/all-workers-can-now-benefit-from-uif-relief-scheme/>

## Zimbabwe: The government concedes to media reforms

**When the government introduced new restrictive media bills, NPA partners initiated awareness campaigns, strategic alliances, and dialogues targeting citizens and policy makers. The result was that the government agreed to review the restrictive clauses in the new laws.**

According to Human Rights Watch Report 2020, Zimbabwe's media environment is among the most restrictive in the world. For over a decade civil society groups, including NPA partners, and media coalitions have lobbied for the repeal of the restrictive Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA), a draconian law used to stifle citizens, civil society and media.

In 2020, the repeal of AIPPA saw the introduction of the Cybersecurity Data Protection Bill and Zimbabwe Media Commission Bill. The legislation appeared progressive, strengthening data protection and promoting conducive media regulation. However, both bills contain provisions that undermine citizens' right to privacy, and freedom of expression and media, codified in the constitution. For instance, the absence of an independent regulatory institution to play an oversight role in data protection could result in breaches in the way personal information is stored, retrieved and shared.

Magamba, ZimRights and MISA used digital media and offline engagement to raise awareness and facilitate dialogue on the new Bills, mobilised citizens through local structures and grassroots organisations to participate in the public hearings. A shadow report was produced by MISA and submitted to parliament to inform debate and decision-making.

MISA also sought the partnership of Google, Facebook, International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX),

Pen International and Privacy International to push the government to adhere to international standards and to adopt a human rights approach in regulating the internet. IFEX, Pen International, Privacy International and AFEX Africa petitioned the parliament of Zimbabwe, Southern Africa Development Community, Africa Union, United Nations and the World Bank on how the restrictive new laws would comprise the right to privacy, freedom of expression and access to information. Facebook and Google wrote to the parliament raising concerns on the security centric approach to internet regulation as opposed to a human rights-based approach. They also raised concerns on how they would find it difficult to invest in Zimbabwe under restrictive media laws.

Together with 22 other international organisations, NPA partners led by MISA, petitioned and made submissions to the parliament of Zimbabwe to adhere to regional and international best practices. This was further augmented by use of the continental mechanisms such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) to exert pressure on the government of Zimbabwe. Eventually, the Minister of Information Communication Technology approved the review of contentious sections of Cyber security and Data Protection Bill and the Cyber security and Data Protection Bill.

MISA, Magamba and ZimRights, demonstrated the effectiveness of collaboration and the impact it has on programmes' capacities to mobilise and influence. The involvement of civil society and legal resource organisations is key to ensure informed parliamentary debates and decision making.

**Partners: MISA (1995): Lobbies for media reforms. NPA partner since 2020.**

**ZimRights (1992): NGO working to advance human rights in Zimbabwe. NPA partner since 2008.**

**Magamba (2007): A youth network working with various media. NPA partner since 2015.**

### **Cost:**

NPA transferred a total of NOK 2 104 481 to the three organisations for activities related to this result.

### **Supporting documents:**

<https://ifex.org/government-asked-to-enact-cybersecurity-and-data-protection-bill-in-line-with-continental-benchmarks>

<https://pen-international.org/news/zimbabwe-government-cybersecurity-bill>

## Mozambique: Company gave land back to the communities

The government decided to give the 54.000 hectares of land, which had been unfairly given to a Norwegian company, back to the 26 affected communities, and requested ORAM-Niassa to monitor the implementation of the agreement. The communities will also receive a 20 % share of the yearly forest tax payed by the company.

In 2016, the government of Mozambique attributed 173.000 hectares of land, covering 46 communities in 5 districts in the Province of Niassa, to the Norwegian company Green Resources, for eucalyptus plantations. The concession was given without prior public consultation, as demanded by the law. The law also requires that 20 % of the taxes collected from the forest and wildlife resources must benefit local communities, but this had not been respected.

ORAM Niassa, and other NPA partners denounced, the attribution of the land. ORAM Niassa established four Natural Resources Management Committees (NRMC), with a minimum of 50 % women, trained them in relevant laws and regulations, negotiation skills, advocacy work, and gender issues, and facilitated dialogue meetings between the NRMCs and local authorities. In 2018, UNAC conducted a study on the impacts of the eucalyptus plantations for the communities, and presented it to the national Government and the Norwegian Embassy in Mozambique. ORAM Niassa used the same study to provide evidence to the Provincial Government that 54,000, out of 173.000 hectares, had been unlawfully acquired. Meanwhile, ORAM Maputo organised joint meetings and debates with the members of the National Parliament Commission for Economic

Activities and representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Rural Development, also including members of the affected communities and CSOs. ADECRU mobilised and organised advocacy groups and trained the community members on land law and resettlement regulation.

The government decided to give the 54.000 hectares of land, which had been unfairly given to Green Resources back to the communities. The local government requested ORAM-Niassa to monitor the implementation of the agreement between Green Resources and the local communities for the official handover of the land. The communities also retrieved 20% of the yearly tax the company pays for forest extraction, which was used to construct a maternity clinic, a school and agriculture inputs for the farmers.

In this process, NPA facilitated the networking among the organisations at national and provincial levels, which was crucial for the successful advocacy work. NPA supported ORAM Niassa's to demarcate land and negotiate between company and communities.

**Partners: ORAM (1992): NGO defending rural communities' right to land and natural resources. NPA partner since 2012. ORAM Niassa is the provincial chapter in the Niassa province. UNAC (1987): Social movement with approximately 250,000 members. NPA partner since 2012. ADECRU (2007): NGO working to defend the rights of rural communities. NPA partner since 2016.**

### Cost:

NPA covered the total costs of NOK 233.833 for ORAM Niassa, UNAC and ADECRU for activities directly linked to this result.

### Supporting documents:

<https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-green-resources-relinquishes-54000-hectares-of-land-in-niassa-report-176557/>

<https://wrm.org.uy/articles-from-the-wrm-bulletin/section1/green-resources-mozambique-more-false-promises/>

[https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=186938512995774&id=105691817787111](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=186938512995774&id=105691817787111)

<https://www.facebook.com/cizo.nhamue/posts/4092956277404678>

## Rwanda: Women leaders address gender-based violence

**Women leaders, who had participated in leadership training facilitated by Rwanda Women Network, took the initiative to create community-based model family schools, in different sectors of Gatsibo district, to support vulnerable women through mediation, and where necessary, referring gender-based violence (GBV) and domestic violence victims to responsible Government institutions.**

For the past 24 years, Rwanda Women Network (RWN), a long term NPA partner, has supported thousands of Rwandan women and continues to advocate for gender equality to ensure that both female and male local leaders promote equality and inclusion in their communities. In October 2020, RWN organised and facilitated a leadership training for 168 women leaders selected from fourteen sectors of Gatsibo District, under the theme: “Facilitating Women Participation in Leadership Positions”. The training provided an opportunity for these women leaders to assess their role in GBV prevention, map out the relevant actors for GBV prevention and response, and identify opportunities for women leaders’ engagement in community leadership and decision-making processes.

In November, 30 women leaders from the training, initiated a community-based model family schools, ‘Ishuri ry’Umuryango Mwiza’ (IUM) in each administrative sector of the district. As increase in GBV cases was rife, the IUMs also provided an opportunity to prevent and resolve GBV issues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the IUM, women leaders’ working relationships with stakeholders from governments and CSOs has improved significantly. The IUM will also be used as a safe space for women leaders to sensitize and motivate other women to actively participate in decision-making positions. Local leaders have responded positively to this initiative, by committing to extend the IUM to community level, and avail rooms at both community and village levels to support the implementation of IUM. The trained women leaders can use innovative solutions to their own problems as well as the problems of their communities. They have taken ownership to increase women participation in leadership positions and are educating other women in their constituencies to understand their rights, gain confidence and use their voices in the community. This includes raising awareness of COVID-19 prevention measures in their communities.

**Partner: RWN (1997): An umbrella organisation with 52 grassroots associations and 1967 individual members working to promote socio-economic welfare of women. NPA partner since 2009.**

### **Cost:**

Rwanda Women Network received NOK 928,829,319 and NORAD share 50%, SCD (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) 28.6% and SIDA 21.4%.

### **Supporting documents:**

Partner’s report, training records.

## South Sudan: Female headed households secures land rights

**Greater Bhar el Ghazal Land Alliance (GBLA) influenced authorities in Wau, Aweil and Kuajok to issue land titles to marginalised, who lack the formal documents to their land. The authorities responded positively and processed land documents to 120 people.**

Many IDPs and returnees, particularly women, in South Sudan do not have titles to protect their land rights. Some lost their documents during war or displacement. Others acquired land through customary systems that do not provide supporting documents that are recognised by the formal system. In any case, access to land and processing land documents is a challenge in South Sudan. The service provided by government is inefficient and the majority are too poor to raise fees to process required. This hinders people from full enjoyment of their land rights.

GBLA organised awareness raising meetings with communities regarding the importance of land and land registration and informed them about the institutions responsible for land administration in Northern Bhar el Ghazal State and at the county levels. To identify vulnerable people without access to land or land documents, GBLA

cooperated with its local member organisations, paralegals and other networks. In cooperation with its local member organisations, paralegals and other networks, they invited people to focus group discussions and dialogue forums. During these engagements, people who needed further support to secure their land rights were identified. GBLA also conducted meetings with the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure, local authorities, and traditional chiefs to discuss the implementation of the land policy.

GBLA interviewed the identified people to verify their ownership over the land, submitted their names and supporting documents to the State Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and paid statutory charges for acquisition of the land title. As a result of these initiatives, 120 (54 M) people received land documents in Aweil, Wau, Kuajok, Torit and Yei.

**Partner: GBLA: Community-based organisation with 11 registered members and 36 informal groups. It promotes local communities' land and natural resources rights. NPA partner since 2016.**

### Cost:

NPA provided financial support of NOK 300.000 to GBLA, technical advice and support during project design and implementation.

The partner's staff also participated in a capacity strengthening workshop.

### Supporting documents:

- Copy of the land titles.
- Pictures taken during the handing over of the land titles and another taken from the land/plot of the beneficiary .

## Myanmar: Election observation amidst security concerns and restrictions

**People's Alliance for Credible Election's (PACE) ultimate goal is for people to participate in elections and have their political voice heard. Preparing for the general elections in November 2020, PACE and its partner organisations reached over 20,000 people with their civic education activities. They also trained short- and long-term observers and monitored the different stages of the election process.**

The national and regional parliamentary elections on November 8th took place amidst the pandemic, restrictions, mounting political tensions and armed conflict in areas populated by minorities. With Myanmar's nascent and fragile democracy, the electoral process encountered many challenges, including reaching voters due to COVID-19 restrictions. Many citizens, especially youth and voters from ethnic minority areas, were voting for the first time, in a country with scarce civic and voter knowledge.

PACE strengthens democratic institutions through safeguarding citizen rights and promoting public participation in electoral processes. It is the main domestic election observer in the country. As voting fraud accusation has been a repetitive pattern since independence, justifying restoration of a military order several times, it was important for PACE to promote wide citizens' understanding of polling processes, but also to conduct a nationwide election observation to assess its credibility and fairness.

To ensure civic engagement as well as more inclusive, transparent and accountable elections, PACE conducted various activities such as: civic education trainings, videos, Facebook campaigns and theatre performance to encourage voting. PACE and its partner organisations reached over 20,000 persons (12,371 males, 8,459 females) with their civic education activities.

PACE and its partners all over the country have trained and mobilised active citizens to safeguard process during the whole election cycle, from the voter list display to the complaint mechanism.

On election day, PACE deployed a total of 2,190 observers, both short-term for the election day and long-term observers, to monitor the entire electoral process. Within hours, the organisation reported that the poll was overall credible, and their reports have been quoted in domestic and national media as the most accurate and reliable source within Myanmar.

