European Commission

SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND

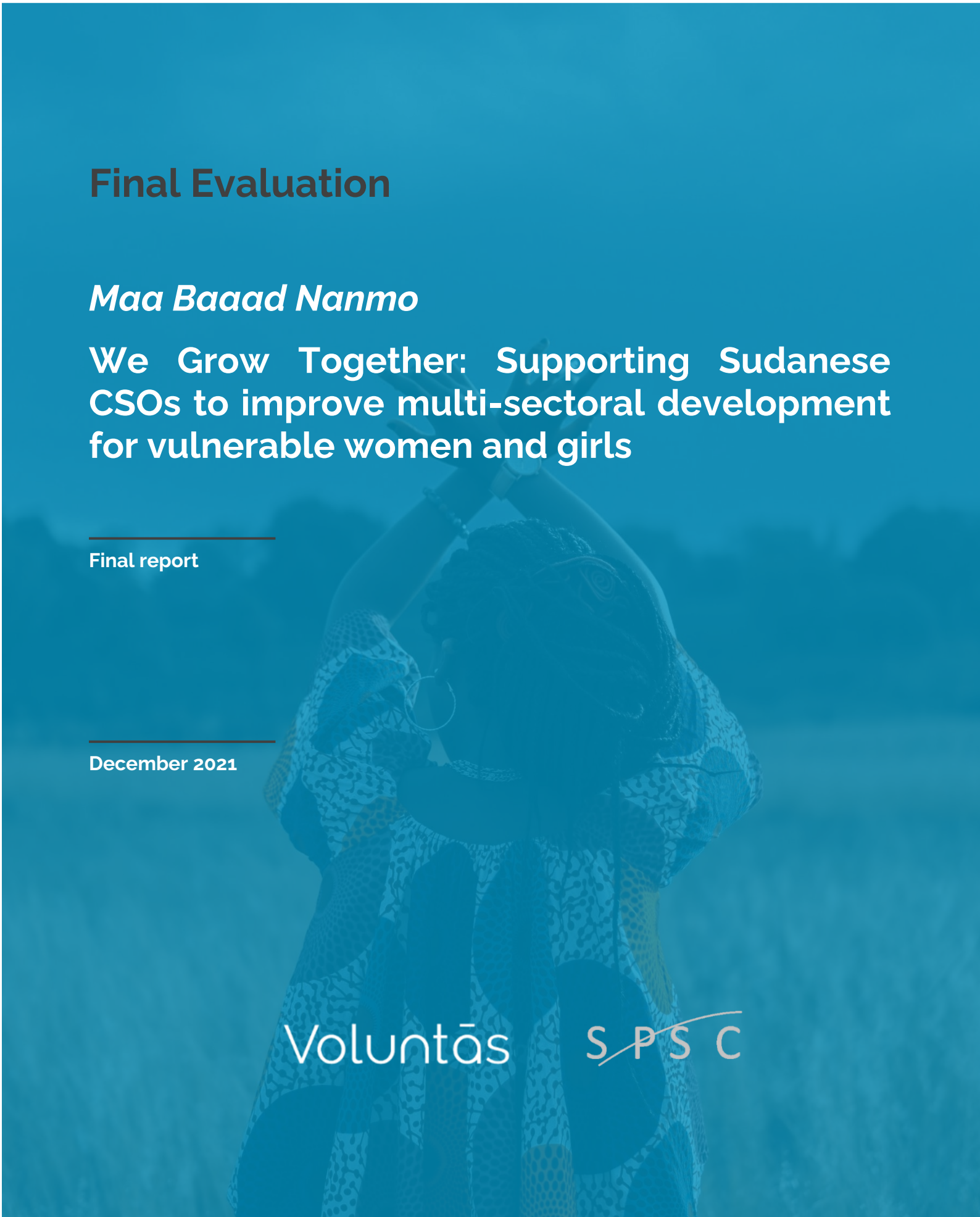
Final Evaluation

Maa Baaad Nanmo

We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls

Final report

December 2021



Voluntās

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Abbreviations

3R	Reach, Resonance, and Response
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CGA	Common Ground Approach
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
ECC	ElSharq Centre for Culture
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
KII	Key Informant Interview
MAMAN	Human Security Initiative Organization
PASS	Paralegal's Association
Search	Search for Common Ground

Executive Summary

Background

With Sudan still ranking as the 138th state out of 162 countries in the Gender Inequality Index, millions of women face economic and political exclusion.[1] These challenges are especially exacerbated amongst refugee women. Changing perceptions and attitudes, and ensuring vulnerable women and girls have access to opportunities is a long-term effort. This can only be achieved by involving local stakeholders and civil society organizations already playing an active role in the development of their communities and their country.

About the Project

In this context, Search for Common Ground (Search) in Sudan has implemented the 30-month *Maa Baaad Namo* project in collaboration with its partners; the Badya Centre for Integrated Development Services (Badya), Um Serdiba Association for Development (Um Serdiba), Paralegal's Association (PASS), the Human Security Initiative Organization (MAMAN), and ElSharq Centre for Culture (ECC). The overall goal of the project has been to increase the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The project activities took place in five states in Sudan: West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala. Voluntas was commissioned by Search to complete this final evaluation. The evaluation was conducted with a focus on the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability.

Methodology

This evaluation followed a mix-method approach composed of document review, key informant interviews (KIIs), focus group discussions (FGDs), and listenership and endline surveys. Before the initiation of data collection, all relevant project documentation was reviewed and supplemented with desk research where necessary. The knowledge gained throughout this process was drawn upon during instrument design.

During data collection, a total of 15 KIIs were carried out with Search staff, CSO members, media, and government representatives. Furthermore, a total of five FGDs were held, one in each state where activities took place. FGD participants were composed of activity participants from the local communities, government, and local CSOs. By drawing on different stakeholder groups for data collection, various perceptions and insights on the project were captured.

As for the quantitative data collection, two types of surveys were carried out: listenership and endline. For the listenership survey, 100 responses were collected from the local community across Al-Fula and Al-Mujlad (West Kordofan), Kadogli, and Damazin. The endline survey was designed as a follow-up to the project's baseline survey to allow for comparable values on key project indicators. A total of 34 CSO representatives that contributed to the baseline survey were reached during data collection.

Limitations and Challenges

During data collection delays were experienced due to instability on-the-ground. These issues were mitigated by carrying out KIIs and the Endline Survey remotely through phone interviews. Furthermore, to facilitate the conclusion on interviews despite the prevailing network issues, some were carried out in multiple time slots over a day or several days.

Key Findings

Relevance

Overall, the theory of change for the project was relevant to the context and responsive to the needs of the local communities. Throughout the project's design and implementation, differences in the perceptions and priorities of women, men, and vulnerable groups were also accounted for. The project was perceived by different stakeholders including the local community as a great benefit to the entire community and as necessary to support local

[1] Gender Inequality Index, UNDP, 2019

women's multi-sectoral development, especially in the areas of implementation where there is a lack of awareness of the importance of women's active participation in society.[2] Nonetheless, greater engagement of all relevant stakeholders working on similar matters and building on previous experiences of partner CSOs could have increased the fitting of the project design to the context even more.

Effectiveness

Despite the political instability in Sudan and the outbreak of COVID-19, most of the planned activities and objectives have been successfully accomplished. CSOs, communities, and government representatives were provided with space to exchange ideas on vulnerable women and girls' development. The slow pace of project activities and difficulties in the timely access to grants however hindered the overall effectiveness of the project. The capacity building component of the project was particularly successful and tailoring it further to participants needs and feedback could increase its effect. Indeed, the percentage of CSOs that provides testimonies of the effectiveness of applying the Common Ground Approach grew from 51.5 percent in the baseline to 61.8 percent in the end line. Meanwhile, CSOs reporting improved government coordination grew from 94.6 percent to 100 percent, and CSOs that cited that their perspectives are represented in government decision making grew from 68.5 percent to 91 percent in the end line. Finally, the radio programming was effective at transmitting its messages in support of a more active role for women in society and greater awareness of women's rights.

Impact

Project activities had positive effects on the local community especially with regards to the strengthening of coordination between CSOs and government institutions. Moreover, there was a consensus that the most successful component of the project was capacity-building training. With a focus on financial management, proposal writing, transitional justice, and English language classes, the courses supported the professionalization of local organizations, which strengthened their capacities for future collaboration and provision of services to their local communities.

Sustainability

The project increased the capacities of local CSOs and facilitated the establishment of multiple partnerships and networks between CSOs and government institutions both at the local and national levels. All these constitute very promising prospects for the sustainability of the project in the long run. Nonetheless, the project could have leveraged more on livelihood supporting activities which were perceived as the most impactful to vulnerable women and girls' multi-sectoral development in the long run.

Recommendations

Project duration

- Shortening the duration between project activities would ensure that participants do not lose interest in the work carried out and that learnings continue to effectively build on one another. In the occurrence of any compelling circumstances such as political instability or the COVID-19 pandemic, additional efforts could go into keeping partner CSOs and CSO networks engaged through calls, messages, WhatsApp groups, and even visits from the Search team (if possible).
- Ensuring the provision of project funds to partners in a timely manner would help avoid implementation delays.
- Building on past CSO experiences, skills, and capacities of partner CSOs during project design would prevent the duplication of efforts and ensure efficient fund allocation.

[2] Documented through the listenership survey conducted among local communities in some of the areas of the radio program.

Inclusion of key stakeholders

- Including all stakeholders relevant to the multi-sectoral development of women and girls (such as pre-existing networks working on women's rights and empowerment) in the project's design and implementation could enhance the project's acceptance and sustainability within the communities.
- Facilitating the inclusion of governmental stakeholders in the CSO networks. This would facilitate communication with governmental counterparts and pave the way for potential future collaborations.
- Continuing ensuring the effective inclusion and participation of women throughout all project phases.

Capacity building

- Continuous consideration of inputs provided by participants in capacity-building activities could ensure more ad-hoc and flexible programming. This includes ongoing support with administrative and financial management, as well as on communication and soft skills.
- Integrating a mid-term training session into the training plan. This session would allow for learning from the initial project implementation phase and would be based on feedback provided by participants. This would ensure that activities provide the greatest value-added possible.
- Training of trainers could be provided for local communities to enhance the impact and reach of the Search's Common Ground Approach (CGA).
- Training all local CSOs on the existing national legal frameworks associated with the field of women's development to ensure full contextual awareness.
- Training partners and local CSOs to identify and apply to funding opportunities would cater towards greater sustainability of project objectives.
- Training partner and local CSOs on how to sustain their created CSO networks and how to effectively communicate to ensure the continuity of their collaborations.

Programming

- Enhancing the focus on livelihood support and the economic empowerment of women could better suit community needs and ensure the continued sustainability of the project's positive impact.
- Creating a women center in each of the target project areas to ensure local women have a safe space to access psychological support, leisure activities, and targeted courses.
- Ensuring the continuation of the efforts in tackling the root causes of inequalities faced by women in future programming and maintaining a context-sensitive approach would guarantee the continuation of project impact in the long run.
- Supporting the creation of media networks with the objective of connecting local radio stations committed to spreading awareness on the role and rights of women and girls. This initiative could expand the reach of the project and ensure the engagement of the communities through consistent programming.
- Continuing to uphold a Do No Harm and a context sensitive approach during the design and implementation phases on the local, state, and national levels.
- Ensuring the continuation of context-informed activity design and implementation to facilitate the achievement of desired programmatic objectives.

1. Background information

Since the secession of South Sudan in 2011, Sudan has suffered from major economic issues resulting from the loss of revenue derived from South Sudan's oil that once constituted 95 percent[3] of the country's exports. This has greatly impaired the country's economic growth, causing inflation rates to reach 111.8 percent[4] in 2020. As is the case with most countries amidst economic hardships, conflict has continued to spread amid political, ethnic, and sectarian turmoil, hindering the protection, political participation, economic opportunities, and access to services of the general population, primarily the most vulnerable.

Among these most vulnerable categories are women and girls. As families were faced with economic hardships and ongoing conflict, school dropout rates skyrocketed, primarily among girls who now were expected to work and support their families or marry at a young age. These new circumstances have made girls more vulnerable and at-risk of becoming victims of gender-based violence (GBV), economic exploitation, and mental and physical abuse.