These results are even more impressive when keeping in mind that PACE operated in a very restrictive context for civil society in general, given the COVID-19 pandemic, but also because they have been directly targeted by the Union Election Commission that initially rejected their official request to observe the elections. It took several weeks and a lot of insistence for them to manage to get their accreditation.

Despite the above-mentioned constraints, the voters' participation in the 2020 General Elections was very high, even among disadvantaged groups residing in poor or conflict-affected areas.

PACE has made an impressive effort in reaching a high number of voters. They have been creative in their methodologies, and they have had to defend their own operating space when it comes to the observation of the poll. PACE is today targeted by the military because they reported that the elections were broadly credible. They have faced direct threats to withdraw their reports, and the organisation's leaders are hiding to avoid being arrested.

**Partner: PACE (2013): An independent, election observer organisation. NPA partner since 2018.**

### Cost:

NPA's financial grant to PACE in 2020 amounted to approximately 1 215 000 NOK

### Supporting documents:

PACE - Campaign Observation Preliminary Report, and 2020 General Elections Preliminary Findings Report, <https://www.facebook.com/PACEMyanmar>, Media coverage: <https://www.mmtimes.com/tags/pace> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/pace-monitors-start-myanmar-election>

## Cambodia: Indigenous community wins land conflict

**Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP), along with other NGOs, cooperated to find a solution to a land conflict in a Kuoy indigenous village, whose land was consessioned to two mining companies. The Government agreed to return the land to 231 affected households.**

In 2010, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) awarded land concessions for mining to two companies on 1,467 hectares belonging to land of an indigenous community in Bangkeunphal village, Preah Vihear province. As a consequence, the community could not access non-timber forest products, like bark, resin, bees, and leaves for medic use, as well as deer and wild ducks.

NTFP supports communities to use their rights to be consulted on issues that affect them, and to prior and informed consent. In 2013, NTFP began working with local authorities and other NGOs to train 25 (21F) elected representatives from the communities as Mining Focal Persons (MFPs) and conduct community forums on the impact of mining. The main role of the MFPs is to negotiate with authorities, companies, and other stakeholders, on concerns raised by the local communities. For instance, the MFPs attended regular meetings with local municipal councils to address concerns and needs from the communities, and to provide inputs from the village level to the local authorities related to the mining activities. They also raised concerns on health issues emerging among the villagers as a result of chemicals used during mining.

NTFP cooperated with the Provincial Department of Environment, and other involved departments and NGOs, to provide training for 25 local authorities on the formal requirements of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA), which are officially regulated in Cambodia. NTFP also participated in the network meetings of the Extractive Industry Social and Environment Impact (EISEI) and the

Extractive Industry Governance Forum (EIGF) at a national level. The EISEI and EIGF are formal multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms on the extractive industries in Cambodia, disseminating relevant information and an opening for communities and CSOs to lift their concerns.

As a result of these processes, the indigenous communities became aware of their rights guaranteed by laws on use and management of natural resources. They raised concerns on land rights and health in various events and platforms, including municipal council meetings.

The MFPs and community members submitted a complaint letter to the Ministry of Environment and negotiated with the authorities to have the land returned to the communities. The local authorities requested the communities to mark the boundaries for their land, and the village chief, MFPs and community members prevented the companies to clear forest on their land. Ultimately, the Ministry of Environment returned the original land as well as some additional land, adding up to 1,531 hectares, to the communities.

The good relationship between MFPs and local authorities is essential for a common understanding of the challenges faced by the local communities, and to enhance the cooperation.

**Partner: NTFP (1996): Local NGO working with indigenous communities on land rights and access to natural resources. NPA partner since 2013.**

### Cost:

NPA funded NTFP with NOK 574,790. Approximately 3 % were used for this case. NPA provided advice on the training of MFPs and local authorities, and attended some trainings and meetings.

### Supporting documents:

Approved letter from Ministry of Environment and maps.

## **Bolivia:** Organised indigenous women influence decision-makers in a challenging context

The political context throughout 2020 was extreme. Bartolina Sisa, Cochabamba, showed organisational strength as they moved from resistance to mobilisation and proposal making. They played a fundamental role in defending Bolivia's democracy after the 2019 coup, and showed initiative and leadership despite persecution, racism, and a complex election process. They demanded equal participation of men and women in the electoral process, and following the victory in October, broadened their political participation in Parliament and presented proposals to the new government.

The indigenous peasant organisations of Cochabamba are notable for their bottom up structure and the consensual decision-making. Bartolinas is composed of between 80 and 100 thousand indigenous Quechua peasant women, organised in 2350 local women organisations, 450 municipal organisations, 82 regional and 16 provincial organisations.

2020 was a difficult year for the organisation due to the combination of racist violence from radical right-wing groups, repression and persecution from the temporary government of Añez, and the pandemic. The Añez government used the lockdown as an excuse to order the military to surround the communities of Cochabamba and prevent their mobilisation, punish peasants for working in their fields, and prevent products from the countryside to reach the city.

Under these circumstances, the Bartolinas found new ways of working and established new mechanisms for communication. Virtual meetings, radio programmes and social media, enabled the organisation to be active and informed, make consensual decisions with its members, and communicate their criticisms, demands and proposals. They made 19 declarations, held an average of two press

conferences every week and, with the help of CEPRA, CEFREC and the community radios, broadcasted weekly programmes.

388 organisational activities were conducted, 49% with local members, 9% at a national level and 42% with allies and departmental authorities. With the support of NPA, 16 departmental workshops were held on political training, transformation of production, and social media, with a total of 601 participants. In addition, they organised a summit to systematize policy proposals for the new government and 21 regional political training workshops (2824 participants: 1245F).

The Bartolinas contributed to maintain State funding for the municipalities, confronting the Añez government in alliance with the Association of Municipalities of Cochabamba, the Governorship and other organisations. They also obtained additional funding to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and permission for peasant farmers to transport their products to the city during the lockdown. They have had several meetings with the new government and presented their Proposal for the Economic Reactivation of Rural Women, approved in December.

**Partner: Bartolina Sisa (FDMCOIC BS): Organisation of indigenous peasant women (1980), and the largest women's organisation in Bolivia. Represented in the National Assembly, and has been a driving force in including women's rights and representation in the constitution. NPA partner since 2005.**

### **Cost:**

Bartolinas in Cochabamba (FDMCOIC BS) received NOK 1 mill from NPA in 2020.

### **Supporting documents:**

Budget to municipalities to face Covid: <https://fb.watch/538ClU2957/>

Political training: <https://www.facebook.com/102918008034425/posts/168310021495223/?sfnsn=mo>

Production workshops and proposal for the productive summit:

<https://www.facebook.com/102918008034425/posts/198336078492617/?sfnsn=mo>

<https://www.facebook.com/102918008034425/posts/225036492489242/?sfnsn=mo>

## Ecuador: Slave workers win lawsuit against the company and the State.

**Plantation workers won the court case against the company that kept them in conditions of modern slavery, whilst the State must guarantee the reparation of their rights.**

Furukawa, a Japanese company established in the coastal region in the 1940ies, has 32 farms in an area of 2,300 hectares, where they grow abacá, a plant from which a highly resistant fibre can be extracted. According to FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation) abacá is the fibre of the future, and Ecuador is the second world exporter. People on the farms worked under conditions of slavery, in extreme poverty, with no access to health or education, and without a labour contract.

In February 2019, the Ecuadorian Ombudsperson for Human Rights published a report verifying the violations, and described it as the worst example of modern slavery in the country's history. Many workers negotiated a settlement with the company, but 123 workers decided to fight for their rights. A solidarity committee was established to support the workers, including NPA's partner the National Peasant Coordinator (CNC-EA).

The CNC-EA organised trainings on labour rights and helped them establish their own organisation. With support from the solidarity committee, they filed for a protection action against the company. While waiting for the court case, CNC-EA accompanied the workers that had stopped working and stayed in one of the farms, resisting eviction, claiming the land as their own. As most did not know how to read or write, the accompaniment started with basic skills. They also supported them to plant their own food, and constructed water wells and a school. During the pandemic, CNC-EA provided biosafety kits and computers for the children to attend online classes.

The government argued against the human rights nature of the case, while the company denied any human rights violations and accused the workers of trespassing. However, on January 15, 2021, the judge ruled in favor of the workers' allegations, and the company was found guilty of committing violations to the workers' and their families' human rights, including rights to life with dignity, health, personal liberty, and non-discrimination. The state was found guilty for allowing it to happen.

The sentence is twofold. In the first phase, the judge declared the state and the company guilty as charged. In the second phase, the judge will dictate the compensatory measures. The judge declared the company guilty, which means compensation should be for all 1.200 workers in the 32 farms – not just the 123 individuals that went to court.

The Furukawa case exposed labour exploitation in large agribusiness plantations. The same conditions can be expected in numerous plantations, e.g. banana and broccoli. The court ruling is a victory for these 123 workers and their families, but it also encourages other former and current Furukawa workers, and workers in other agribusiness companies, to claim their rights.

The general manager of the company was Marcelo Almeida, the Norwegian consul in Ecuador. Soon after the scandal was a fact, he withdrew as the general manager, but remains the Norwegian consul.

**Partner: CNC-EA (1993): National social organisation representing 13 provincial and local organisations in 13 provinces, works for agrarian reform and food sovereignty. NPA partner since 2008.**

### Cost:

NPA contributed with 210 000 NOK for the specific support to CNC-EA for the Furukawa workers.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.elcomercio.com/actualidad/accion-proteccion-furukawa-vulneracion-derechos.html> <https://gk.city/2021/01/06/caso-furukawa/>  
<https://www.furukawanuncamas.org/documentacion?lang=en>  
<https://www.facebook.com/coordinadoracampesina.loyalfaro/posts/2518610671511484>

## Colombia: Solidarity caravan

The solidarity caravan, Caravana Humanitaria al Micay, started on Friday October 30th in the town of Popayán, Cauca, and stayed on the road for a week. Cauca is one of the most dangerous areas in Colombia, with the presence of different armed groups, coca plantations and illegal mining. The aim of the caravan was to show armed actors that the civilian population is not alone, attract attention to the problems faced by local communities, and to demand that the authorities take responsibility for the safety of their inhabitants.

The territories visited by the caravan are disputed by guerrilla dissidents (FARC-EP), the armed forces and paramilitary groups, who fight to control the routes for drug trafficking, weapon smuggling, and illegal mining. The peasant, indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations living in these areas experience massacres, displacement, disappearances and torture. The armed groups impose their rules on the population, such as forced coca planting, confinement, and extortion. The population needs accompaniment and solidarity – and for their situation to become known to the outside world.

Together with representatives of the local municipal authorities and other human rights organisations, Coordinadora Nacional Agrario (CNA), Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN) and Congreso de los Pueblos, all with local member organisations in the areas, decided to organise a solidarity caravan to shed light on the hardship, crisis and violence dominating in particularly vulnerable areas of the country - areas that in practice are stateless and tyrannised by armed groups.

The caravan was organised despite several threats. Just days before the solidarity caravan began, Carlos Navia, local

leader and member of CNA and Congreso, was killed by guerrilla dissidents. The assassination is one of many recent attacks on social leaders in the region, where 73 social leaders and 43 ex-combatants have been killed since 2016. For security reasons, the organisers requested that the Prosecutor's Office, the Ombudsperson's Office, and even the Armed Forces participated in the caravan, but they refused. The UN Mission for the Verification of the Peace Agreement was the only international organisation that sent a delegate.

The solidarity caravan consisted of 1000 people, including Senate representatives from the left, male and female delegates from national social organisations, international solidarity organisations and media. A media campaign was launched to promote the caravan. The participants prepared cultural, musical and artistic events to the population of the different towns and villages. Several regional, national, and international media covered the solidarity caravan. Following the caravan, the threats to the leaders of the Canyon have diminished slightly. A humanitarian refuge, a camp for threatened leaders, is expected to be installed in the area in 2021.