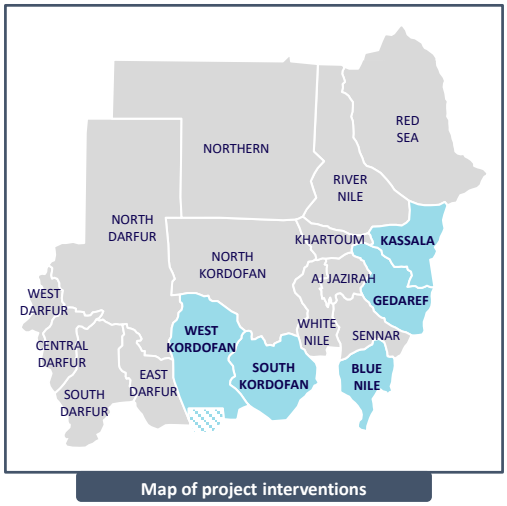
Women's political participation calls for more profound and fundamental reforms that would effectively address existing legal barriers to gender equality and the conservative societal norms that continue to discriminate against them. Although they participated massively in the popular uprising of 2018-2019, women continue to be excluded from formal local and national political decision-making and decision-making bodies.

Additional vulnerable groups to consider are refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants. With Sudan bordering countries in conflicts such as Ethiopia, Eritrea, Chad, the Central African Republic, and South Sudan, the country naturally became a host of nearly 1.1 million refugees and more than 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs).[5] This has further exhausted Sudan's ability to confront its ongoing crises. These challenges faced by Sudanese women and girls are further exacerbated for refugees with limited access to basic services.

1.1. About the Project

In this context, Search for Common Ground Sudan has implemented a 30-months project, in collaboration with its partners; the Badya Centre for Integrated Development Services (Badya), Um Serdiba Association for Development (Um Serdiba), Paralegal's Association (PASS), the Human Security Initiative Organization (MAMAN), and ElSharq Centre for Culture (ECC). The overall goal of the *Maa Baaad Namo* project has been to increase the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The project activities took place in five states in Sudan: West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala.

[3] Worldbank : https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/sudan/overview#1
[4] Worlbank : https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.DEFL.KD.ZG?locations=SD
[5] UNHCR : https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/88903



Map of project interventions

Local communities	Implementing CSO	Examples of activities held in local communities
El Nohud, West Kordofan	Search and partner CSOs	Training of Trainers
Al-Fula, West Kordofan	Search and partner CSOs	Training of Trainers
Gerba, Kassala	Search and partner CSOs	Training of Trainers
Kadogli, South Kordofan	Um Serdiba	South Kordofan Forum
Al-Salam Neighborhood in Al-Farshaya	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Al-Wahda neighborhood in Al-Farssa	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Al-Damira in Um Alwan	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Al-Safaa Elementary School in Diliing	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Al Shorouk neighborhood	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Rakouba Sheikh Al-Senussi in Sir Al-Amin	Search in collaboration with Badya	Theater Performance
Diling, South Kordofan	Search and Radio journalist partners	Creative design workshop
Damazin, Blue Nile	Search and Radio journalist partners	Design workshop

Figure 1. Areas of Project Implementation

1.2. Overview of Key Project Activities

As indicated in Figure 1, the project included diverse components engaging with civil society, media, and the government sector. Below is an overview of the project activity components:

Capacity-building activities for local CSOs:

- **Common Ground Outreach, Communication, and Advocacy Training:** Ten trainings on the Common Ground Outreach, Communication and Advocacy were completed as part of the project. These trainings were conducted with project partners during the first year of the project, with additional ones on the Common Ground Outreach, Communication, and Advocacy workshops conducted in Kassala, Gedaref, and Khartoum (April 2019-March 2020). More workshops were conducted in all of the five target areas aiming to increase the capacity of the targeted CSOs and built participants' skillsets in strategic networking, effective communication, non-adversarial advocacy, relationship building with communities and key stakeholders in a conflict and gender-sensitive manner, as well as basic conflict prevention and dialogue facilitation.

- **Training of Trainers (ToT) on Technical Topics:** 21 ToT workshops in different thematic areas were conducted in targeted states. The training topics also touched up on the four areas of focus of the project; governance, education, agriculture, and migration.

- **CSO Management Trainings:** Ten CSO Management trainings were conducted in Kassala and West Kordofan to strengthen skills in project and financial management, reporting, M&E, and fundraising.

Networking and coordination among CSOs and between CSOs and government authorities, and joint advocacy activities:

- **Regional CSO Networks:** Ten CSO network meetings took place as part of the program. Prior to establishing the networks, Search's partners held workshops in each target area to build a shared understanding of the purpose of the networks, as well as to increase their knowledge on key issues related to the needs of women and girls. These meetings resulted in the establishment of five CSO networks. These networks served as a foundation to increase coordination and engagement among CSOs on their priorities, needs, and interests.

- **Regional NGO Forums:** Ten regional NGO forums were held. These forums provided a space to discuss the challenges CSOs are facing, brainstorm synergetic project ideas, and jointly articulate advocacy priorities and policy recommendations ahead of meeting with government authorities.

- **CSO-Government Forums:** Ten CSO-government forums were held in Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Kordofan. During these forums, the CSOs were able to continue holding discussions with government representatives.

- **Advocacy Visits**: Ten regional and national advocacy visits were conducted with project partners in Khartoum. Topics discussed included peacebuilding, transitional justice measures, reconciliation mechanisms, and the representation of women and their active participation in negotiations and peacebuilding processes. These visits resulted in designating two representatives for each state, and the identification of the priorities for women for each project area. During these meetings, standards were set regarding a concrete policy to promote gender equality and empower women through their active participation in state structures and decision-making.

- **Outreach Sessions in Communities:** 20 outreach sessions took place in target communities. Trained CSOs organized these informal outreach sessions to collect the perspectives of a wider group of people on efforts to increase access to basic services and development opportunities for women and girls. Those ideas were then presented at the regional NGO forums and the joint CSO-government forums (Activities 2.2 and 2.3 as per the project logframe). After each forum, the key takeaways were shared with the community group. Other stakeholders were invited to join, such as religious or community leaders whose buy-in is necessary for any initiatives to be undertaken locally.

- **Joint Awareness-raising Campaign:** A Joint-Awareness-raising Campaign was implemented, resulting in 27 participatory theater performances in West and South Kordofan, the initiation of the production and dissemination of 5000 copies of a comic book; the launch of a multi-media campaign, as well as two creative design workshops for the radio programming in Diling and Damazin, as well as the production and broadcasting of 100 radio episodes**.**

Design and implementation of concrete locally led multi-sectoral initiatives contributing to improved access for women and girls to rights and basic services (governance, education, agriculture, migration).

- **Subgranting Fund for Locally Led Initiatives:** 14 locally led initiatives benefited from the subgranting fund. Search staff accompanied by representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture conducted visits to villages across Diling to carry out this distribution. Guidance and training were also provided to farmers on agricultural techniques and methods of plantation and harvesting for each type of seed provided.

2. About the evaluation

2.1. Purpose of the evaluation

The evaluation aimed to assess the project's design and validate its assumptions, implementation, and the achievement of objectives and expected results. It examined elements related to the satisfaction of stakeholder needs as well as sustainability and impact of the project on partner CSOs and media; as well as local CSOs and communities.

Voluntas shaped the evaluation methodology around the intervention steps related to a classic theory of change framework. This allowed us to assess project implementation and

performance at both granular and wide-scale levels and evaluate the project implementation and achievements that occurred.

Hence, the first step of the evaluation was to obtain a thorough understanding of the underlying theory of change of the project, including activities, outputs, and intended outcomes and impact, to guarantee the fulfillment of the following project outcomes:

1. Increasing the capacity of targeted CSOs in the "Common Ground Approach", in technical areas relevant to their sector and in management, to improve their effectiveness.
2. Improving collaboration among CSOs working on development issues that affect vulnerable women and girls, and between CSOs and government authorities, for more coherent efforts to improve access to services.
3. Supporting the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls (in governance, education, migration, agriculture).

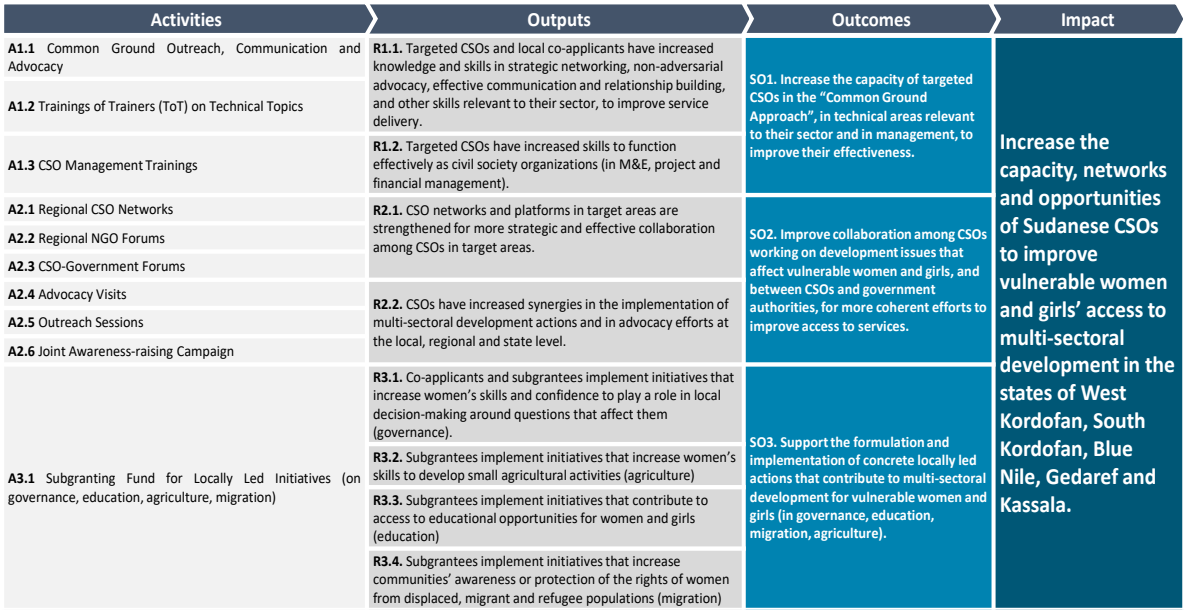
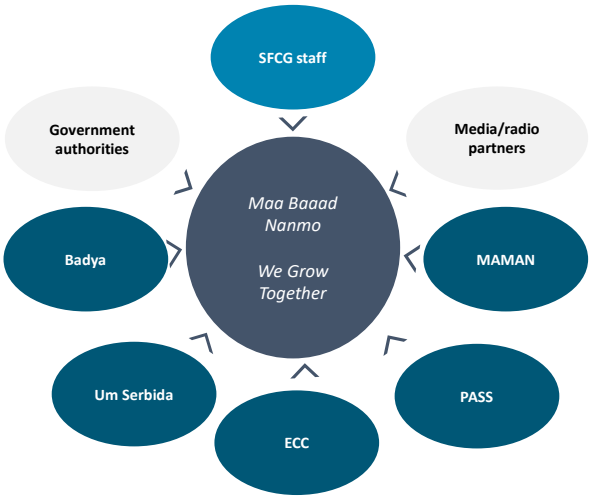


Figure 2. The project's Theory of Change

Voluntas supported Search in conducting a final evaluation of the project. Besides focusing on assessing the project's design and validating its assumptions, it also looked at the satisfaction of the mapped stakeholders' (Figure 3) needs, as well as the sustainability and impact of the project on CSOs' capacities and local communities targeted through the various activity streams (Figure 4).



Radio partners	Location
El Obeid Radio	North Kordofan
Kadugli Radio	South Kordofan
Al Fula Radio	West Kordofan
Blue Nile Radio	Blue Nile
Radio station 1	Eastern Sudan
Radio station 2	Eastern Sudan

Government Authorities partners
Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC)
Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW)
Women's National Association
Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Social Welfare
State Peace Council
Ministry of Youth and Sports

Figure 3. Stakeholder Mapping

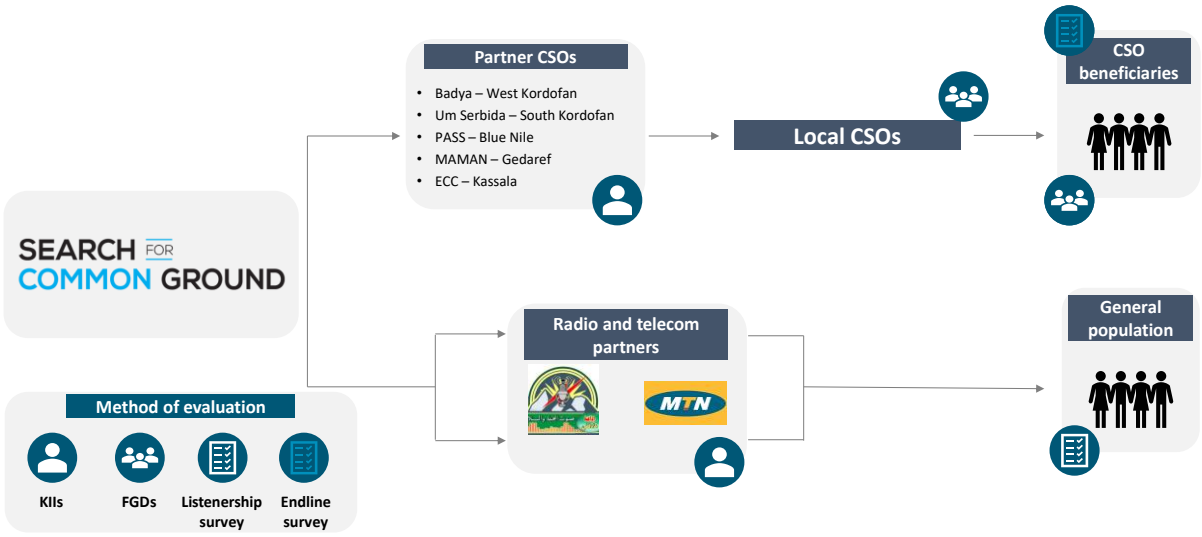


Figure 4. Activity Stream

3. Evaluation methodology

Voluntas adopted a three-step methodological approach. As a first step, the relevant activities, as well as outputs and outcomes achieved, were reviewed on a project level based on the evaluation framework (see section 3.1). In a second step, the performance on each evaluation criteria were assessed to identify areas of achievements and shortcomings. This assessment fed into the formulation of recommendations in the final third step. This method ensured a constructive review and the development of relevant recommendations for future projects.