**Partners: Congreso (2010): National social umbrella organisation representing 400 organisations (e.g. women, campesino, indigenous, trade unions, students), NPA partner since 2012. CNA (1993): National social organisation representing 48 regional campesino organisations. NPA partner since 2016. PCN (1993): represents 120 Afro-Colombian organisations. NPA partner since 2013.**

### Cost:

NPA contributed 68 000 NOK for the caravan, sent a video message of solidarity to the participants, and accompanied the caravan virtually.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/nacional/caravana-humanitaria-al-canon-del-micay-en-contra-de-la-violencia-en-el-cauca/>

<https://lasillavacia.com/silla-llena/red-de-la-paz/caravana-humanitaria-la-paz-territorial-canon-del-rio-micay-77282>

<https://www.wradio.com.co/noticias/regionales/en-medio-de-amenazas-se-cumplio-la-caravana-humanitaria-en-argelia-cauca/20201102/nota/4082784.aspx>

## El Salvador: Innovating training and information methods

**When the corona pandemic hit, Equipo Maiz (EM) adapted its training methodologies and advocacy work in close cooperation with social organisations. To maintain the social struggle during the pandemic, they gathered documents, audio-visuals, photos, radio programmes, and posters on a website to be used freely by the organisations.**

EM is the most reputable organisation in Central America for training leaders and members in social organisations in organisational work, and political economy, and for their educational materials based on grassroots methodology, developed in close cooperation with social organisations.

EM's aim is to increase peoples' awareness about inequalities in society, and their understanding of how they can participate and influence for change. Usually they train an average of 450 people annually (60% women), between 15 to 200 hours per year. They also accompany social organisations' own training programs in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

The pandemic changed everything, with quarantine, restricted mobility, and increased militarization. All face-to-face activities were suspended. In consultation with people's organisations, EM began designing and testing virtual training processes. In 2020, 240 people (95 men) attended EM's virtual courses on gender equality, political analysis, and organisational work under COVID-19.

The greatest innovations occurred in developing critical information material and conducting advocacy on SoMe. EM created a Twitter account to comment issues related to the pandemic @covid\_sv and to expose false government

information. They produced 39 analysis papers for Twitter, published 1,650 tweets, continued their weekly radio programs and news bulletin La Pagina de Maiz, distributed to 52 organisations, and produced seven audio-visuals, posters and leaflets, in cooperation with social organisations. All materials EM produced were posted on <https://cuidadosylucha.com/>.

As a result, social organisations, including NPA partners, had access to diverse and innovative materials to train members and conduct advocacy work, despite the corona context. The audio-visual "Where are we after the first year with President Bukele?", produced by EM, was disseminated on the Facebook pages of 12 organisations and 5 community radio stations, and downloaded 69,600 times.

The cooperation between EM and people's organisations on developing methodologies and productions, and using the organisations' SoMe accounts to disseminate information, was a key to success. EM's intention is to gradually return to face to face training, while keeping some virtual components. EM added systematic publications on Twitter to its advocacy work and advanced in adopting a multimedia approach to its educational materials.

**Partner: Equipo Maíz (1983): NGO that works closely with social organisations. Recognised for its political training programmes and popularisation of research and information. NPA partner since 2007.**

### Cost:

EM received NOK 830.000 from NPA in 2020. NPA will continue to support virtual training and audio-visual productions.

### Supporting documents:

Website with EM productions for POs related to pandemic and social struggle: <https://cuidadosylucha.com/>

Example of audiovisuals: Water management in the first year of Bukele's government EM <https://www.facebook.com/FesJorgeAriasGomez/videos/687075642083639/>

Books published by Equipo Maíz: <http://www.equipoaiz.org.sv/publicaciones/libros>

## Honduras: Using ancestral indigenous knowledge to fight COVID-19

**When the pandemic hit, the state was not prepared to protect the people from getting infected, treat the sick, or to support people that lost their income and livelihood. Indigenous people and small-scale farmers in rural areas were basically ignored by the government. Therefore, NPA partner Ofraneh, together with people in 36 Garifuna indigenous communities, organised community health houses and health committees, using ancestral indigenous knowledge, to face the pandemic.**

Ofraneh set up community health houses to attend people that got sick and to provide information to prevent the pandemic from spreading. They established health and epidemic surveillance committees, consisting of 10 to 20 young volunteers in each community, that organised surveillance, visited sick people, distributed handcrafted facemask and food. They gathered local herbs to prepare “community pots” of natural medicine that strengthen the immune system, following the whole process from seeding and growing the ingredients, to harvesting and preparing the herbs for making remedies. This ancestral Garifuna medicine became so popular that the recipe was distributed to the Honduran population at large, through social networks.

The NPA accompanied this initiative through dialogue about the partner’s approach, and in developing training forums for young people. With NPA’s support, the centres for food collection were strengthened and security for the committees provided.

The aim of the initiative was to prevent corona and provide integral health care to the population, but it also resulted

in more consumption of natural and native food and medicine. Ofraneh combined the general struggle of taking land back and cultivate it in traditional ways in interaction with nature, with encouraging young Garifunas to learn and take use of ancestral wisdom.

There were three additional outcomes. Firstly, securing people’s health also became a way to ensure cultural learning. Sowing healthy food and herbs that boost the immune system has now become popular, especially among young people. Secondly, the fact that non-indigenous communities and people living in cities have benefited from the health manuals elaborated by Ofraneh, was an unexpected and positive result. Lastly, Ofraneh also managed to organise three health committees in the city San Pedro Sula, where Ofraneh has not been present before.

The organisation’s work was strengthened as well as the community autonomy. The legitimacy Ofraneh has in the communities was crucial for the positive response from the population.

**Partner: OFRANEH (1978): Social organisation gathering 48 Garifuna communities and 200 000 people. NPA partner since 2013.**

### Cost:

NPA transferred approximately 150 000 NOK to OFRANEH for this project.

Supporting documents:

<https://www.cdhal.org/es/les-communauts-garifunas-sorganisent-face-a-la-COVID-19-en-recourant-a-des-pratiques-ancestrales/>

<http://cespad.org.hn/garifunas-codiv19/>

<http://im-defensoras.org/2020/06/medicina-ancestral-garifuna-alternativas-para-combatir-el-coronavirus/>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=3591238457616966&set=pb.100001925413412.-2207520000..>

## Guatemala: Women gain leadership in the organisation

**Members in the national indigenous organisation CODECA have participated in an inclusive and extensive process to enhance women's participation and influence at all levels in the organisation, and thus play a greater role in the struggle for structural changes in Guatemala.**

Exclusion of women and discrimination is a huge problem in Guatemala, and violence against women is rife. It is difficult for women just to get permission to attend meetings, let alone to organise. Consequently, accessing positions to influence for change is hard. This is also the situation in CODECA.

Although the gender proportions in CODECA vary depending on the region, women make up approximately 62.7% of the members, but decision-making positions at all levels are concentrated in the hands of men. To challenge this, CODECA decided to have a participatory elaboration of a roadmap, an instrument for political planning and methodology, to strengthen the position of tens of thousands of CODECA's women members.

Over the last few years, NPA has had an open dialogue with the board of directors of CODECA about the importance of women's participation and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. NPA shared contacts with other partner organisations in Latin America, such as the indigenous women organisation in Bolivia, Bartolina Sisa, and the umbrella organisation Peoples' Congress in Colombia, to assist them in the process of developing the roadmap.

A coordination team was established to provide methodological support and organise the process in the 34 micro-regions of the country. They carried out 59 physical and virtual visits to the territories to conduct interviews and meetings with women leaders and members at different levels in CODECA. In total 246 members from all levels and parts of the organisation took part in the process. In addition, there were six meetings with different groups of grassroots women.

A final version of the roadmap has been presented and shared in the many internal structures of the organisation. The process has generated great expectations and eagerness to start the training sessions in 2021.

The organisation and its leaders, mostly men, have promoted this process, which is quite significant in a patriarchal culture like Guatemala. So far there have not been any serious tensions around the process of strengthening women's roles in the organisation and in society.

**Partner: CODECA (1992): Social movement that brings together peasant and indigenous people and communities with approximately 100 000 members (67 % women). NPA partner since 2017.**

### Cost:

The organisation used approx. 160 000 NOK for this project, approximately 14% of its total budget. NPA was the only funder who contributed to this result.

### Supporting documents:

CODECA Report 2020

## Cuba: Solidarity in action in Havana

**When the pandemic hit Cuba, the TTIB workshops played a dual role, coordinating local solidarity work and helping state institutions reach the most vulnerable neighbourhoods in Havana. In coordination with state actors, they organised visits to vulnerable families, provided volunteer work, produced and delivered 3,200 face masks to schools and nursing homes, and initiated community agricultural yards.**

In periods of emergencies in Cuba, the territorial state structures organise and lead the response. Most NPA partner organisations are not involved in this process. However, in 2020, the Neighborhood transformation workshops (TTIB) did stand out for their initiatives to deal with the pandemic.

The 19 TTIB Workshops in Havana, established in 1988, consist of work collectives of three to six professionals, mostly women, working in their own neighbourhoods. The majority have been trained in popular education by the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Centre (CMMLK), another NPA partner, and are part of the national Network of Community Educators (NPEP). They accompany and promote women organised in “pre-cooperatives”, engaged in for instance crafts, clothing, shoemaking, or bakeries, whose aims are to become registered cooperatives and to generate stable incomes.

During the pandemic, the TTIBs and pre-cooperatives initiated what they call the “Women’s movement for social equity, solidarity and feminist social economy”, initially made up of 15 groups and approximately 160 women. In coordination with state actors, the TTIBs developed maps identifying particularly vulnerable people and families to prioritise visits and food deliveries. Through the community

counselling project, with voluntary psychologists residing in the neighbourhoods, they followed up 95 cases of domestic violence. As food shortages were aggravated by the pandemic, they promoted family and community agricultural yards that deliver part of their production to the most vulnerable families. At least 100 families regularly received food and medicinal plants from these patios. They also produced and distributed brochures on the production of quick-harvest foods. In addition, the pre-cooperatives produced and delivered 3,200 face masks and other biosafety equipment at no cost to schools and nursing homes.

The TTIB’s work methodology, facilitated coordination between different sectorial state institutions and local groups and organisations. The close relation between the TTIB and people living in the neighbourhoods was essential in their support to state health specialists, who had no previous ties to the area. The TTIBs also played an important role in terms of communication with the population, translating complex information from the health authorities into simple language that was accessible to all. The women pre-cooperatives, accompanied by the TTIBs, became strengthened as a nascent movement and were able to combine profitable activities with solidarity actions within their community.

**Partner: TTIB (1988): Work collectives supported by NPA in cooperation with various partners since 1994, since 2014 in cooperation CMLK.**

### Cost:

The TTIBs are primarily financed with Cuban funds. NPA is their only source for international funding. NPA’s financial contribution in 2020 linked to this result was approximately NOK 180,000.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.cubahora.cu/sociedad/la-experiencia-de-los-talleres-de-transformacion-integral>

<https://amecopress.net/Cuba-Proyectos-comunitarios-vinculan-transformacion-social-y-emprendimiento-economico>

<https://www.facebook.com/100014934632355/posts/878907529283727/?app=fbl>

## MENA: Communication channels to influence international financial institutions

**ANND network members and partners created communication channels and achieved regular consultation with IMF and WB to address issues related to policies on socio-economic inequalities and loans. They managed to push for more dialogue, more inclusion of civil society actors and were able to take the dialogue to a higher level with the Executive Directors of IMF.**

The MENA region suffers from raging social and economic inequality, and many countries either receive or are in negotiation to receive loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB). However, IMF and World Bank policies and loans often hinder fiscal space for countries to address inequality or achieve socio-economic stability, rather, they negatively affect vulnerable sectors and populations. For the last few years, ANND has had continuous consultation and dialogue with both IMF and World Bank to discuss their loan programs' and policies' impact on social and economic inequalities in countries of conflict and crisis. During the 2020 annual Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF), a forum where CSOs and international financial institutions meet to discuss socio-economic rights and social protection, this work was intensified. As a membership-based network, and as part of the Arab Watch Coalition, ANND created a side event where they engaged IMF and WB to discuss social protection through examining their policies and their impact on equality. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the forum was online.

Furthermore, ANND members and partners played a key role in the first-time high-level IMF consultation with executive directors in the MENA region, on October 29,

2020. This consultation provided space to present the views of civil society and to ask questions. Among the consulted parties, 8 out of 14 were ANND staff, members and partners, which strengthens their future dialogues and provides more recognition with higher level IMF's staff.

To get there, ANND has improved their way of working over the past couple of years. NPA and ANND have discussed how best to engage with the IMF and the WB, addressing socio-economic inequalities and providing policy alternatives and recommendations. These dialogues resulted in an internal organisational assessment that ANND used to improve internal communication and monitoring processes. This was a key factor in enhancing ANND's ability to communicate with international financial institutions and played an important role in creating a social protection "collective", including more than 20 organisations and experts.

ANND learnt that investing in staff's improved digital skills was important to adapt to challenges posed by COVID-19, that a combination of offline and online work modalities can decrease costs and increase participation, and the importance of a systematic process to exchange information and feedback internally.

**Partner: ANND (1997): Regional network working in 12 Arab countries with nine national networks (with 250 CSOs) and 23 NGO members. NPA partner since 2016.**

### Cost:

ANND allocated 180 000 NOK of the funds from NPA to the web conference platform, advocacy and **research**.

### Supporting documents:

- Agenda of IMF and WB meetings 2020
- ANND's institutional 2020 report
- ANND online post for discussion session on the role of international financial agencies in time of conflict in MENA

## Lebanon: Migrant domestic workers' call for evacuation has pierced the silence

Due to the economic collapse, the pandemic and the Beirut blast last year, people could no longer afford migrant domestic workers. Thousands were thrown out to the streets, stuck in Lebanon without income and food. In addition to providing emergency support, Anti-Racism Movement (ARM) changed the discourse of their return to their home countries from “repatriation” to the more accurate “evacuation”, making the public recognise that the migrant workers had the right to be evacuated.

In Lebanon, there are approximately 250,000 migrant women, primarily from Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Cameroon and Sierra Leone, working as domestic workers. They are paid low salaries, lack basic rights and totally depend on the family they work for. The system they work under is called Kafala, where a migrant worker's immigration and legal residency status is tied to an individual sponsor throughout their contract period. The family they work for even controls their passport.

The system is criticised for being a form of modern slavery. Nevertheless, the Kafala system is widely accepted in the Lebanese society and the perception of domestic workers as second-class laborers is widespread. Many organisations have for years documented how this system gives employers extensive control over workers' lives, leading to abuses, including non-payment of wages, forced confinement, excessive working hours, and verbal and physical abuse.

The Lebanese government did little to hold the employers accountable or protect the rights of the workers. Therefore, ARM, in alliance with other migrant workers' rights organisations, advocated to address the lack of action taken. They provided support to migrant workers through trainings, workshops and activities, mobilised local activists supporting their cause, and developed advocacy activities

and campaigns in collaboration with several consulates and embassies (Cameroon, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka). ARM was a vocal participant in the International Organisation for Migration and ILO-initiated Migrant Workers Coordination Group, dedicated to local and international actors working with migrant workers to foster better communication and coordination.

Today, progress has been made in a subtle, but important way: the overall visibility of the situation of migrant domestic workers has increased through ARM's extremely active social media pages and presence in numerous international news stories.

Following the Beirut blast, ARM's campaigning gained even more media attention, increasing the pressure to change the rhetoric from “repatriation”. The evacuation campaign continues, covering primarily Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Cameroon and Sri Lanka. In 2020, 170 people were evacuated by the relevant embassies following the advocacy work of ARM and other organisations.

**Partner: ARM (2011): Local NGO that works to secure social, economic, and gender justice for all migrant workers in Lebanon. NPA's partner since 2020.**

### Cost:

ARM spent 145 000 NOK, 20% of NPA's funding, on this project.

### Supporting documents:

Website: <https://armlebanon.org/tags/evacuation> - <https://armlebanon.org/content/evacuate-sierra-leonean-workers-lebanon>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/ARM\\_Leb?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/ARM_Leb?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

## Iraq: Non-believer groups are provided with space to voice their beliefs

**With the increasing power of armed militias and rise of radical Islam in Iraq, the space for non-believers is diminishing. Therefore, non-believer groups seek legal recognition of their rights as a minority. The Alliance for Iraqi Minority (AIM) has provided a platform for the non-believer groups to unite, synergize, and voice their views.**

In an overwhelmingly religious country, where more than 97% of the population are identified as Muslim, the space for non-religious identity is limited. Religious ideologies dominate the political and economic arenas. Political elites seek endorsements from religious institutions, and in return they guarantee the domination of religion over politics and constitution. In fact, the constitution upholds Islam as the official religion, defining the identity of the state and prohibiting the enactment of any laws that are pertained to be against the principles of Islam and Sharia. While religious minorities are granted the freedom of religion, the non-believer groups have no space or recognition, and top Islamic clerics have threatened to strike their movement with an “iron fist”.

In Iraq, non-believers are mostly atheists and agnostics, and their exact numbers are not known. Given the rise of radical Islamists and the increase power of armed militias, the non-believer groups seek legal recognition of their rights as a minority. The Alliance for Iraqi Minority (AIM) has provided a platform for the non-believer groups to unite, synergise, and voice their views.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs presented a report and a survey on non-believers in Iraq, which laid the ground for AIM’s work. AIM studied the status of non-believer groups, including legal, cultural and political dimensions, and the best approaches to help them unite and achieve recognition. While there is much to be done to have the rights of non-believers recognised in Iraq, some concrete achievements were made in 2020.

Three main groups have been identified: atheists, agnostics, and antitheists. These groups were brought together in a three-day workshop with 27 participants (16M) from KRI (Kurdish Region in Iraq) and Iraq in November, of which ten participants joined via Zoom. The workshop created a platform for different non-believer representatives to address their experiences and challenges. The workshop included training on the human rights declaration, international protection tools for minorities, relevant national and international legal framework, challenges of non-believers in Iraq, and future plans of the movement. Furthermore, an online forum was conducted for more than 100 participants on December 19th, and 15 representatives were selected to lead and represent the three groups in future events.

This is the first time these groups are supported and given a platform. They are currently developing a united strategy and will have their network registered in the third quarter of 2021. AIM plans to formally adopt the network as a member in 2021, and is currently defining specific needs revolving around local and international legal guidance and financial support.

Due to the sensitivity of this activity, AIM has been cautious in its approach. The forum was titled “Diversity Forum for Freedom of Religion and Beliefs” to avoid a national spotlight and mobilizing unwanted attention.

**Partner: AIM (2010): Umbrella organisation with 23 member organisations representing 12 ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq. NPA partner since 2016.**

### **Cost:**

From NPA’s total transfer, 66,500 NOK was allocated to this activity in 2020.

### **Supporting documents:**

AIM annual report 2020, attendance list and Photos

## **Palestine:** Increased political participation among youth in the West Bank

To increase young women and men's participation in decision-making, REFORM established communication channels between political authorities and citizens, particularly youth, and organised hearings where young women and men could raise their concerns about the Palestinian Authorities (PA) ruling in general, and their response to COVID-19 in particular.

Israel's military occupation, intra-Palestinian divide and dysfunctional Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), which has not gathered since 2007, contribute to the limited space for participation in democratic processes. In December 2018, the Palestinian Constitutional Court dissolved the PLC and called for legislative elections, which have not taken place.

As no general elections have taken place for the last decade, a new generation of youth has never participated in electoral processes. The government has drafted and approved plans with no participation of key stakeholders, and the communication gap and lack of accountability has been growing between decision-makers and citizens, especially youth.

Therefore, REFORM has established partnerships with several key PLO institutions, ministries and the Prime Minister's Office, to create communication channels where young women and men can engage directly with decision-makers to voice their concerns and demands, on issues such as equal opportunities for women and men, freedom of expression, and more space for youth to participate. REFORM has also established partnerships with various media outlets to mobilize public opinion around participation in democratic processes.

REFORM has trained young women and men in how to monitor the government performances, and organised public hearings with key decision-makers, including members of the Executive Committee of PLO, senior PA

officials and members of CSOs. Here young women and men raised their concerns about PA's response to COVID-19, transparency around selection criteria for the government's support scheme to the most affected citizens. Youth also expressed concerns over the tough tone used by government when giving COVID-19 related instructions to the public.

An annual Government Performance Evaluation Report was published by REFORM for the second year in a row. The report documents government commitments, and reviews what was achieved and not. The report also included an independent survey about what citizens across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, think of the government performance. The report was published and distributed to media agencies, embassies and representative offices in Palestine, and civil society organisations, and was made publicly available online. The report has gained momentum and mobilized public opinion on accountability. In response to the report, some decision-makers said they realize the need to be more attentive. They promised to improve people's access to information on issues such as public budgets and selection criteria for national support schemes to people affected by the pandemic.

As a result of REFORMS initiatives, more young women and men are expressing interest in participating in the democratic processes. They are encouraged by some political leaders and decision-makers welcoming their presence, and expressing an intention to maintain dialogue. However, while some politicians indicate they will listen more, others were not too happy about being monitored.

**Partner: REFORM (2012): NGO Network established to empower marginalized women and youth. NPA partner since 2018.**

### **Cost:**

NPA funded REFORM with annual budget of NOK 901,028.

### **Supporting documents:**

Training agendas, training reports, advocacy campaigns/publications, press releases, Government performance evaluation report

## 2.6 Oil for the Common Good (South Sudan, Mozambique and Myanmar)

### SOUTH SUDAN

WTUPM	Workers Trade Union of Petroleum and Mining
HRSS	Hope Restoration South Sudan
UNYDA	Upper Nile Youth Development Association
NIHE	Nile Initiative for Health and Environment
CSCNR	Civil Society Coalition on Natural Resources

The oil sector, which accounts for over 90% of the government’s revenue, is riddled with corruption and lacks implementation of key provisions from the petroleum legislations. The Petroleum Act 2012 (PA) and the Petroleum Revenue Management Act 2013 (PRMA) regulate the petroleum sector and obliges the government to allocate 5% of net oil revenue to oil-producing areas, including 3 % to local communities and the remaining 2 % to the state. However, the implementation of these legal frameworks is severely overlooked, and consequently basic services like water, health, and employment are not provided. Further, the communities’ have limited understanding of their rights provided under the two petroleum laws.

NPA partners contributed to the outcome (O3.1) *Decision-makers’ policies and practices have changed for the benefit of reduced inequality*. Communities in the vicinity of the oil fields experience contamination of their livelihoods such as cattle, land and water from the oil waste. CSCNR held consultation and follow-up meetings with the Minister of Petroleum (MoP) on the proposed environmental audit in Upper Nile State. As a result, the MoP invited CSCNR to nominate members to the committee that is to select the company to carry out the environmental audit. The government recognising civil society’s and the coalition’s role in such sensitive issues, is a key development. NPA has strengthened CSCNR’s capacity since its inception, and they have now received additional funding from another organisation to bolster their advocacy work.

WTUPM continues to advocate for better implementation of the Health, Safety and Environment Regulations (HSE) and the respect for labour rights. WTUPM engaged with officials in the Ministries of Petroleum and Mining to push for implementation of the HSE regulations. While the government and oil companies assured WTUPM that HSE Regulations were being implemented, oil workers still complained of lack of better protective gears in the oil fields.