Throughout the evaluation, Voluntas adhered to the Search for Common Ground approach to evaluations. As such, the evaluation adopted culturally sensitive and do-no-harm approaches. Moreover, Voluntas guaranteed a participatory approach that integrated representativity among the different stakeholders involved in the project. In this regard, the Voluntas team engaged in ongoing communications and coordinated closely with project staff throughout the evaluation process.

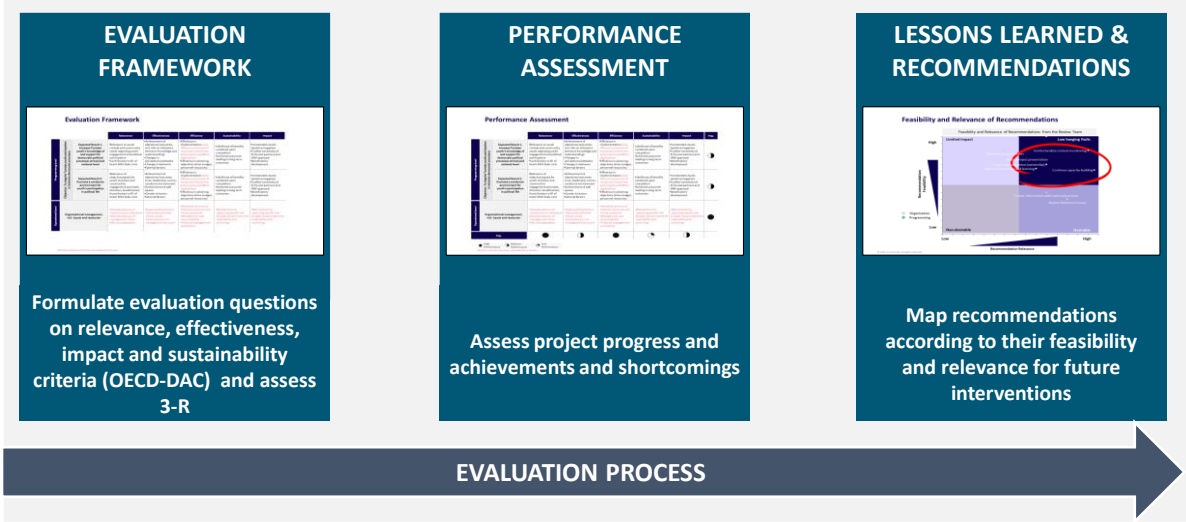


Figure 5: Evaluation Approach

3.1. Evaluation Framework

The evaluation was based on OECD-DAC criteria as well as the Reach, Resonance, and Response (3R) model of the project's media component:

1. Relevance
2. Effectiveness
3. Impact
4. Sustainability

Figure 6 presents the refined evaluation framework including both, questions outlined within the project's Terms of Reference (TOR), as well as additional questions developed by Voluntas. Each of the questions outlined within the evaluation framework was then operationalized to be addressed through one or more of the data collection modes used throughout the evaluation (Figure 7).

During the inception phase, Voluntas refined the Evaluation framework adding a media and a gender equality and women empowerment principles components.

Objectives	Relevance	Effectiveness	Impact	Sustainability
SO1. Increase the capacity of targeted CSOs in the "Common Ground Approach", in technical areas relevant to their sector and in management, to improve their effectiveness	•To what extent the intervention's objectives and design responded to the targeted CSO's needs and priorities in terms of vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development? •Relevance of activities conducted to achieve intended output and outcomes •Project design factors that enhance/hinder results' achievements •To what extend did the usage of media and arts-based approaches for social change align with the existing perceptions and attitudes of the communities?	•What are the project achievements vis-a-vis the log frame? •To what extent has the project been successful in achieving the objectives and outcomes intended by the project design? •What challenges occurred due to collaboration and coordination with five different partner organizations operating in different states and how were they addressed? •Was Search able to respond and adapt to the challenges which arose during the project's implementation? •Achievement of intended outputs and outcomes as information on the key indicators listed in the project logframe. •To what extent was the media programming successful in changing people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls in multi-sectoral development?	•How has the project contributed to increasing the capacity of the partners? (differences between key partners and CSOs?) •To what extent did the project strengthen the coordination among CSOs and between CSOs and government authorities in each state? •How has the project contributed to the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions and advocacy efforts at the local, regional and state level? •Do we have evidence for the implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls as a result of the project? •What are the unintended (positive and negative) outcomes / changes triggered by the project, if any? •How did the media outlets utilize the training they received from Search and partner CSOs to change people's perceptions and attitudes towards women and girls?	•To what extent are the achieved results likely to be sustained after the project closes out? •What enables or impedes the sustainability of the results?
SO2. Improve collaboration among CSOs working on development issues that affect vulnerable women and girls, and between CSOs and government authorities, for more coherent efforts to improve access to services				
SO3. Support the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls (in governance, education, migration, agriculture)				
Transform people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls in development through media programming	**Reach, Resonance and Response (3R) :** • Reach: How many people followed the media programs and who? • Resonance: Did the audience relate to the content? Was it relevant for our target audience? • Response: What changes in knowledge, attitudes / perceptions and behavior can be observed ? • How did CSOs engage in radio programming and how did it help them raise awareness around the role of women and girls?			
Gender equality and women empowerment principles	•To what extent were the needs, differences, roles, and priorities of women, men, and specific vulnerable groups considered during the projet design and implementation phases?	•To what extent were barriers to equal participation in activities on the local levels identified and addressed in the design and implementation of the project?	•To what extent the project promote positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women, girls, youth, and vulnerable groups?	

• Grey color indicates points added by Voluntas

Figure 6. Evaluation Framework

	Evaluation Questions	DR	KII	FGD	LS	ES
Relevance	Intervention's objectives and design respond to the targeted CSO's needs and priorities in terms of vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development	X	X			
	Relevance of activities conducted to achieve intended output and outcomes	X		X		X
	Project design factors that enhance/hinder results' achievements	X	X			
	Usage of media and arts-based approaches for social change align with the existing perceptions and attitudes of the communities				X	
	The consideration of the needs, differences, roles, and priorities of women, men, and specific vulnerable groups during the project design and implementation phases	X	X	X		
Effectiveness	Project achievements vis-a-vis the log frame	X	X	X	X	X
	Project achieving the objectives and outcomes intended by the project design	X	X	X		X
	Challenges that occurred due to collaboration and coordination with five different partner organizations operating in different states and how these challenges were addressed		X	X		
	Search responding and adapting to the challenges which arose during the project's implementation	X	X			
	Achievement of intended outputs and outcomes as information on the key indicators listed in the project logframe	X	X	X		X
	Media programming's success in changing people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls in multi-sectoral development			X	X	
	Identifying and addressing of barriers to equal participation in activities on the local levels during the design and implementation of the project	X	X	X		X

	Evaluation Questions	DR	KII	FGD	LS	ES
Impact	Project contribution to increasing the capacity of the partners (differences between key partners and CSOs)	X	X		X	X
	Project strengthening the coordination among CSOs and between CSOs and government authorities in each state	X	X			X
	Project contributing to the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions and advocacy efforts at the local, regional and state level	X	X	X		
	Implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls as a result of the project	X	X	X		X
	Unintended (positive and negative) outcomes / changes triggered by the project		X	X	X	X
	Media outlets utilizing the training they received from Search and partner CSOs to change people's perceptions and attitudes towards women and girls		X		X	
	Project promoting positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women, girls, youth, and vulnerable groups			X	X	X
Sust.	The achieved results likely to be sustained after the project closes out		X	X	X	X
	Factors enabling or impeding the sustainability of the results		X	X		
3R	Identity and number of people following the media programs			X	X	
	Audience relating to the content / relevance of content to target audience			X	X	
	Observed changes in knowledge, attitudes / perceptions and behavior			X	X	
	Methods of CSO engagement in radio programming and the effects of this engagement on raising awareness around the role of women and girls		X		X	

DR: Documentation review KIIs: Key Informant Interview FGDs: Focus Group Discussions LS: Listenership survey

Figure 7. Operationalization of the Evaluation Framework

3.2. Data collection modes

Voluntas utilized five different modes of both qualitative and quantitative data collection in support of this evaluation. Each was selected to complement, triangulate, and add further nuance to the findings of the other modes, and to cultivate cross-cutting themes and lessons from stakeholders at all levels. The below figure details the modes used.

Figure 8. Data Collection Modes

Sampling for all data collection methods was carried out in accordance with the guidelines agreed upon with Search during the inception phase. The list of KII and FGD respondents as well as the demographics of survey respondents can be found attached as an Annex.

Documentation Review

The documentation review was carried out to gain in-depth knowledge of the project objectives, activities, and processes. The review informed the methodology and the development of data collection instruments in the inception phase. The documentation included the project proposal, project log-frame, baseline study, listenership survey, quarterly narrative reports, and activity attendance sheets. Moreover, continuous desk research was conducted to complement the data collected where needed.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

KIIs were conducted to gather in-depth perceptions of Search's staff, CSO members, and media and government representatives relevant to the criteria outlined within the project's evaluation framework. A total of 15 KIIs were conducted covering project activities and providing qualitative insights and in-depth perceptions relevant to the criteria outlined within the evaluation framework. The KII participants were determined in close coordination with the Search staff to include diverse perspectives from different project partners across the regions of project implementation. Given the recent instability witnessed in Sudan, most KIIs were held remotely.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

A total of five FGDs (one per state) were held to gain a broader understanding of the perception of beneficiaries of the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability. The FGDs were held with activity participants from the local community, government, and local CSOs in the states where project activities took place: West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala. The diverse pool of participants was agreed upon with Search to allow for a comparative discussion of the successes and challenges of the project activities.

Listenership Survey

The listenership survey assessed the Reach, Resonance, and Response (3R) of Search's media programming, as well as some of the outcome indicators of the project. The survey was conducted with local communities in West Kordofan (Al-Fula and Al-Mujlad), Kadogli, and Damazin in West Kordofan, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile respectively.

The survey sample included 100 respondents that were selected using a PPS (Probability Proportional to Size) method based on the locality population according to the latest census data available. This survey design does not guarantee state-level representativity but instead was designed to capture accurately and efficiently the general public point of view on the media components of the project.

Endline Survey

The endline survey, designed in line with the baseline, allowed for comparable values on key project indicators. The initial goal outlined during the inception phase was to interview all 54 CSOs included in the baseline survey. However, due to persistent network issues and unresponsiveness, only 34 responses were collected. Given the geographic dispersion of survey respondents and after discussions with Search, the survey was carried out remotely via telephone interviewing. All surveys were conducted in Arabic in compliance with respondent preference.

3.3. Challenges and Limitations

During data collection, challenges emerged that led to significant delays in the data collection phase. The figure below summarizes the main challenges faced by the evaluation team and corresponding mitigation measures that were put in place (Figure 9).