HRSS, UNYDA and NIHE engaged the State government and county authorities in Unity State and Upper Nile State on the implementation of the PRMA 2013 and the PA 2012 (OP3.1.2). The dialogues emphasized the publication and information sharing on oil production, the revenue share that the states receive, the legislative requirement to establish Community Development Committees (CDCs) at County level, and the need to include civil society representatives in these committees.

NPA partners contributed to the outcome (O2.1) *People living in oil producing areas acted to influence for just distribution of oil revenues and water resources*. HRSS and UNYDA supported community representatives in Rubkona, Unity State and Melut, Upper Nile State, to submit petitions demanding that authorities implement the petroleum laws through transparent and accountable management of oil revenues. One petition was submitted to the Petroleum Parliamentary Committee in Unity State, resulting in two boreholes being repaired (see result example), directly benefiting 1500 people. A second petition demanding road rehabilitation, health and water, was submitted to government officials and the representatives of the Dar Petroleum Company (DPOC) by the people of Melut. In August 2020, the communities in Melut held peaceful demonstration that attracted approximately 7 280 people (1,780F). This contributed to the oil company DPOC, Ministry of Petroleum and civil society community representatives meeting and signing a Memorandum of Understanding, committing to an environmental audit, construction of health facilities, employment opportunities for local youth, and a water pipeline from Melut town to prevent people from drinking from local water sources that are contaminated by oil waste.

Under the Outcome (O2.3) *Issues of inequality related to the oil industry have increased presence in the public discourse* HRSS, UNYDA and NIHE conducted 11 radio talk-shows to raise public awareness on the preventive measures of COVID-19, and on key provisions of the petroleum laws. WTUPM held two television talk-shows and five radio discussions reaching an estimated 100 000 people (30,000F) with information on oil workers’ rights and COVID-19 prevention.

## South Sudan: Communities engage authorities and oil companies to provide services

**In 2020, Hope Restoration South Sudan (HRSS) supported communities to petition authorities and oil companies to repair boreholes, provide clean water and improve roads. As a result, two boreholes have been repaired.**

The majority of the South Sudanese oil production takes place in Unity State. According to the country's Petroleum Act, 5 % of the income from oil production shall go back to the communities living in oil producing areas. In addition, oil companies are contractually obliged to provide development projects in the communities. However, the community members lack knowledge of these rights, therefore their engagement to claim their rights and demand transparent and accountable management of the oil sector has been limited

The communities in Rubkona County lack clean water, roads, schools and health services, despite the oil abundance in the area. The absence of such key services contributes to underdevelopment and inequality in the region, and causes frustration among community members contributing to instability in the country. Therefore, people need knowledge about the agreements and laws regulating the oil sector, to organise and mobilize to claim their rights in peaceful manners.

Since 2018, HRSS has organised awareness raising activities, gradually leading to changed attitudes among communities and the targeted decision-makers. In 2020, HRSS organised one-on-one meetings and groups engagements for 200 women, men, youth leaders, religious leaders and other community members to raise their awareness of the key provisions of the laws regulating the oil sector. The target groups were also invited to participate in four forums to develop strategies on how to engage authorities and oil companies. Following these activities, community members submitted a petition to the Petroleum Parliamentary Committee in Bentiu, and to the Greater Pioneer Operating Company (GPOC), that extracts oil in Rubkona County. In the petition, the community demanded that the oil companies and authorities provide them with clean drinking water, as the nearby water sources are polluted by oil waste. They also demanded improvement of roads. So far, two boreholes have been repaired.

**Partner: HRSS (2010): A women-led organisation that advocates on environmental and natural resource issues in former Unity State. NPA partner since 2016.**

### **Cost:**

NPA provided HRSS with capacity strengthening, including political training, and 380 000 NOK in financial support.

### **Supporting documents:**

- Copy of petition submitted to Petroleum Parliamentary Committee
- Pictures taken during the handing over of the petition to the Petroleum Parliamentary Committee.

## MOZAMBIQUE

ACOORD	Development Coordination Association
UPCD	Provincial Union of Small-Scale Farmers of Cabo Delgado
PANOS Inst	Panos Institute for Southern Africa (PSAF)

2020 was characterized by insurgent's attacks in the northern districts of the Province of Cabo Delgado, leading to massive movements of internally displaced people. The continued attacks and escalation of the conflict represented an obstacle for supporting the population in the main areas where oil and gas industries' projects are implemented. All partners responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by including dissemination of preventative measures in their implementation.

After putting operations on hold because of security concerns in late 2020, the French company Total made an announcement on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 that it would restart operations, because of the promises made by President Nyusi to guarantee the security in the area where Total was operating. The announcement was quickly renounced when insurgents attacked the Total Afungi plant and the town of Palma the same day, and it is currently not expected that Total will return in the foreseeable future. In Inhambane, SASOL (South African Gas and Oil Company) is expecting to begin exploration of light oil in 2021, increasing the necessity of demanding transparency of the use and allocation of the 2.75% revenues to the communities, as required by law.

Partners contributed to Outcome 3 *Decision-makers' policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among communities affected by oil and gas exploration*. In 2019, NPA partners reached an agreement with the local government in Inhambane, and with SASOL, that the company should support local development projects in the

area of operations, as acquired by Mozambican law, and that local communities should be included in identifying priorities, agreed upon in a Local Development Agreement (LDA). However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, SASOL and the local government took advantage of the imposed restriction measures and pushed forward for the implementation of the LDA without considering complains from 27 communities in the district of Inhassoro that were not consulted. After the relaxation of restrictions of COVID-19 measures, ACOORD and PANOS collected evidences and held consultation meetings with the communities. The Platform of CSOs Working on Natural Resources and Extractive Industries in Inhambane presented the irregularities to the local government. As a result, the Governor and the State Secretary offices in Inhambane agreed to the demands by the platform, and ordered a second round of consultations that included CSO's and local communities previously excluded in the process. The revised LDA is much improved with all recommendations from the communities included.

Targets related to Outcome 2 *People and communities acted and participated to influence* were not reached because of COVID-19 restrictions which limited the number of people gathering. Partners prioritized using media to raise awareness on important issues related to extractive industries. PANOS cooperated with journalists to broadcast 11 radio programmes on local radio in Inhambane. In one of the programmes the Permanent Secretary of Inhassoro district was challenged on the lack of community consultations in a live debate.

There are indications that partners are *more effective in their work to influence and mobilise* (Outcome 1). ACOORD coordinated and led the creation of the Inhambane provincial chapter of the Platform of CSOs Working on Natural Resources and Extractive Industries (EI platform).

## Mozambique: Displaced farmers demand transparent compensation

**Communities affected by the Pemba Logistic Base (PLB), a project owned by the State Company Pemba Harbour (PCB), demand just and transparent compensation for their lost land in Pemba, the province capital of Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.**

In 2012, the central Government of Mozambique approved the Pemba Logistic Base (PLB), intending to transform the harbour in Pemba into a major hub for the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project in the province. As a consequence, small scale farmers living in the suburbs of Pemba have been displaced since 2015.

The compensation process has been unjust and lacked transparency. Official information indicated that a total of 783 families got compensated, while in reality 53 families refused to receive the compensation because the amount they were offered, 0,10 USD per square meter of land, was not corresponding to the official rate of 5 USD.

NPA's partner UPCD conducted a survey to map the number of affected families. The findings showed that in addition to the 783 families who had been offered compensation, there were an additional 979 families that had not been registered by the municipality. This brought the total number of families losing their farmland to 1.762, with a total loss of 292 hectares (almost 409 football grounds). According to the Resettlement law in Mozambique, families have the right to just compensation and replacement of farmland. However, these requirements were not adhered to, and the compensation requested by the communities, 5 USD per square meter, was not taken into consideration.

In 2016, NPA partners UPCD and PANOS held their first meeting between community representatives and the Mayor of Pemba, demanding a fair compensation for the affected families, but received little response. In 2018, UPCD helped establish a resettlement commission for the affected families, and trained them on the resettlement law, negotiations skills,

political organising and gender issues. The commission was recognised by the local government as the legitimate representative body of the affected communities. When the anti-riot police intervened with tear gas and rubber bullets against a peaceful demonstration demanding fair compensation, in August 2018, injuring 19 people and arresting 76, the case got massive attention from the media and civil society. However, as time passed, most of these CSO's withdrew as the process was too time and resource consuming, and only UPCD and PANOS consistently continued to follow the case.

In 2019, UPCD and PANOS organised a meeting with the provincial governor, who publicly announced his support to the communities' demands. In November 2020, UPCD and PANOS organised a meeting between the resettlement committee and the PCB (represented by a team of lawyers), the Pemba municipality, and the district government of Pemba. This was the first time all actors were together in the same room to dialogue. The meeting was widely covered by the media.

The result of the process, so far, is that the negotiations are transparent and have been lifted to the public domain. UPCD was recognized as a valid interlocutor of the affected communities by the district government. The case is now under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Prosecutor and a final settlement is expected by mid-2021. Throughout the process, NPA provided partners with advice on strategic partnerships in Maputo, support to organise the communities and maintain a permanent dialogue with the authorities and the company, and to facilitate media coverage.

**Partner: UPCD is a social movement representing UNAC, the National Union of Small-Scale Farmers, in the province of Cabo Delgado. NPA partner since 2012.**

### Cost:

PANOS is a media expert NGO specialized in investigative journalism. NPA partner since 2016  
In 2020, UPCD received a total of 450 827 from NPA, and PANOS received a total of 496 473 NOK.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ajmvrmh3s3Y>

## MYANMAR

MATA Myanmar Alliance for Accountability and Transparency

Freedom of expression, movement, and assembly have deteriorated during the pandemic. Activists and organisations critical to the government were arrested on the pretext of violating the COVID-19 restrictions. The National League for Democracy (NLD) won 83% of the vote in the national elections in November. NLD's massive win, and the defeat of the army's party, divided rather than unified the country, and led to the military coup on February 1st 2021. Myanmar has been a candidate country for EITI (Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative) since 2014, but has been temporally suspended since the coup. MATA's evidence-based research and monitoring around natural resources continue to be highly important to understand the strength and weaknesses of the Tatmadaw (Military) and to protect the resources of the country.

The target for Outcome 3.1 *Government of Myanmar's policies and practices changed for the benefit of reduced inequality among target group*, was not achieved, due to the political agenda of decision makers changing because of the pandemic. However, MATA made other contributions to influence policies. The draft regional mining law in the Sagaing region was based solely on MATA's recommendations. Yet, in the law passed in September 2020, there was discrepancies with MATA's initial recommendations, notably around decentralization. It shows the difficulty to achieve a responsible mining decentralization process, but also MATA's ability to influence policy making. At the national level, MATA was able to advocate for the government to release new policies regarding beneficial ownership and contracts disclosure (see results example).

MATA conducted 80 dialogue meetings to discuss EITI workplan and standards (OP3.1.2-1) and four campaigns towards decision-makers (OP3.1.2-2). MATA was able to build interesting alliances with the private sector, notably with the Myanmar Federation for Mining Association (MFMA). With the support of MATA, MFMA drafted a report that discloses company revenue payments to the government and State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and highlighted the lack of accountability for the large amount

of payments sent to "Other Accounts". This alliance has enabled MATA not to be perceived as an enemy of the private sector, given them the possibility to understand how the military regime effectively dominates the economy, and to realise the amount of information hidden from the EITI reports. MATA sent inputs to a range of decision makers (OP3.1.2-3), and was invited by the Karen National Union (the governing administration of the ethnic Kayah State) to give inputs on their mining policies.

MATA contributed to Outcome 2 *Marginalised people from target group acted to influence*. In the Bago region, villagers were facing water shortage due to illegal mining activities taking place nearby. With the help of MATA, they wrote a complaint letter to the Bago Chief minister. Thanks to this, the government carried out an investigation and ordered the mining activities to stop.