Limitations		Mitigation measure	
Movement restrictions	• The political instability in Sudan and subsequent insecurity limited the feasibility of in-person data collection.	**Remote data collection modalities**	• KIIs and the endline survey were conducted via phone interviews.
Data collection delays	• Data collection logistics and coordination were often disrupted due to network outages. • Political instability and insecurity often led to FGD or survey data collection being postponed to ensure the safety of researchers and participants	**Flexibility of data collection coordination**	• In cooperation with Search, the data collection timeline was extended to allow for data collection targets to be met. • To ensure safety, the data collection partner drew on local researchers to evaluate and assess the situation on the ground and the feasibility of data collection.
Network issues and lack of responsiveness	• Telephone data collection were often interrupted by network issues. • Due to respondent unresponsiveness 34 of the 54 CSOs contacted for the endline survey accepted and undertook the survey to completion.	**Flexibility of sampling approach and follow-up communication**	• Interrupted interviews were allowed to continue at any other reasonable date and time. • For the endline survey, each CSO contact was contacted six times on different days and at different times. If the contact was still unresponsive after reaching this quota, researchers marked them as such and moved on to the next contact.
Limited sample	• The small sample size of the listenership survey does not ensure the representativity of findings at a state level.	**Tailored analysis**	• The analysis focused on the locality specific sample. • The total number of respondents to each question was shown in the data visualizations as a reference for readers.
Limited information on specific activities	• Due to a lack of information and respondents' awareness, the evaluation lacked information about the comic book and theater play components of the media programming.	**Tailored analysis**	• Greater emphasis was lent to the radio component of the radio programming throughout the analysis.

Figure 9. Limitations and mitigation measures

4. Main Findings

The following sections explore the main findings extracted from the project documents, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and listenership and endline surveys. These data collection modes were utilized across a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including Search staff, CSO partners, local CSOs, media and government representatives, as well as the local communities. All sources provided insight into the relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of Search's *Maa Baaad Nanmo* project. Furthermore, the findings were used to inform best practices and future recommendations.

4.1. Relevance

The relevance of a project indicates the extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to beneficiaries, global, country, and partner/institution needs, policies, and priorities, and continue to do so if circumstances change.[6] Within this project, relevance evaluates the extent to which *Maa Baaad Nanmo's* objectives and design responded to the needs and priorities of CSOs in terms of vulnerable women and girls' access to multisectoral development.

Theory of Change

Overall, the theory of change and framing of the project's interventions were relevant and responsive to real-life community needs across the targeted localities in Sudan.

"توفير مشاريع زراعية صغرى للنساء ساعدهم بشكل كبير على الخروج من دائرة الفقر والدخول في دائرة الإنتاج."

"Giving women small agricultural projects have greatly helped them in getting out from of the cycle of poverty and entering the cycle of production."

- Interview with FGD patricipant. November 2021

The *Maa Baaad Nanmo* project was put forth to increase the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development in the states of West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala. The needs addressed by the project demonstrate its relevance and the different components of the project seem to have aligned with community needs. This was further supported by female interviewees and focus group discussion participants who emphasized that the project managed to cater to the wide range of needs of partner and local CSOs, as well as those of local communities. For the CSOs, the project provided them with trainings and capacity building, opportunities to create and maintain networks with various counterparts, as well as access to funding for their activities. As for the local communities, the project met their diverse needs ranging from direct economic support (buying goats, setting up small businesses to better livelihoods), agricultural support (drilling wells, distributing crops), and even facilitated access to education with the provision of school supplies.

However, although all project components were appreciated by interviewees, some pointed out that including some **additional elements** in the project design could have greatly enhanced its impact on vulnerable women and girls. Among those suggested, interviewees emphasized a need for a greater focus on the **improvement of women's livelihoods which significantly impacts women's empowerment**. In line with this, there is a need to improve local women's access to markets as selling points for their goods and services. Interviewees also pointed out that focusing on women's ability to sustain themselves and their families could have sped up the process of changing men's perspective of women's role in society. A further suggestion made by a CSO partner was the establishment of a women's center in rural areas within each target state. These centers could function as a safe space for vulnerable women

[6] OECD evaluation criteria https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm

and girls. These centers would work to provide a multitude of services to them including psychosocial support, activities, courses, and recreational activities. While conducting data collection, a number of pre-existing CSO networks and locally led initiatives working on women's issues and empowerment were identified. Considering the added value in terms of programmatic relevance engaging with local actors has, a closer collaboration with these networks to combine efforts would have leveraged existing capacities and increased ties with the local community.

Project Design and Format

According to the interviewees, in terms of planning and design, the project has managed to respond to the needs and priorities of CSOs, communities, and vulnerable women and girls. Partner CSOs testified that women showed great interest in participating in project activities despite their husbands' potential disapproval.

Local CSOs that were interviewed highlighted that projects of this caliber were of great benefit to the entire community and were necessary to support local women's multi-sectoral development. Before the project, awareness of the role of women in their communities and the importance of their multi-sectoral development was very low. After the project, a rise of community awareness, knowledge, and acknowledgment of the active role of women had been witnessed. Media partners restated the outstanding need for the promotion of this message and the exploitation of the media's influential role via community radio. Furthermore, broadcasting the messages in local dialects generated significant additional impact and inclusivity.

As the project relied on locally-led initiatives, there was consensus on the success of the project design in factoring in the **contextual differences** between the target areas and catering to its activities along those lines. Training on the Common Ground Approach was mainstreamed across all target areas. Additionally, specified activities were designed and held in each locality after gathering information on the specific needs. For example, the topics of focus in the Eastern region were immigration and education, which aligned with the area's main needs. In Kassala and Gedaref, agriculture was the main focus, while in Kordofan, where women were mostly limited to staying at home and restricted to household chores, activities focused on awareness-raising and the benefits of including women in the communities lives.

"الوعي بدور المرأة في الريف ضعيف جدا ، مما يشكل مشكلة كبيرة جدا. وكان الاهتمام بتعليم الفتيات ودورهن في المجتمع موضع ترحيب كبير."

"Awareness on the role of women in the countryside is very weak, constituting a very big problem. Giving attention to girls' education and role in society was very welcomed."

- Interview with Media partner, December 2021

One of the most appreciated elements in the project design was its focus on the **development of CSOs networks**. These networks significantly facilitated the reach of the end-goal of the project by providing CSOs with the space to share knowledge and experiences, and coordinate actions among themselves. Furthermore, the focus on building the capacities of these networks improved their professionalism both regarding their internal organization and in external actions and collaborations. The design of the collaboration component was successful in creating closely-knit relationships among CSOs.

However, when designing the format of the collaboration and formation of networks between CSOs and governmental representatives, more focus could have been put into facilitating the exchanges between CSOs and government representatives on the local and national levels. The Endline survey has shown a lack of knowledge among CSOs of the policies enacted by the government to improve women's and girls' rights and access to basic services. Most surveyed individuals also highlighted that the government had no policies in that regard. **If teaching CSOs about the legal frameworks related to women and girls' rights and access to multi-sectoral development been accounted for during the design phase, the**

interactions and reach of the exchanges between CSOs and the government would have been even more fruitful.

The locality-specific design of the project ended being a limitation. Search staff acknowledged that only considering select localities rather than having a statewide focus hindered the achievement of the overall improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. They believed that if the scope of the project was larger, covering more localities, the project would have been more beneficial for women and girls across states.

Relevance of Media Programming

One of the main objectives of the *Maa Baaad Nanmo* project was to transform people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls in development through media programming. Looking at the relevance of Search's programming, the local perceptions and attitudes towards women and girls held by local communities were evaluated to assess the need and subsequent relevance for Search's programming in the areas of implementation.

Local community members rated some statements based on the compatibility with the beliefs held by their communities. Overall, adult men were more likely to stand by a more conservative role for women in society (Figure 10). Male youth instead were more likely to report that their communities supported women playing an active role in society, however, they also predominantly denied negative repercussions that women may encounter. The opposite holds true for females where both youth and adults largely disagreed with conservative statements and agreed with progressive ones. Across the board, females were also most likely to cite negative perceptions by society in response to a woman's pursuit of a more active role in society. This implies that **despite the positive outlook that male youth have on the role of women in society, unawareness of the realities they face remains high**. The findings highlighted show that Search's radio programming was relevant since there remains room for the improvement of local perceptions of women's role in society.

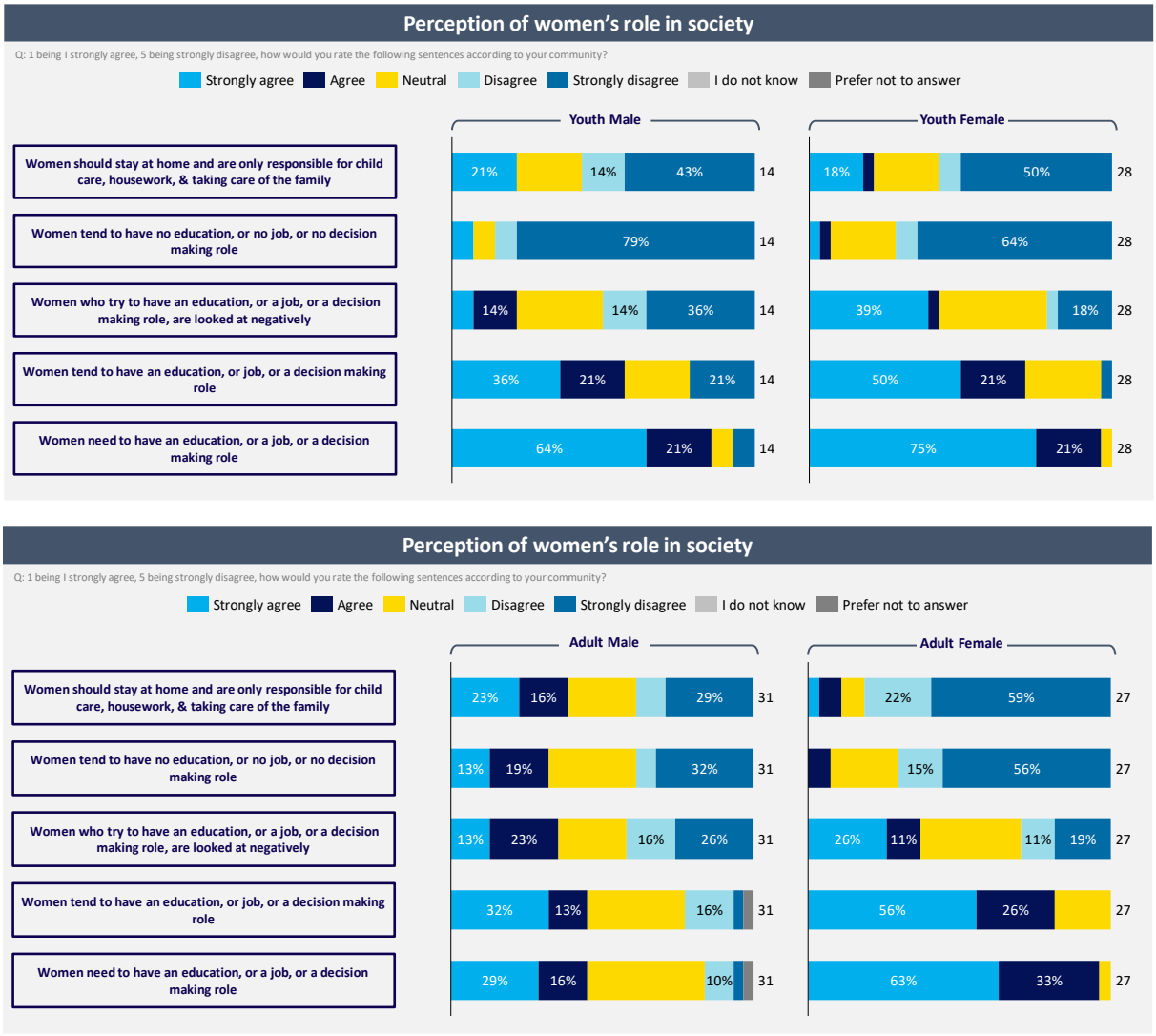


Figure 10. Perception of women's role in society (by gender/age group)

It is particularly interesting to note that in Kadogli, more than half of the respondents agreed with a more traditional role for women in society and with the fact that women who try to have an education, job, or decision-making role are negatively perceived. However, these respondents also reported that women in their communities tend to have an education, job, or decision-making role (Figure 11). This mirrors a possible contrast between the envisioned role of women in the communities and their real one.

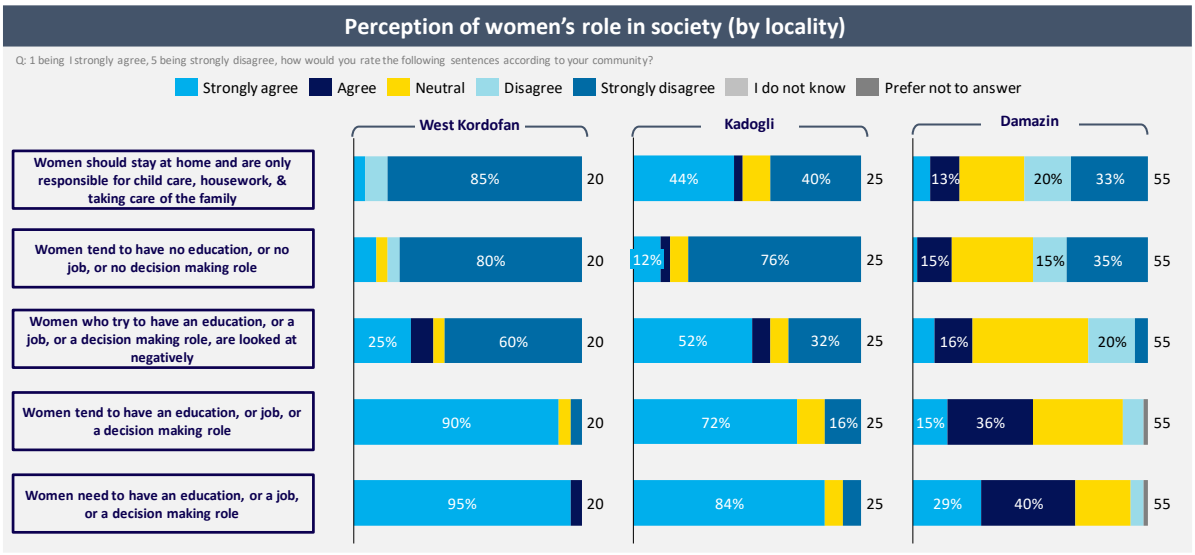


Figure 11. Perception of women's role in society (by locality)

The listenership survey also asked respondents to rate statements based on their degree of compatibility with what their local communities believe women and girls deserve. While most respondents think that women and girls deserve a role in decision-making, adult males were most likely to oppose (Figure 30). The same pattern can be found regarding women and girls deserving to increase their skills in developing small agricultural activities. All groups overall agree on the right to education for women and girls and the need for rights protections for women from displaced, migrant, and refugee populations. Looking at the degree of support that communities provide for women, females both youth and adults believed that communities do not oppose but do not invest in the development of women and girls (

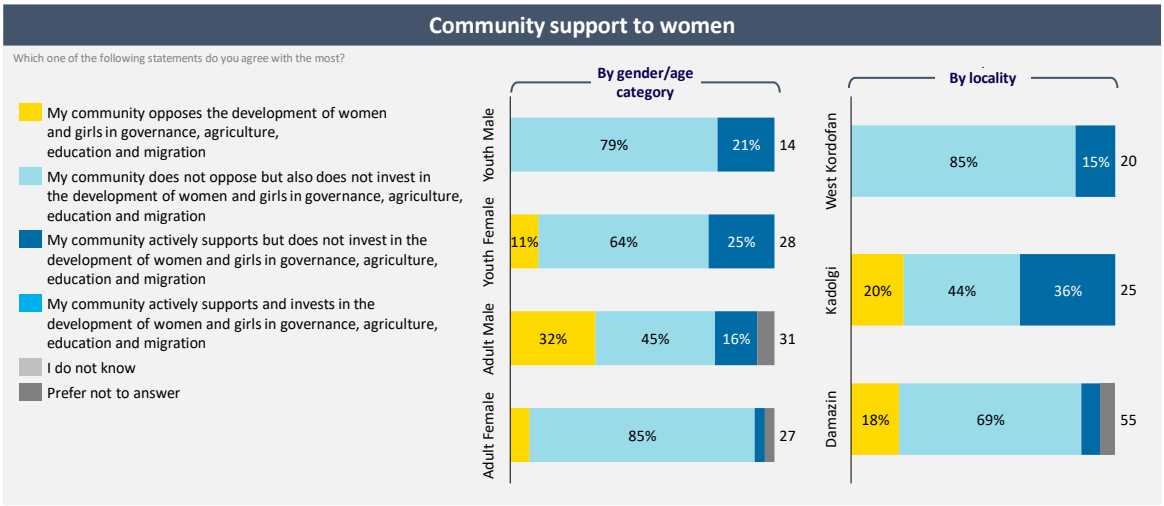


Figure 12).

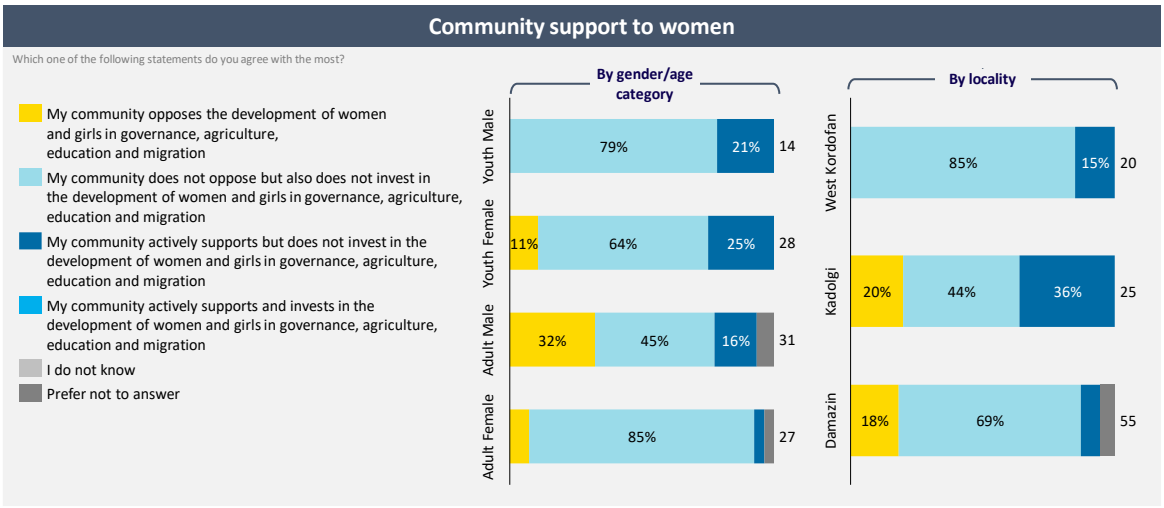


Figure 12. Community support to women

Looking at community support by locality, in West Kordofan, there is general consent that communities do not oppose but also do not invest in the development of women, while in Kadolgi and Damazin there is more diversity of perception. Overall, none of the communities were found to both support and invest in the development of women, which implies a lack of active support (

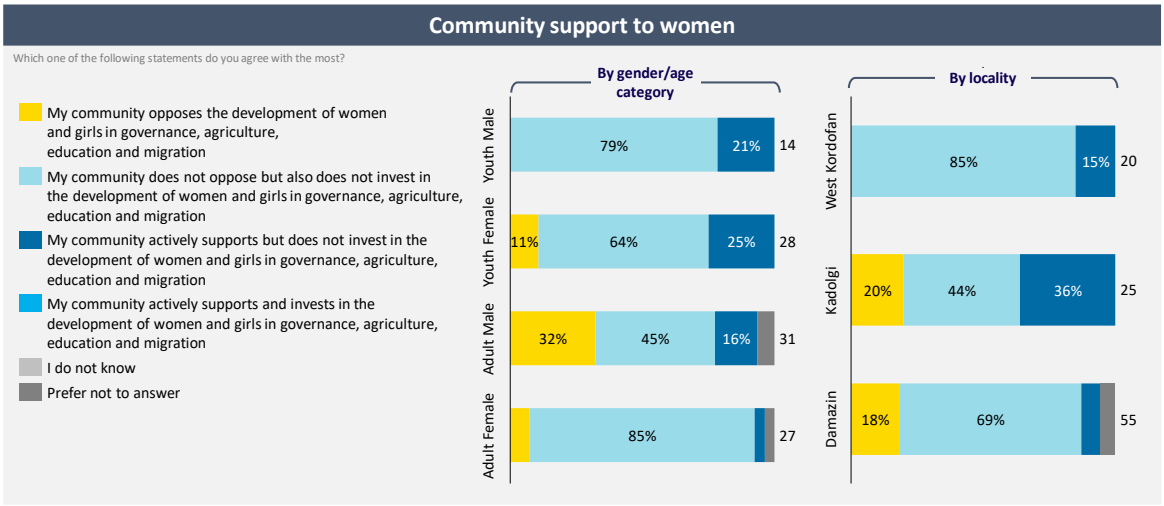


Figure 12).

To transform people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls in development through media programming, Search designed and implemented several activities. These activities included radio programming with a focus on enhancing perceptions of the role of women and girls in society. Findings from the listenership survey show that there was indeed a general need to improve the media's representation of women, testifying for the relevance of the radio project.

This need is exemplified by the fact that most survey respondents believed that the media plays a very important role in shaping local communities' perspectives about important issues, while at the same time the majority of adult females perceived the representation as showcasing women in a traditional and conservative manner. Nonetheless, almost half of female youth perceived the media to be moving towards a more progressive representation of women (Figure 33). In addition to this, there is also a significant contrast in the perception of the accuracy of the media's representation of women between young men and women, with the former considering very accurate and the latter deeming it very far from reality (Figure 32).

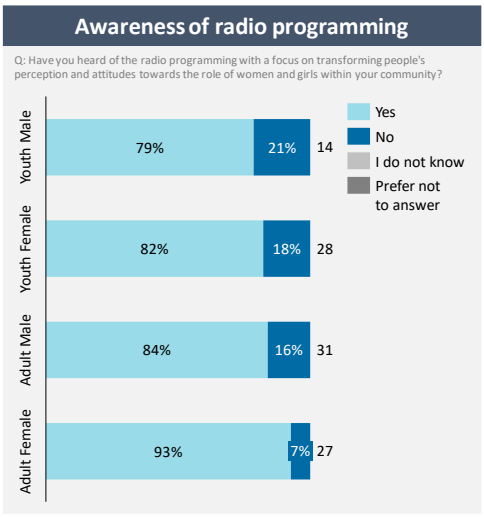


Figure 13. Awareness of radio programming

Assessing the **Reach and Relevance** components of the 3Rs, the majority of respondents reported being aware of Search's radio project and its messages – indicating a successful outreach. The listenership survey found that 79 percent to 93 percent of respondents across all groups confirmed their awareness of Search's radio programming. Search's radio programming was also found to be relevant with the majority of respondents perceiving said radio programming to be relevant to themselves and their communities (Figure 14). However, it is worth noting that across the surveyed groups, adult males were found to be the most reluctant to cite programmatic individual and community relevance. This is in comparison to youth males and females, as well as adult females where the vast majority perceived Search's programming to be relevant both to themselves and their communities.

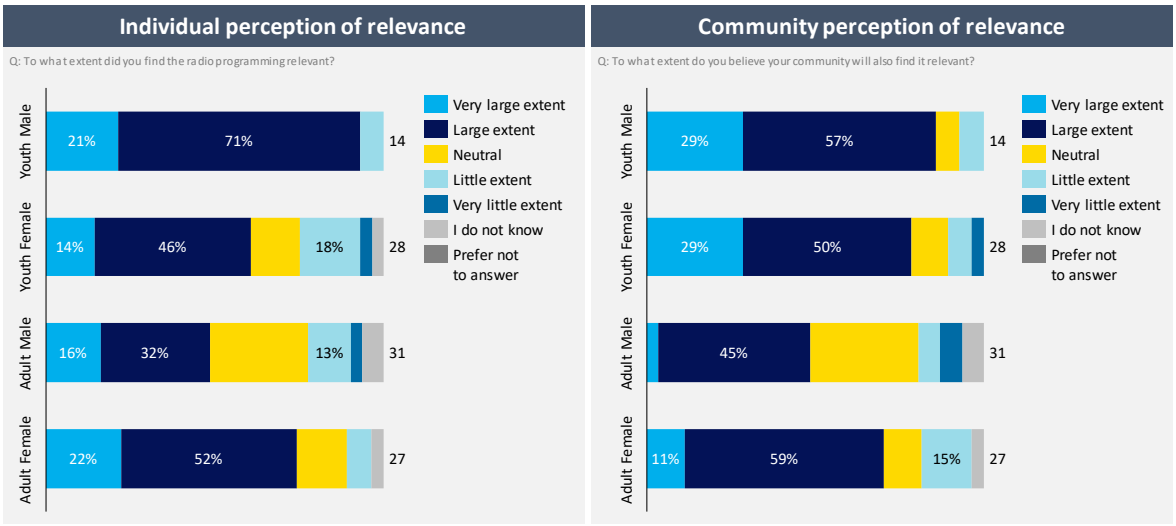


Figure 14. Relevance of radio programming

Gender Equality and Conflict Sensitivity

Partners agreed that the differences in roles and priorities of women, men, and specific vulnerable groups were considered during the project design and implementation phase. Media partners explained that the consideration of the needs of women in rural marginalized areas was part of the design phase. Moreover, before the implementation of activities, gender, privacy, and the protection of children as well as inclusivity for persons with disabilities were taken into consideration. The general consensus During data collection, most interviewees confirmed the inclusivity of the project activity and the diversity of the beneficiaries and participants. Although they agreed on their existence, no concrete examples of the exact inclusivity measures taken to consider the different needs of beneficiaries were shared by interviewees, including Search staff. Gender equality and conflict sensitivity were also mainstreamed through local initiatives, serving the needs of women and girls in the targeted localities as well as through the collaboration among CSO networks internally and with the national government. This was reflected during the discussions between CSOs and the governmental representatives at the national level.