MATA conducted seven information campaigns (OP2.1.1). In March, the Ministry of Transport and Communications ordered the shutdown of 221 websites allegedly disseminating "fake news" related to COVID-19. Connect Rights, with the help of MATA, sent several letters of complaint to 25 telecommunication companies, including Telenor, as well as to the ambassadors of the home countries of the companies.

There are several indications that *MATA is more effective in its work to influence and mobilise people* (O1). After 2 years of advocacy and influence through EITI, MATA has succeeded in bringing more transparency in the extractive sector. In February 2020, the Government of Myanmar and Myanmar EITI co-launched a new beneficial ownership register. The register enables users to search mining, oil and gas companies for the identities of individuals owning shares of 5% or more. This is the first time such a broad measure to ensure transparency is implemented, and it paves way to serious improvements in the EI sector transparency.

Many MATA members were threatened as a consequence of opposing EI companies that were either grabbing lands or polluting the area they operated in. In spite of this high-level risk, MATA members remained key influential stakeholders to protect local population from negative impact of EI.

## Myanmar: The extractives industry must disclose new contracts

In 2020, the Myanmar government and EITI launched a beneficial ownership register, revealing formerly secret information about the owners of extractive industry companies. EITI also launched a new international standard, urging all EITI countries to disclose contracts signed between their government and oil and mining companies from 2021 onward. This is one of the EITI standards that NPA's partner MATA tirelessly advocates for.

Since Myanmar entered the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in 2014, the country has taken steps to improve transparency and accountability in the extractive sector. However, despite the efforts made, most of the revenues, especially from State Owned Enterprises (SOE), are yet to be transferred to the State budget. Hence, the revenues do not benefit the citizens.

According to EITI reports from 2016, it is estimated that between 60% and 80% of the gemstones produced by SOEs and private companies in Myanmar are not declared. Potential state revenue from mineral sources are lost due to a weak governance. Most of the revenues captured by the SOEs are hidden in accounts named "other accounts". In 2019, the government of Myanmar, after pressure, including from MATA and other CSOs, issued a directive abolishing such "other accounts".

MATA represents the civil society component in the Myanmar EITI Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG). It has for the past two years pressured the government to comply with EITI's disclosure requirements.

Total, a French oil and gas company working in Myanmar, and a member of the EITI international board, has to disclose its contract - according to the new EITI standards. However,

except one outdated contract from 1999, Total has not disclosed any contracts. MATA contacted Totals HQ several times during the last two years and, in collaboration with the local office of Publish What You Pay, lobbied the company to comply with EITI requirements.

Finally, in mid-December 2020, Total wrote a confidential letter to the Presidential Office in Myanmar requesting the government, SOEs and private companies involved in the extractive sector, to make all new contracts and licenses public as of January 2021. President U Win Myint and his office responded by announcing that all contracts must be published on EITI websites, as well as those of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy. By challenging Total to comply with the standards it is expected to promote, MATA strategically used private sector members of the EITI platform to be heard by the Myanmar Government.

Contract disclosure will provide an opportunity for citizens, local communities and CSOs, to improve the quality of their monitoring of the companies, and widen the space to take appropriate actions. Hence, this result will significantly improve transparency in the extractive industries sector in Myanmar, and is likely to increase public revenues in the country.

**Partner: MATA (2013): An alliance of 349 civil society organisations. NPA is supporting MATA's work in the EITI process and on revenue sharing efforts. NPA partner since 2016.**

### Cost:

In 2020, MATA received 1 613 000 NOK from NPA. NPA's has contributed to strengthening MATA's technical capacities by supporting meetings and workshops on beneficial ownership and systematic disclosure.

### Supporting documents:

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/specials/myanmar-COVID-19/myanmar-president-orders-mining-firms-publish-contracts-boosting-transparency.html>

## **2.7 BREL - Building Resilience and Livelihoods in South Sudan**

Two years after the signing of the revitalized peace agreement, the humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese people are still high. In 2020, communities were hit hard by intensified conflict and sub-national violence, major flooding and the impacts of COVID-19.

In addition to NPAs humanitarian work and support to civil society, there is a need to build a bridge from emergency dependency to long-lasting peace and development. BREL focuses on local peace building, food security and livelihood, and GBV (Gender Based Violence) prevention, with a particular focus on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees and other marginalized groups.

Conflict causes hunger, and food-insecurity causes competition over natural resources. When IDPs return, they need assistance to establish a livelihood. Small-holder farmers need to increase their crop production, and pastoralists need better animal health to increase food security. NPA partners therefore trained 98 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW) in 2020 to improve animal production and health, and these CAWHs trained a total of 1710 persons on animal health. This has contributed to reduced livestock deceases. Another example is 3000 farmers that received crop seeds and tools, and 15,114 community members that received vegetable seeds and tools. 12 food banks were established in the target locations, and these enables vulnerable food-insecure

households to access food during the lean season (May to September). A survey shows that 78 % of the targeted smallholder farmers report a yield 50 % higher than baseline and 57 % of the targeted livestock owners now access animal health services.

BREL also work to increase and diversify income for youth and women. For youth, it is important to have an alternative livelihood to reduce the risk of joining armed groups. 23 youth groups were therefore supported with trainings and grants to establish income generating activities. 65 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) consisting of 1,784 (83 % F) members were trained and received a small grant and a savings box. 60% of the members have increased their income. 835 (44 % F) members of producer groups were supported through grants and trainings on farming as a business, including marketing, entrepreneurship, financial management and marketing. 857 (93 % F) fishing group members were trained on fish processing, preservation and storage techniques to reduce post-harvest losses. Women have suffered most from conflict, and these groups gives them a possibility to establish a female network, it increases their self-esteem and improve their food security. Survey shows that 59% of the targeted households have increased their income and 85% of the farmers now have income from at least two livelihood sources, making them less vulnerable.

In 2020, NPA has increased its collaboration with partners instead of implementing directly. This has been a great success, and we continue this development in 2021.

## Communities experience more peaceful lives

Persistent conflict is the primary cause of hunger in South Sudan, which has devastating consequences on the livelihoods and food security of a large section of the population. The main drivers of conflict have historically been inter-clan, inter-ethnic and cross-border disputes over territory and access to water and pasturelands. In recent times, the national conflict has added an additional layer to these conflicts.

MRDA (Mundi Relief and Development Association) therefore supports Peace Committees to promote peace in targeted areas. In 2020, MRDA trained a total of 12 peace committees, comprising of 180 members (80 F). The training was conducted over a three-day period and covered roles and responsibilities of peace committees, identification of sources of conflict, conflict reporting mechanisms, conflict resolution and mitigation strategies and approaches. The committees were given bicycles, to cover a wider area when conducting peace related activities, such as mobilizing participants for meetings, peace conferences and dialogue sessions.

MRDA also facilitated the training of 100 traditional leaders (45 F) including chiefs, women leaders and cattle camp leaders, on peace building and conflict mitigation. They work hand in hand with the Peace Committees to resolve conflicts arising within the community or with external communities. Some leaders are also member of the peace committees. One example of how they work is from Terekeka, where a community experienced cattle raiding. The traditional leaders and the Peace Committee searched for the stolen cattle and negotiated for a peaceful return. This prevented a potentially deadly revenge from the community.

Part of the peace work is to host peace conferences, and in 2020 there were four conferences attended by 205

participants (64 F). The peace conferences lasted for two days and facilitated dialogue among those involved or affected by conflict. Participants discussed the cause of conflict and what needs to be done at community level to resolve the conflict. They negotiated specific conflicts, and once an agreement was reached the parties usually signed a peace agreement.

A survey shows that 41% of the targeted population has experienced peace or reduced conflict due to the project interventions. Peace committees, traditional leaders, natural resource management committees and community members have used the knowledge and tools received through trainings to solve disputes in peaceful manners. 52.4% of the target communities name peace committees as one of the top three peace building actors. Natural resource related conflicts have decreased by 18.9% in the target locations.

One of the learning points is that successful peace building and conflict mitigation projects requires coordination and collaboration between different actors, such as government officials, traditional leaders and community members. The project has significantly influenced peace building efforts by increased interaction between members of different communities.

**Partner: Mundri Relief and Development Association (MRDA) is a national NGO, established in 1991, that works with food security & livelihoods, water and sanitation, health, peace building and conflict mitigation. NPA partner since 2012.**

### Cost:

MRDA received a total of NOK 635, 000 from NPA in 2020.

### Supporting documents:

Baseline and monitoring reports, training report, attendance sheets, distribution list, photos, significant change stories, monthly reports and annual report.

## 2.8 Project implementation

Most of the programme countries are fragile and politically unstable, some are prone to natural disasters, and many struggle with rife corruption and impunity. Some countries have dysfunctional and/or oppressive regimes, others experience long-term political and/or military conflict and some experience humanitarian crisis. The increasing restrictions for organisations, and the clampdown on social leaders, and environmental and human rights defenders, are huge threats to freedom of associations and expression in many countries. In 2020, the global COVID-19 pandemic intensified all these challenges, and added new.

The pandemic hit the entire globe, but it hit those hardest who had the least. The restrictions imposed in one country after another affected partners in different ways. All had to adapt their plans to adhere to restrictions and lockdowns. Flexibility and the capacity to adapt to shifting realities became more important than ever. As a response to the uncertain situation brought on by the pandemic, Norad was quick to acknowledge the challenges, and increased the ceiling flexibility on deviations from planned budgets from 10% to 20%. This was crucial for NPA and partners to adapt programmes and address challenges posed by COVID-19. Deviations on budgets are commented in chapter 3 below.

Implications of COVID-19 for partners, and how they responded, are further described in section 2.1, and reflected throughout this report, as well as in revised plans and budgets 2020, submitted to Norad 1. September 2020. As mentioned, partner activities mostly affected were related to travels and face-to-face assemblies of people. In response they developed online meeting spaces and training modules, multiplied Social Media campaigns and organised and attended online events.

Despite the global pandemic, and that all partners and programmes had to adjust plans, all country programmes report that the Theory of Change remains relevant. We have observed that civil society organisations were particularly relevant, as many states had deficient responses, because of their close relations and ability to politically raise problems faced by the communities. Furthermore, several partners report of reaching more people than anticipated, as online trainings and campaigns reached more than the targeted number of people, some report on reaching more decision-makers than anticipated, and some report on an increased number of members or scope.

For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, more women and young women were trained in political, economic, social issues through partners' campaigns and trainings. CHRA reached a significant number of residents on how to influence local city budgets, and Magamba and MISA reached out to more activists and members through trainings on IT, cyber

security and data protection. Also more decision-makers were reached than anticipated because partners, such as WCDDT, met with more local decision-makers to demand gender responsive land rights and service delivery, and WCoZ's young women interchange with policy makers reached national level decision-makers. WLZ noted an unanticipated increase in membership recruitment and participation, and they are now working in ten new wards. Similarly, in **South Africa**, Abahlali and MACUA's continuous mobilisations resulted in an increase in number of members.

In **Lebanon**, despite the political and economic crisis, restrictions, and the Beirut explosion, ARM submitted more policy proposals and advocacy papers to decision makers than expected, and more migrant workers reported on violations of rights than expected. APCC trained more young Palestinians in human rights, and created more interactions between CS actors and Lebanese and Palestinian decision-makers, than anticipated.

In **Cambodia**, the collection of information and documentation of human rights abuses from victims and survivors is far higher than anticipated, due to the closure of many factories during the COVID-19 restrictions. CENTRAL had to intensify its legal support to this particular target group.

Some countries experienced unforeseen challenges, in addition to COVID-19, which caused obstacles for partners' implementation of plans.