Additionally, the project has successfully managed to evade conflict. This was achieved through its full adherence to the Do No Harm principles. These principles were mainstreamed

throughout the project and adopted not only by Search but also by the partner CSOs. This meant that all activities considered cultural sensitivities of the community, assessing community needs with the engagement of women, girls, and men, and building a strong foundation of trust with local communities who welcomed the initiatives. (Figure 15).

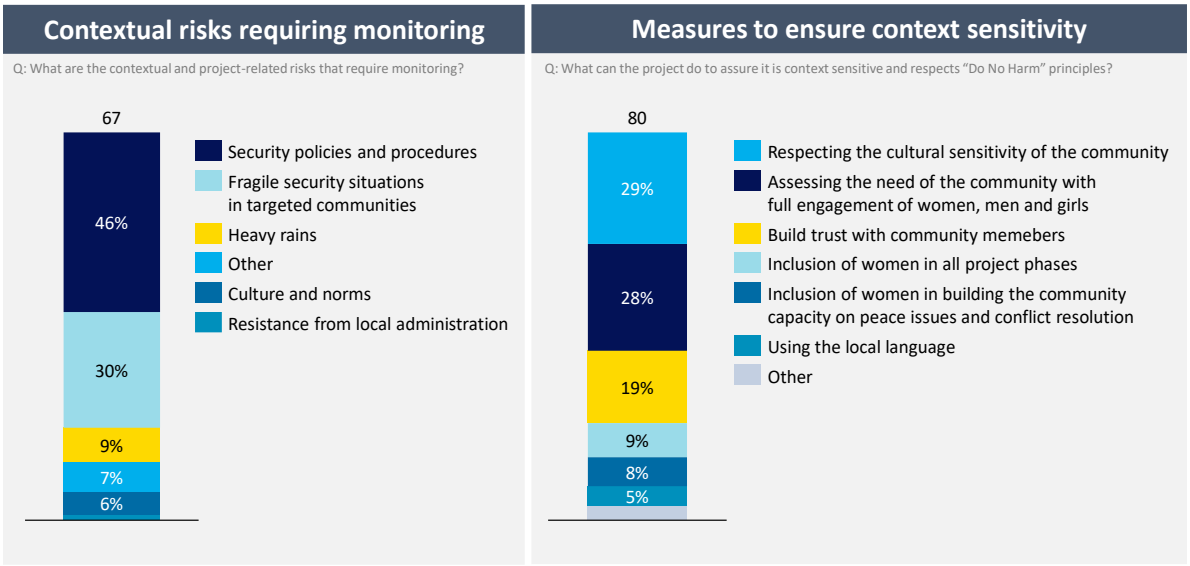


Figure 15. Contextual risks and mitigation measures

4.2. Effectiveness

Effectiveness refers to the extent to which the project was successful in achieving its intended objectives.[7] The overall purpose of *Maa Baaad Nanmo* was to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. To achieve this, the project was set to achieve three different objectives. These objectives are as follows: capacity building of targeted CSOs, improving coordination between CSOs, as well as supporting the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led action in the target communities.

Achievement of the objectives

Objective 1

The first objective that the project intended to reach was to *"**increase the capacity of targeted CSOs in the Common Ground Approach, in technical areas relevant to their sector and in management, to improve their effectiveness**"*. Based on the self-perceptions of interviewees, the CSO capacity-building efforts were effective in achieving the project goals, as well as supporting other project components. Interviewed partners and local CSO members gave testimonies of the success of the training in strengthening their skills and ability to deliver project's activities more effectively. They also mentioned that the project succeeded in providing them, their local communities, as well as government representatives with the knowledge and best practices needed to create and maintain a space for dialogue and idea exchange. These findings were also exhibited in the endline survey where 97 percent of CSO participants provide examples of how the technical or management skills helped improve their quality of work. This is a 4 percent increase from the baseline level.

"ساعدنا [التدريب] بشكل فعال في تعزيز ثقتنا بأنفسنا و نحو جعلنا أكثر إنتاجية."

" [the training] effectively helped us in boosting our self-confidence and towards being more productive."

- Interview with FGD participant, November 2021

Search staff also mentioned that the training on conflict analysis specifically was very effective: the know-how and awareness acquired helped the members of CSOs that received conflict resolution training to map and analyze the roots of conflict in their communities and independently propose conflict resolution solutions and mechanisms. The training even improved confidence of leading members of partner organizations to feel empowered to speak up and take on larger roles within their communities.

Objective 2

The second objective of the project was to *"**improve collaboration among CSOs working on development issues that affect vulnerable women and girls, and between CSOs and government authorities, for more coherent efforts to improve access to services**"*. Collaboration among CSOs took place through the establishment of CSO networks. These networks represented a major factor in the achievement of not only the second objective of the project but also the achievement of its overall impact. Interviewees unanimously agreed on the added value of the formation of these collaborative networks. Benefits of these collaborations span from networking among CSOs working on the same thematic areas, sharing experiences and know-how across target localities, and creating a foundation for potential future collaborations. Moreover, all FGD participants (namely activity participants from the local community, government representatives, and members of local CSOs) affirmed that the collaboration helped them share knowledge internally and across the CSO networks. This led to developing strong links between organizations, expanding their spheres of participation, and creating valuable insights on the activities of similar CSOs that they were not familiar with before the project. The improved collaboration between CSOs and government was also reported by 100 percent of the endline survey respondents, compared to 94.6 percent in the baseline. Furthermore, this increased collaboration has proven to be effective in boosting CSOs' perception of being represented in government decision making (68.5 percent in

[7] OECD evaluation criteria https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm

baseline compared to 91 percent in endline). These positive trends can also be observed when looking at collaborations between CSOs, where the endline survey identified 32.5 concrete opportunities for collaboration between CSOs.

The reach of this objective exceeded its intended outcomes and is therefore further covered in the *Impact* section of the report.

Objective 3

Lastly, the final objective of the project was to "***support the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls (in governance, education, migration, agriculture)***". The project launched a multitude of locally led initiatives and actions supporting the development of vulnerable women and girls. Thus, overall, Search staff perceived that the project effectively met this objective. According to the staff interviewed, the effectiveness of the concrete locally led actions can be observed across the project areas. One example can be found in Kadogli, South Kordofan, where thanks to project activities the delivery rooms of the hospitals are now better equipped to serve their community and vulnerable women by minimizing the risks of death at childbirth. Another benefit of locally led action in the sphere of migration can be observed in the East, with immigrant women finally registering and possessing their IDs.

The part of the project focusing on livelihood-improving activities was considered extremely effective. Providing women with more economic independence proved to be a successful approach to increasing the independence and development of vulnerable women and girls. An example of these initiatives is the training courses in food processing, sewing and handicrafts, and crop distribution conducted to support small agricultural businesses. To help improve their financial situation, the project has even provided a group of women with a stand and raw materials to start selling their products. These women went on to expand their work and transformed the stand into a multi-purpose small shop, demonstrating an entrepreneurial and innovative attitude. For women who already were taking care of livelihood generating activities, the project also provided them with financial support and capital. However, **the lack of prioritization of income-generating activities in the project caused many community members to lose interest in it.**

Identifying and addressing challenges

Interviewees openly shared some challenges that affected the implementation of the project activities. One of the most mentioned challenges faced by CSOs was the slow rhythm of project activities. With activities and training being too spread out over time, the waiting time caused some local organizations to lose interest in continuing their participation. Other challenges that were mentioned relate to logistics: the absence of offices or official premises of many local CSOs hindered communication. This was exacerbated by the continuing issues with phone and internet connectivity due to the overall issues in the country.

Aside from logistical issues, further challenges beyond Search's control hindered the smooth implementation of activities. The COVID-19 pandemic had its significant toll on the implementation of the project due to its restrictive sanitary measures impeding movements. The lack of liquidity and the scarcity of cash were also issues that prevented the CSOs from easily accessing the grant money and spending it on activity-related expenses. The unstable political situation in Sudan imposed additional challenges as CSO members needed to acquire special permissions to move between states. In addition, some of the target areas were affected by tribal conflicts that put tensions on local peace and project continuity. These external factors have cost the project some of its potential effectiveness in reaching its desired impact and objectives.

Further issues related to the collaboration with Search were raised. A consistent lack of communication and involvement from Search, as well as unclear activities for project implementation caused a CSO partner to request resignation from the project.[8] However, it is worth noting that Search's Country Director highlighted that none of the CSO partners

[8] Interview with partner CSO, 27/11/2021

withdrew nor requested withdrawal from the project during implementation and that they would all continue receiving funds under EEU 2023 fund. Furthermore, Search staff also reported experiencing communication issues with the CSO partners, which raises the need for better communication on both sides.

Looking more closely at the challenges of each specific stakeholder category of respondents, local CSOs, on the one hand, had problems due to their financial capabilities, as well as difficulty with accessing relevant statistics and targeted women.

For media partners, on the other hand, some experienced difficulty catering their programing to the multiple local languages spoken within the country: indeed, every time messages were transmitted in one language, a category of listeners not speaking that language was excluded. Electricity cuts and instability also jeopardized the success of their activities.

From Search's side, issues were related to the collaboration with the CSOs and their structural capacities. Indeed, most of the local CSOs in Sudan don't have the financial reporting knowledge needed for the project. The same could be said for internal organizational structures: not having one person functioning as the focal point caused delays in reporting the progress of activities. Search tried to overcome some of the abovementioned challenges through the provision of targeted training materials on the skills needed for the CSOs. Further issues related to outreach in communities when conflict arose. Some of the CSOs claimed they were fully capable to perform outreach activities, they then could not deliver on their statements due to the lack of connection to the targeted communities. This slowed down the rhythm of project implementation and resulted in Search sending their staff to perform this outreach instead.

Regarding the activities themselves, the project remained cognizant of different cultural factors in each of the local communities during the design and implementation phases. These factors included the culture, the language, the way of life, as well as the perceptions on the role of women. Remaining culturally sensitive has guaranteed the effectiveness of project implementation and mitigated any potential cultural and contextual sensitivities.

Equal participation in project activities

Some barriers to equal participation of women in project activities were identified. During the training provided by Search to partner CSOs, only senior staff and management in the CSOs participated. However, after observing the lack of women within the management teams, Search mitigated the issue by inviting CSOs female staff in the workshops, even if they were not part of senior staff or management.

"كان الهدف لجمعيتنا عند قيامنا بالأنشطة تحت اطار البرنامج هو ضمان المشاركة المتساوية."

"The goal for our CSO when carrying out our project activities was to guarantee equal participation ."

- Interview with CSO partner, November 2021

To ensure that equal participation remained consistent through the project activities, Search put in place a quota for women's participation in the training. Search staff continuously monitored the inclusion of women and their equal participation in project activities. Activity participants highlighted that it is essential for interventions striving to improve the situation of women and girls to take extra steps to ensure the participation of women through all phases of the project.

Effectiveness of Media Programming

Overall, the **radio programming succeeded at effectively transmitting its main messages**. These messages addressed the importance of the inclusion of women in decision-making processes, in achieving and sustaining peace and security, the impact of security disturbances on women and youth, and the availability and access to services in support of women. In fact, across all groups, respondents successfully cited **one or more of the project's main messages outlined by Search** (Figure 16. Other main messages cited by respondents include a focus on education and educational rights of women and girls (25 percent adult females).

Assessing the effectiveness of Search's different awareness campaigns, most respondents reported having learned new practices related to gender equality and women empowerment (Figure 17).

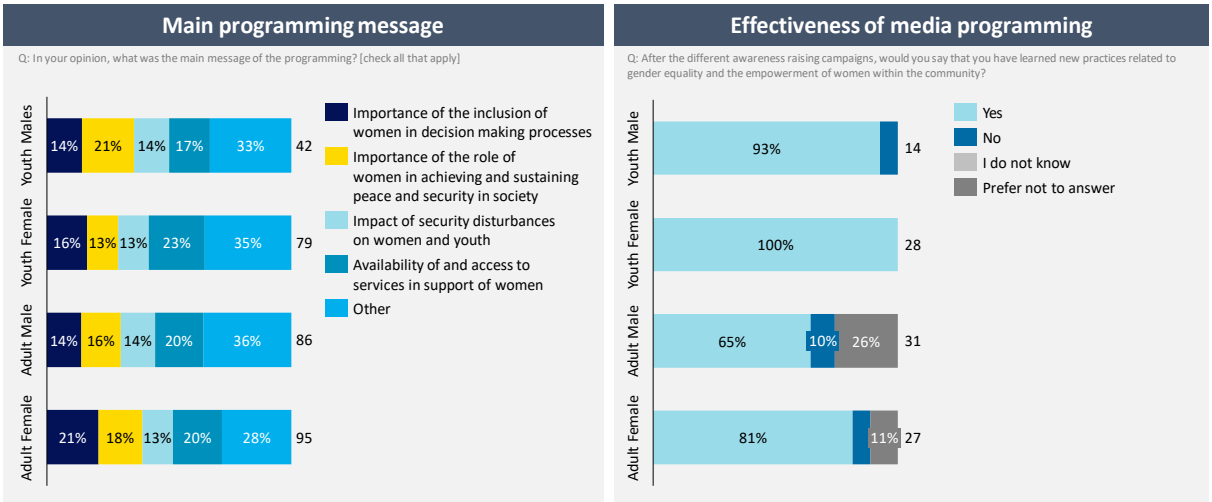


Figure 16. Effectiveness of media programming

Generally, the radio program was considered as successful and effective. However, it is worth noting that adult males were the group most likely to state that the program had little effect on changing community perceptions about the role of women and girls in society (Figure 17). This could be a natural consequence of contextual and social factors, making women the primary target for programming and thus more inclined to agree to this message (Figure 16).

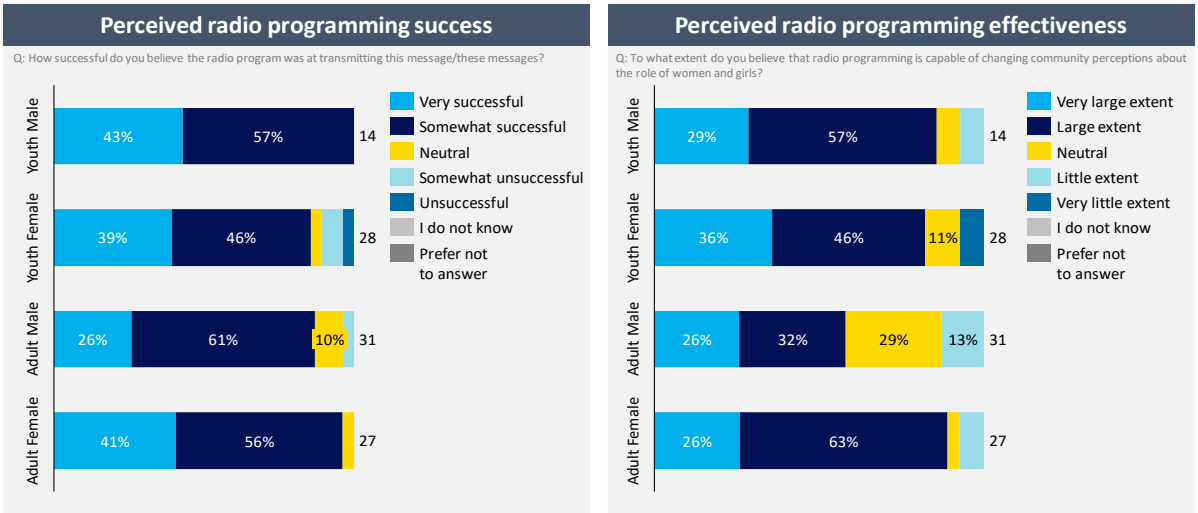


Figure 17. Perceptions of radio programming

4.3. Impact

Impact refers to the difference made by the intervention, including positive and negative, short-term, and long-term, and intended or unintended effects.[9] The main intended impact of *Maa Baaad Nanmo* is to increase the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs

[9] OECD evaluation criteria https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm

to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development across the five states of West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala.

Capacity Building for the CSOs

The capacity-building component of the project was deemed one of the most successful elements. All partner CSOs interviewed affirmed that the project provided capacity training that, beyond facilitating the project implementation, was vital to the growth and development of their internal structures. The most beneficial pieces of training were indicated to be the components dealing with financial, administrative, and management, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) methods.

"اكتسبنا *مهارات إدارية وفنية ممتازة* ، وتعلمنا كيفية *إدارة عملنا داخل جمعيتنا* ، وكيفية تخطيط المشاريع وتنفيذها ومراقبتها وتقييمها"

"We have gained *excellent administrative and technical skills*, learning how to *manage our work within our association*, and how to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate projects"

- Interview with CSO partner, November 2021

A Search staff member pointed out that the English courses offered to CSOs had a major impact beyond the project, helping CSO members to find jobs and sustain themselves. The training also focused on areas such as financial management, proposal writing, transitional justice courses, knowledge on peace, how to connect issues from different locations, understandings of the issues of women in conflict areas. This has greatly enhanced the CSOs' capacities to conduct project activities and equipped them with the necessary tools to partake in other future initiatives.

The training on using the Common Ground Approach (CGA) has also proven to be useful to the CSOs. When applying it to their activities, they reached more effective outcomes than what their previous methods might have led them to (Figure 18).

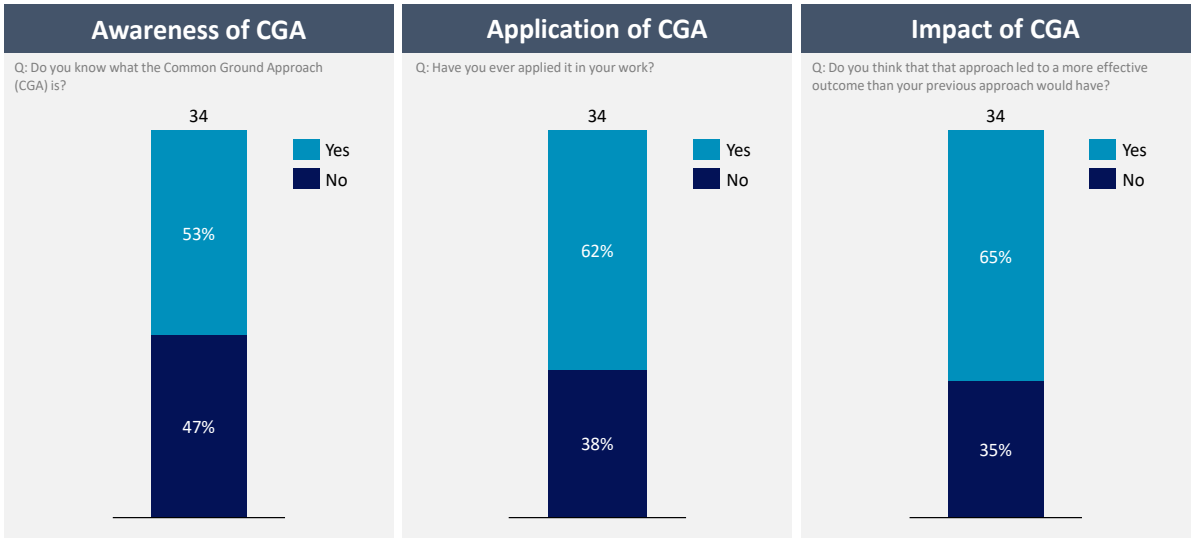


Figure 18. Common Ground Approach

However, the positions of the media partners on the added value of the training varied. While one media interviewee was not aware of project activities, the rest appreciated the project's impact. It supported media partners in deepening their knowledge on how to reach target communities, how to transmit new information to them, and how to continuously spread the messaging in all target areas. This was displayed through the airing of more than 120 episodes dealing with women's rights on radio stations across the five states.

From a governmental representative's perspective, the training received by the CSOs contributed towards the networking between women's associations and raised their awareness, strengths, and skills.

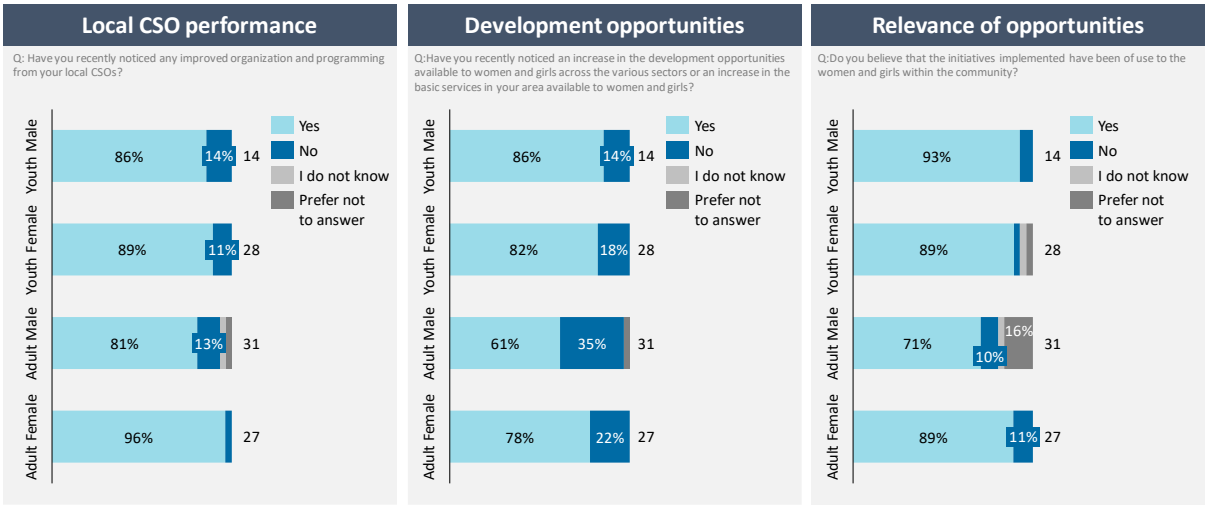
Furthermore, the listenership survey shows that the local communities recently noticed an improvement in the organization and programming of local CSOs. The majority of respondents also reported an increase in relevant development opportunities available to women and girls across various sectors and an increase in basic services available to women (Figure 19) s Furthermore, **most respondents reported having recently witnessed initiatives to improve women and girls' access to services, development opportunities, and to eliminate existing barriers with the community**. The vast majority of such initiatives were found to be implemented by local CSOs/NGOs. However, it is important to highlight that these are observations reported by local communities and may not be directly correlated with Search's activities.

" Some of the beneficiaries established a social fund which they all contributed towards. Each set period of time, one member gets the pay-out. The purpose of this is to provide financial capital to support each individual's livelihood project."

"قام بعض المستفيدين بتأسيس صندوق اجتماعي (جمعية - صندوق المشاركة الشعبية) ساهموا فيه جميعاً. في كل فترة زمنية محددة ، يحصل عضو واحد على المبلغ المدفوع. الغرض من ذلك هو توفير رأس مال مالي لدعم مشروع سبل العيش لكل فرد."

- *Interview with Search staff, November 2021*

Another positive impact of the project is a direct result of the capacity-building component. Following the training on conflict resolution provided by Search, trainees went back to their communities and independently started to amend underlying tensions and conflicts they observed. These efforts even included trainees attempting to resolve pre-existing conflicts between tribal communities in their regions.



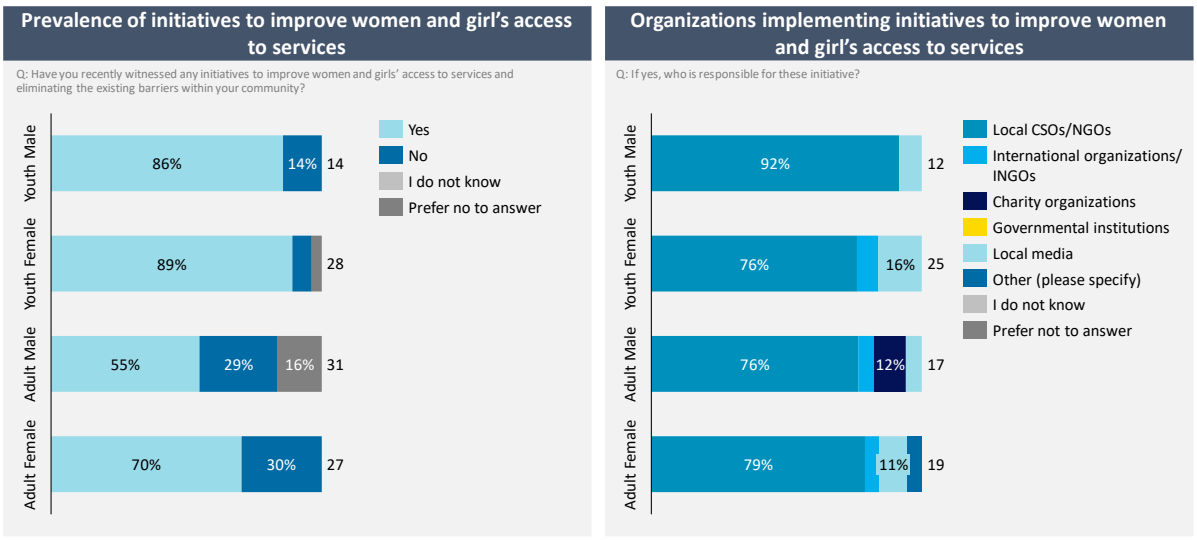


Figure 19. Local CSO activities and performance

Coordination among CSOs

Supporting the formation of networks between partners and local CSOs and the coordination developed within this project was deemed very positive by all stakeholders. The same can be said about the coordination and collaboration between CSOs and relevant government authorities. Indeed, the closely-knit networks that emerged between CSOs across different project areas are still standing, feeding also into the sustainability of the project.