In **MENA**, many organisations, including partners, are seeking registration outside MENA due to restrictions on CSOs and the current crisis in Lebanon. Lebanon was a key regional hub for CSOs to meet, mobilise and network. However, following the protests in October 2019, the banking situation in Lebanon began to deteriorate. These financial obstacles affected implementation and progress of activities, as partners faced difficulties paying consultants with bank accounts outside Lebanon and issuing salaries and payments for their staff, trainers and suppliers.

In **Lebanon**, in addition to the above, partners had to revise their activities and workplans. For instance, KW cancelled all workshops with rural women and postponed a local women's rights conference. Instead they developed a project around a book on Feminism and women's issues that became a collaborative journey, building connections across generations, communities and groups across Lebanon. After the explosion, ARM closed their Migrant Community Centres and temporarily prioritised urgent needs of migrant communities, such as food and shelter. APCC implemented the majority of their activities through online platforms, primarily Facebook, but when Facebook shut down their

page, as they did to many Palestinian Facebook pages, they had to find other platforms.

In October and November 2020, the two hurricanes ETA and IOTA hit Central America, heavily affecting partners and their constituencies in **Honduras** and **Guatemala**. Combined with the pandemic, this pushed the countries further towards humanitarian disaster. Partners developed contingency plans, which they used to support their grassroots, providing food, biosafety material, and emergency shelters. NPA adapted its support to the needs of partners facing humanitarian emergencies and political crises.

In other countries, foreseen risks created obstacles. For instance, in **Guatemala**, CODECA was heavily affected by intimidation and persecution, and three of their local leaders were assassinated. In **Honduras**, OFRANEH blames the government and the police for the abduction of five leaders in July, as the kidnappers arrived in a police car, wearing police uniforms, and there was no checkpoint on the militarised roads. NPA accompanied CODECA on how to improve its capacity for identifying risks for their local leaders, and OFRANH to create an Independent Investigation Committee (SUNLA), and to file an international complaint.

NPA has followed the COVID-19 regulations in the respective countries, in some countries firmer than instructed by national authorities. Hence, NPA Country Offices have implemented reduced staff and/or home office, and travel has been drastically reduced. However, close contact with partners has been maintained through smartphones and digital spaces.

Similarly, in Oslo, NPA has adhered to local restrictions, with home office and no travels. The International Programme Seminar, gathering Country and Regional Directors, Programme Managers and relevant Head Office staff, for a week of exchanges and information sharing in Oslo, scheduled for June 2020, was carried out online. Despite obvious drawbacks, it was quite successful, and marked the beginning of a series of global and regional online meetings and seminars.

We are in the process of investing in more online MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning) training for programme staff and approved a new MEAL policy. NPA has over the last years strengthened its security systems and done systematic training of personnel, among others, all programme staff has completed an ISOS e-learning security course. While this is important for the security of NPA staff, it is also part of our work to strengthen our support to partners' security, which requires that NPA staff has the capacity to establish dialogue with partners on these issues.

NPA has developed systems for safeguarding and have introduced an updated code of conduct and a safeguarding policy. In addition, a safeguarding e-learning training course has been developed, in cooperation with Safer World, in Norwegian, English, Arabic and Spanish. Training for all programme staff was conducted at the programme meeting in June. The e-learning course is compulsory for all staff and is, together with a safeguarding investigation course for managers, being implemented in 2021.

Out of the 17 countries where NPA works under the cooperation agreement with Norad, 14 are below the 91st place in the 2020 Transparency International Corruption Perception Index, only Rwanda, Cuba and South Africa are above. In addition, several partners have weak management systems, hence financial mismanagement is a continuous risk. With the limitations the pandemic put on the ordinary follow-up with partners, the risk of corruption or mismanagement increases. Therefore, financial assessment and financial support are important aspects of NPA's cooperation with partners. The Partner Financial Assessment Tool (PFAT) is used systematically, and NPA follows up when there are needs for improvement. In October 2020, NPA launched our new Partner Financial Risk Mitigation System, which will further enhance our work in this area. The system is an extension of the PFAT, to assist us in making informed decisions regarding risk and make sure we allocate the resources needed to reduce risk to an acceptable level. The tool consists of two parts, the first is an overview of NPA risk reducing measures, the second is a tool for how to handle different types of financial risk elements related to partners' work. It is important to note that the purpose of this document is not to exclude partners that have weak financial or administrative structures, but to have a clearer overview of these risks and to assure that we are doing what we can to mitigate these.

In addition, NPA has introduced a system for virtual controller visits to the Country Offices, in addition to the regular follow-up from Head Office.

During 2020, NPA reported two cases of suspected mismanagement or corruption to Norad, one case received in 2020 is still pending reporting. In 2021, we have received an additional four cases relating to 2020. Two of these have been reported to Norad and two are still pending. We are still working on a backlog of reporting cases. This was well on schedule to be caught up during the year, but the COVID-19 pandemic has also impacted on this in terms of having to adapt to programme adjustments, lock-downs and the new working situation with home office and less efficient consultative processes. It is however important to note that cases have been reported and addressed at the Country Offices.

In addition to the above we are still working to finalise two cases pending from 2019.

It is important to recognise that we support civil society organisations, and that a crucial part of the cooperation with our partners is to strengthen their internal control mechanisms where we see there are weaknesses rather than willed mismanagement and fraud.

NPA will during 2021 update our Anti-Corruption Policy and relaunch our procedure for incident reporting. This will aid us in reiterating the importance of reporting suspected cases immediately, and make sure roles and responsibilities are re-clarified – all for a more effective reporting to Head Office and from Head Office to our donors. We expect the number of cases to increase due to the renewed focus. It is also relevant to note that with a year of working remotely, and for the most part conducting virtual control visits, there may be some undetected irregularities which will be unearthed once we go back to “normal”.

NPA is actively involved in the Norwegian civil society Anti-Corruption Group and took over the leadership of the CS ACG from Digni in 2020.

NPA aims to channel most of the funds directly to our cooperating partners. This requires that we have systems in place to secure that funds are spent according to our own regulations and Norad’s terms and conditions, while ensuring that we cooperate with organisations that are representative or legitimate, and have the potential to influence for change.

Our aim is that at least 60 % of the project costs are transferred directly to partners. In 2020, we have fulfilled this aim, with the exceptions of South Sudan and the global project GLII. The accounts for 2020 show that NPA in total transferred 64 % of the project costs as direct partner transfers, and this share increases to 68 % if South-Sudan (48 %) and GLII (24 %) are excluded. Due to the nature of the programme, GLII is not expected to have a high transfer to partners. The low percentage in the case of South Sudan, is primarily due to partners lacking sufficient financial capacity to manage the funds on their own. However, it should be noted that there is an increase in transfer to partners in South Sudan from 33 % in 2019 to 48 % in 2020. The percentages mentioned do not include other partner related expenses that were covered by NPA, like travel costs covered directly by GLII, NPA partner capacity building, and joint meetings between partners organised by NPA. For 2020 it is also worth mentioning that several programmes report that savings on Country Office cost (p. ex. travel and running cost), have enabled the programmes to transfer more funds to partners than originally planned.

For OCG, the average transfer to partners is 63 %, excluding South Sudan (40 %). For BREL, the transfer to partners is 31 %.

## OVERVIEW OF FINANCES

The total expenditure for all programmes (Civil Society/CS, Oil for the Common Good/OCG and Building Resilience and Enhancing Livelihoods in South Sudan/BREL) for the year 2020 was TNOK 215.466.

This reflects the total programme funding base, including indirect cost, as per the revised budget for 2020 and is distributed as per the table below:

Programme	Norad	NPA OC*	SIDA	SDC	Total
CS	161 000	7 626	4 948	5 145	178 719
OCG	6 600	147			6 747
BREL	30 000	0			30 000
	197 600	7 773	4 948	5 145	215 466

\*OC = Own contribution

The total budget for 2020 was TNOK 226.682, thus we had a total under-expenditure of TNOK 11.216. Given the 2020 waiver from Norad of the requirement for grant recipients to contribute a minimum of 10% of programme cost as own contribution because of the COVID-19 pandemic, NPA revised our project structure and prioritised spending towards the Norad contribution on the CS and OCG programmes. Own contribution is not required for the BREL project. This allowed for a greater flexibility, and also simplified the management of the overall grant. It is important to note that activities have been implemented according to plans – with some adjustments.

The co-financing from SIDA and SDC has been spent at a lower level than originally planned, at around 30% lower expenditure than budgeted. This is also reflected in revised budgets for 2021 submitted to SIDA and SDC.

The deviations on the budget lines for all three programmes follows the same pattern. The deviations at Head Office and Country Office level is to a large degree related to international travel costs, consultancies and evaluations. This is due to the COVID-19 related restrictions on travel and the need to focus on realigning core activities in the programme portfolio to adapt to the pandemic, leaving less capacity to follow up on evaluations.

**Head Office (HQ):** Travel cost were underspent by 58% (CS) and 83% (OCG) due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. For the GLII programme there were underspending on consultancies (93%) and audits, monitoring and evaluations, due to a delay in developing a training package, and the evaluation of NPA's involvement in the Colombian peace process being postponed.

It is worth noting that the absolute numbers are quite low in comparison with those at Country Office and Partner level, and that the percentages therefore also come out high in comparison to the actual amounts.

**Country Office (Regional/National level):** The deviations at this level are also mainly related to travel cost as described above, consultancies, and audits, monitoring and evaluations. In addition, there is a large deviation on other direct activity cost.

There were differences between country programmes, based on how severely the pandemic affected the specific countries. All programmes have had to adjust how activities have been carried out and subsequently how they have spent their budgets, but some more than others. When the totals are put together globally, and budget comments compared, the deviations are explained by the pandemic, and how programmes have moved trainings and seminars from physical venues to online platforms, travel restrictions for consultants, facilitation for staff working from home office in most programmes, and planned evaluations postponed. South Sudan also reports on price hikes on delivery of goods and services.

**Partners (Local):** When it comes to the partner level, there is a bit of a different pattern in how the pandemic has impacted on the spending in the different cost categories, and we also see lower deviations measured in percentage. This can be explained to some extent by the fact that most activities are planned in country, but also that the total global budget is much higher than in the other two categories (64% of the total direct cost are directly transferred to partners). The large deviations are found on operating cost, procurement, and audits, monitoring and evaluations on all three programmes.

On operating cost, the COVID-19 situation has also required that partner organisations set up offices in a way that would enable safe working conditions. There has also been an increase on procurement, in some instances related to implementing adapted and/or additional activities, to support the work to limit the spread of the pandemic.

**Deviations between country programmes:** In the programme overview there are also some deviations between the budget and actuals that should be noted.

As mentioned, NPA aimed to spend budgets as planned to the extent possible. In the autumn we saw a trend towards underspending globally, and requested to all programmes to indicate if they had capacity to absorb more funds before

the end of the year. Based on the replies, additional funds were granted to the programmes in Latin America (TNOK 2.100) and Palestine (TNOK 1.000), thus allowing them to increase activities in 2020. We did not submit a budget revision for this, but allowed for overspending on these programmes. This is reflected in the overview of direct cost by programme.

There is also one specific thing to note on Guatemala and Honduras. In response to the two hurricanes, NPA started a fundraiser for emergency support and received TNOK 200 which was added to the Norad project. This is therefore included in the accounts.

DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Based on cost-categories)	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (HQ)</b>	<b>9 500</b>	<b>10 821</b>	<b>-1 321</b>	<b>-12 %</b>	<b>6 %</b>	<b>6 %</b>
Salaries	8 609	8 801	-192	-2 %	5 %	5 %
Travels	151	364	-213	-58 %	0 %	0 %
Consultants and other external services	38	550	-512	-93 %	0 %	0 %
Procurement	0	0	0		0 %	0 %
Other direct activity costs	690	797	-108	-13 %	0 %	0 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	13	310	-297	-96 %	0 %	0 %
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Regional/National)</b>	<b>44 125</b>	<b>52 617</b>	<b>-8 492</b>	<b>-16 %</b>	<b>26 %</b>	<b>29 %</b>
Salaries	19 600	20 861	-1 261	-6 %	12 %	12 %
Travels	692	1 944	-1 252	-64 %	0 %	1 %
Operating costs	19 104	23 147	-4 042	-17 %	11 %	13 %
Consultants and other external services	293	516	-224	-43 %	0 %	0 %
Procurement	2 035	2 126	-90	-4 %	1 %	1 %
Other direct activity costs	921	1 381	-461	-33 %	1 %	1 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	1 480	2 642	-1 162	-44 %	1 %	1 %
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Local partner)</b>	<b>114 245</b>	<b>115 027</b>	<b>-783</b>	<b>-1 %</b>	<b>68 %</b>	<b>64 %</b>
Salaries	34 816	36 730	-1 914	-5 %	21 %	21 %
Travels	4 095	4 281	-186	-4 %	2 %	2 %
Operating costs	10 988	9 137	1 851	20 %	7 %	5 %
Consultants and other external services	7 779	7 388	391	5 %	5 %	4 %
Procurement	7 910	6 331	1 580	25 %	5 %	4 %
Other direct activity costs	46 261	47 882	-1 621	-3 %	28 %	27 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	2 394	3 279	-884	-27 %	1 %	2 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>167 870</b>	<b>178 466</b>	<b>-10 595</b>	<b>-6 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

DIRECT PROJECT COST BY COUNTRY	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
100 South Africa	9 857	10 444	-587	-6 %	6 %	6 %
101 Mozambique	8 277	10 043	-1 767	-18 %	5 %	6 %
103 Zimbabwe DHC	11 475	11 812	-338	-3 %	7 %	7 %
117 South Sudan	20 805	20 805	0	0 %	12 %	12 %
127 Rwanda	20 206	24 137	-3 931	-16 %	12 %	14 %
142 Guatemala	5 185	5 151	34	1 %	3 %	3 %
143 El Salvador	6 281	5 661	620	11 %	4 %	3 %
145 Honduras	5 190	4 933	257	5 %	3 %	3 %
147 Cuba	4 745	4 999	-254	-5 %	3 %	3 %
156 Bolivia	7 686	7 367	319	4 %	5 %	4 %
157 Ecuador	7 357	6 977	380	5 %	4 %	4 %
158 Colombia	4 971	5 099	-127	-2 %	3 %	3 %
231 MENA	2 178	2 822	-645	-23 %	1 %	2 %
231 Lebanon	2 722	3 293	-570	-17 %	2 %	2 %
233 Palestine	15 445	14 620	825	6 %	9 %	8 %
234 Iraq	8 092	10 986	-2 894	-26 %	5 %	6 %
244 Myanmar	10 665	10 384	281	3 %	6 %	6 %
245 Cambodia	11 371	11 706	-335	-3 %	7 %	7 %
290 GLII	5 362	7 227	-1 865	-26 %	3 %	4 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>167 870</b>	<b>178 466</b>	<b>-10 595</b>	<b>-6 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

DIRECT PROJECT COST BY THEMATIC AREA/SECTOR (required information for multi-sector agreements)	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
Government and civil society/Democratic participation and civil society	167 870	178 466	10 595	6 %	100 %	100 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>167 870</b>	<b>178 466</b>	<b>10 595</b>	<b>6 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

INCOME/FINANCING PLAN DIRECT PROJECT COSTS	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
Norad's share of total direct project costs/Grant funding Norad	150 467	150 467	0	0 %	90 %	84 %
Grant funding SIDA	4 632	6 499	1 867	29 %	3 %	4 %
Grant funding SDC	5 145	7 109	1 964	28 %	3 %	4 %
Own-contribution	7 626	14 345	6 719	47 %	5 %	8 %
In-kind contribution					0 %	0 %
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>167 870</b>	<b>178 421</b>	<b>10 551</b>	<b>6 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

DISBURSEMENT PLAN NORAD	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
Balance carried forward			0			
Disbursement from Norad to direct project cost	150 467	150 467	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Minus Norad's share of total direct project costs			0			
Remaining balance			0			
Norad indirect cost contribution	10 533	10 533	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM NORAD</b>	<b>161 000</b>	<b>161 000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

Conversion to NOK - Norad's disbursements	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
Disbursements from Norad to direct project costs	150 467	150 467	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Norad indirect cost contribution	10 533	10 533	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM NORAD</b>	<b>161 000</b>	<b>161 000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

Note 1: Costs are booked as they occur. Grant is recorded as income according to expenditure.

DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Based on cost-categories)	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (HQ)</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>-37</b>	<b>-14 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>
Salaries	228	240	-12	-5 %	4 %	3 %
Travels	5	30	-25	-84 %	0 %	0 %
Consultants and other external services	0	0	0	N/A	0 %	0 %
Procurement	0	0	0	N/A	0 %	0 %
Other direct activity costs	0	0	0	N/A	0 %	0 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	0	0	0	N/A	0 %	0 %
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Regional/National)</b>	<b>2 332</b>	<b>2 575</b>	<b>-243</b>	<b>-9 %</b>	<b>37 %</b>	<b>38 %</b>
Salaries	1 148	1 106	42	4 %	18 %	16 %
Travels	71	174	-102	-59 %	1 %	3 %
Operating costs	969	1 021	-51	-5 %	15 %	15 %
Consultants and other external services	23	25	-1	-5 %	0 %	0 %
Procurement	23	29	-6	-20 %	0 %	0 %
Other direct activity costs	15	146	-131	-90 %	0 %	2 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	83	76	7	10 %	1 %	1 %
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Local partner)</b>	<b>3 751</b>	<b>4 008</b>	<b>-258</b>	<b>-6 %</b>	<b>59 %</b>	<b>58 %</b>
Salaries	1 206	1 066	140	13 %	19 %	16 %
Travels	484	439	44	10 %	8 %	6 %
Operating costs	329	381	-52	-14 %	5 %	6 %
Consultants and other external services	134	134	0	0 %	2 %	2 %
Procurement	132	253	-121	-48 %	2 %	4 %
Other direct activity costs	1 375	1 555	-180	-12 %	22 %	23 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	90	180	-89	-50 %	1 %	3 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>6 315</b>	<b>6 854</b>	<b>-538</b>	<b>-8 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

DIRECT PROJECT COST BY COUNTRY	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
101 Mozambique	2 054	2 352	-298	-13 %	33 %	34 %
117 South Sudan	2 080	2 150	-70	-3 %	33 %	31 %
244 Myanmar	2 181	2 352	-171	-7 %	35 %	34 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>6 315</b>	<b>6 854</b>	<b>-538</b>	<b>-8 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

DIRECT PROJECT COST BY THEMATIC AREA/SECTOR (required information for multi-sector agreements)	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
Government and civil society/Democratic participation and civil society	6 315	6 854	538	8 %	100 %	100 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>6 315</b>	<b>6 854</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>8 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

INCOME/FINANCING PLAN DIRECT PROJECT COSTS	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
Norad's share of total direct project costs/Grant funding Norad	6 168	6 168	0	0 %	98 %	90 %
Grant funding donor x (specify)						
Own-contribution	147	685	538	78 %	2 %	10 %
In-kind contribution						
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>6 315</b>	<b>6 854</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>8 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<b>DISBURSEMENT PLAN NORAD</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Share actuals</b>	<b>Share budget</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>			<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
Balance carried forward			0			
Disbursement from Norad to direct project cost	6 168	6 168	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Minus Norad's share of total direct project costs			0			
Remaining balance			0			
Norad indirect cost contribution	432	432	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM NORAD</b>	<b>6 600</b>	<b>6 600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<b>Conversion to NOK - Norad's disbursements</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Share actuals</b>	<b>Share budget</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>			<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
Disbursements from Norad to direct project costs	6 168	6 168	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Norad indirect cost contribution	432	432	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM NORAD (NOK) = NORAD GRANT AMOUNT</b>	<b>6 600</b>	<b>6 600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

Note 1: Costs are booked as they occur. Grant is recorded as income according to expenditure.

	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
	TNOK	TNOK	TNOK	%	%	%
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Based on cost-categories)</b>						
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (HQ)</b>	-	-	-			
Salaries						
Travels						
Consultants and other external services						
Procurement						
Other direct activity costs						
Audits, monitoring and evaluations						
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Regional/National)</b>	<b>18 843</b>	<b>18 474</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>2 %</b>	<b>67 %</b>	<b>66 %</b>
Salaries	5 357	5 613	-256	-5 %	19 %	20 %
Travels	279	509	-230	-45 %	1 %	2 %
Operating costs	7 131	6 192	939	15 %	25 %	22 %
Consultants and other external services	2	0	2	N/A	0 %	0 %
Procurement	4 125	4 348	-222	-5 %	15 %	16 %
Other direct activity costs	1 296	1 143	153	13 %	5 %	4 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	652	670	-17	-3 %	2 %	2 %
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (Local partner)</b>	<b>9 195</b>	<b>9 563</b>	<b>-368</b>	<b>-4 %</b>	<b>33 %</b>	<b>34 %</b>
Salaries	1 377	1 440	-63	-4 %	5 %	5 %
Travels	259	272	-13	-5 %	1 %	1 %
Operating costs	890	713	177	25 %	3 %	3 %
Consultants and other external services	98	90	8	9 %	0 %	0 %
Procurement	295	105	190	181 %	1 %	0 %
Other direct activity costs	5 774	6 403	-629	-10 %	21 %	23 %
Audits, monitoring and evaluations	502	542	-40	-7 %	2 %	2 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COST BY COUNTRY</b>						
117 South Sudan	28 037	28 037	0	0 %	100 %	100 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
<b>DIRECT PROJECT COST BY THEMATIC AREA/SECTOR (required information for multi-sector agreements)</b>						
Agriculture/ agricultural development	28 037	28 037	0	0 %	100 %	100 %
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

	Actuals	Budget	Deviation	Deviation	Share actuals	Share budget
	2020	2020			2020	2020
<b>INCOME/FINANCING PLAN DIRECT PROJECT COSTS</b>						
Norad's share of total direct project costs/Grant funding Norad	28 037	28 037	0	0 %	100 %	100 %
Grant funding donor x (specify)						
Own-contribution						
In-kind contribution						
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>28 037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<b>DISBURSEMENT PLAN NORAD</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Share actuals</b>	<b>Share budget</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>			<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
Balance carried forward						
Disbursement from Norad to direct project cost	28 037	28 037	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Minus Norad's share of total direct project costs						
Remaining balance						
Norad indirect cost contribution	1 963	1 963	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>7 %</b>	<b>6 315</b>	<b>6 854</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>8 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<b>Conversion to NOK - Norad's disbursements</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Deviation</b>	<b>Share actuals</b>	<b>Share budget</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>			<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
Disbursements from Norad to direct project costs	28 037	28 037	0	0 %	93 %	93 %
Norad indirect cost contribution	1 963	1 963	0	0 %	7 %	7 %
<b>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM NORAD (NOK) = NORAD GRANT AMOUNT</b>	<b>30 000</b>	<b>30 000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

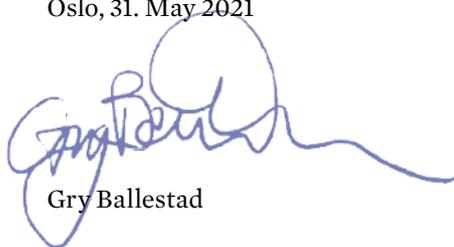
Note 1: Costs are booked as they occur. Grant is recorded as income according to expenditure.

Oslo, 31st May 2021

## DATE AND ATTESTATION

I am authorised to enter into legally binding agreements on behalf of the grant recipient, and attest that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information given in this report is correct.

Oslo, 31. May 2021



Gry Ballestad

*Director,  
Development and Humanitarian Cooperation*







# Norwegian People's Aid

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