All partner CSO stated that this coordination allowed them to connect with government representatives from relevant ministries and the Humanitarian Aid Commission, the media, and universities. Connecting with such a diverse pool of stakeholders has paved the way for more awareness-raising activities and potential future projects. These networks were mainly maintained via WhatsApp groups, emails, and periodic meetings. An example was the CSO/government coordination efforts in Badya that resulted in the ministry of agriculture collaborating on training women on home farming.

"لم تعد منظمات المجتمع المدني معزولة وهي الآن قادرة على التجمع والتنسيق والحفاظ على الاتصال فيما بينها من خلال تشكيل هذه الشبكات"

"CSOs are no longer isolated and are now capable of coming together, coordinating and connecting with each other through the formation of these networks"

- *Interview with Search staff, December 2021*

At a more local level, the benefits of the established coordination and networks were also deemed essential by the CSOs. As an example, a coordination group was created to assist local organizations in improving their communication and advocacy campaigns through the sharing of experiences and mistakes. This resulted in CSOs benefiting from each other's challenges and learning best practices. The CSOs even planned to carry out visits to each other to share knowledge and observe project activities that took place across the different localities. [10]

Search staff also testifies to the impact of these new relationships that went even beyond the project. Indeed, some CSOs are now working with other INGOs on community issues and continuing to expand their networks and impact.

Multi-sectoral development actions and advocacy efforts

There are differences in the perceptions of stakeholders regarding the impact of the multi-sectoral development efforts.

[10] Interview with Search staff, 14/12/2021

While partner CSOs are skeptical about the effect of activities beyond their direct interventions, local CSOs and beneficiaries were able to precisely pinpoint the effects the project had on the local, regional, and state levels. The effects referred to the most were the ones related to improving the livelihoods and economic situations of women. The national-level impact was mostly visible to Search's staff, who got the full picture of the exchanges the CSO networks have had with government officials in Khartoum. During these meetings, insights on the situation of women and recommendations were transmitted to the official representatives. These exchanges were met with high enthusiasm and acceptance from the government. [11]

The networks formed between CSOs across the five states were crucial in scaling the impact from grassroots to national level. By connecting with the local administration, the local levels were able to host discussions with representatives, agree on the way forward and then advocate for these issues on the national level. This is showcased through meetings held between these CSO networks and governmental institutions (such as the Council of Ministers and Ministers from Hamdok's administration) to advocate on women's issues and to present actionable recommendations.

CSOs stated that the women networks, created as part of the project, improved coordination between women at a local community level, and paved the way for fruitful future collaborative efforts. Moreover, an unintended positive impact can be found in the creation of safe spaces for free self-expression for women among these networks.

Other considerations

Beyond the project, a Search staff believed that activities focused on livelihoods had the most impact. Focusing on training alone is not enough, and local communities prefer and benefit more from concrete support rather than soft skills. The part of the project financing agricultural and economic ventures for vulnerable women was a guarantee of the continuation of locally led actions even after the project ended. This was the case for Blue Nile, where livelihood-related initiatives were greatly welcomed by local women.

However, a greater impact could have been reached if Search had trained local community members as well. Through the training of locals, additional knowledge sharing would take place within the local communities. This would have enabled the empowerment and inclusion of more women and girls through grassroots activities.

"في النيل الأزرق ،هناك امرأة لم تكن قادرة على إرسال أطفالها إلى المدرسة ، ولكن مع المشروع الصغير الذي حصلت على المساعدة فيه ، كان بإمكانها القيام بذلك وإرسال والدتها لتلقي العلاج في المستشفى."

"In Blue Nile, a woman wasn't able to send her kids to school, but with the small project she got help with, she could do that and also send her mom for treatment in a hospital."

- Interview with Search staff, December 2021

[11] Interview with Search staff, 14/12/2021

Impact of the Media Programming

"اكتشفنا أن الأشخاص في المناطق المستهدفة يستخدمون الراديو بشكل أساسي للاستماع إلى الأخبار والبقاء على اتصال. لذلك كان الراديو هو الطريقة المثلى لنقل الرسائل."

"We discovered that people in target areas mainly use the radio to listen to the news and stay connected. So the radio was the optimal method to transmit messages."

- Interview with Search staff, December 2021

As part of the project, the media initiative was destined for vulnerable women and to raise awareness on their rights to access basic services and multi-sectoral development. Following the launch of the media campaign, the programming earned positive feedback from the local communities. The radio and the theatre programs saw large interaction when addressing communities through their specific languages. Media partners affirmed that they gained crucial knowledge on the most appropriate ways to reach specific communities.

From Search's side, whereas one staff member had no information on the media component, the second was very knowledgeable on the media's actions. As part of the project, around 120 radio episodes and theatre shows, were created. All messages transmitted under this media campaign were targeted to the issues that women and girls were facing in each of the project areas.

"علت بعض الممارسات بعيده عن واقعنا خاصه بالنسا"

"Some practices are far from our reality, especially when it comes to women"

- Adult male survey respondent

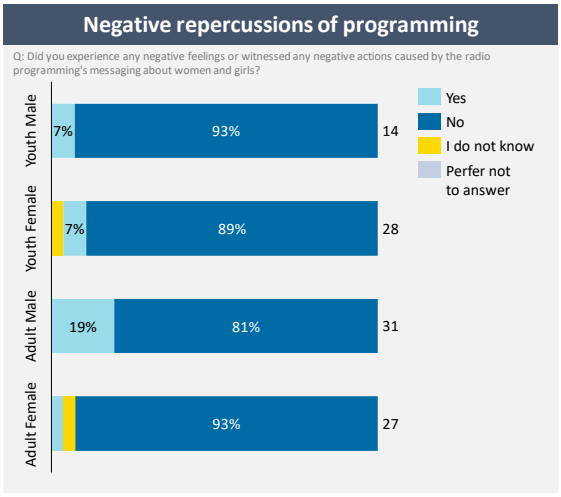


Figure 20. Negative repercussions of media programming

To assess the impact of Search's radio programming activities, its **Response** has been assessed through the listenership survey. The radio program response examines changes in knowledge, attitudes, perceptions, and behavior of the listeners.[12] The radio programming boosted the confidence of listeners with regards to their role in the community and left them feeling more capable of taking on additional roles, as seen in Figure 21 Furthermore, respondents also felt more capable of taking on additional roles within their communities/family/work (Figure 21). These findings hold when looking at the impact of radio programming by locality as well. However, it is worth noting that the impact in Damazin is less positive compared to the other localities. In Damazin, respondents less strongly agreed with the positive effect of radio programming on confidence on perceptions (Figure 22).

Looking at unintended negative consequences, the vast majority of respondents did not experience negative feelings or witness negative actions related to the radio program (Figure 22**Error! Reference source not found.**) and the few instances cited were due to program topics not aligning with local customs and traditions. These feelings were most likely to be

[12] Project evaluation framework

reported by adult males.

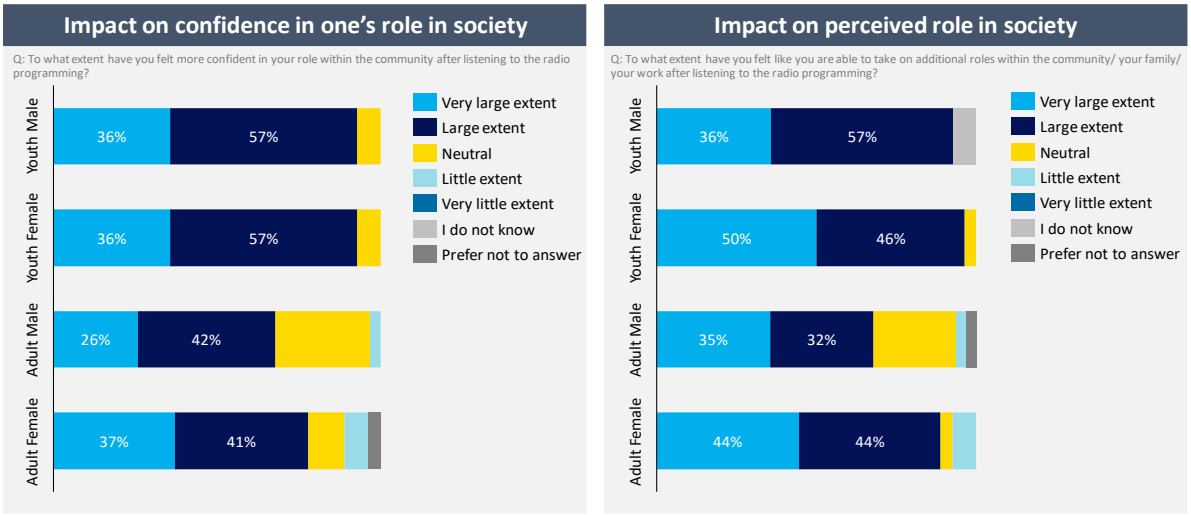


Figure 21. Impact of radio programming (by age/gender)

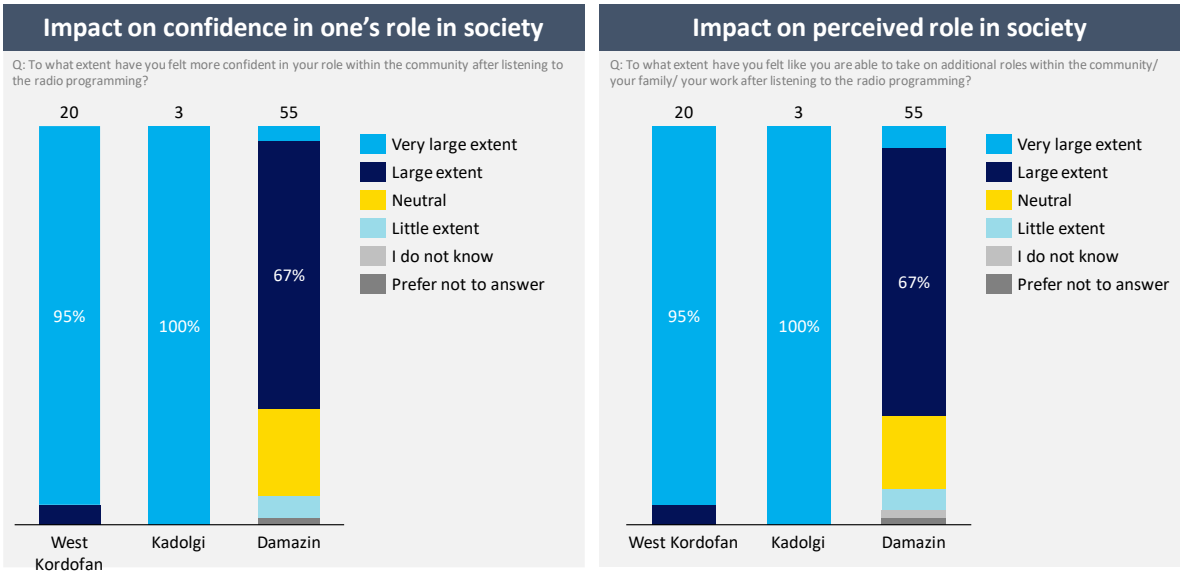


Figure 22. Impact of radio programming (by locality)

As stated by the majority of survey respondents, Search's radio programming led to a positive change in the perception of the role of women and girls within the community (Figure 23 and Figure 35). The majority of respondents across all groups cited that Search's radio programming had a very large/large impact on the perception of the role of women and girls within their communities. Furthermore, the majority also highlighted that this change has been positive. However, it is worth noting that 13 percent of adult males and 11 percent of female youth cited that the change in perceptions they witnessed was negative (Figure 23). Across all groups, male youth were most likely to describe the change in perceptions as having improved with active steps taken to enhance women and girls' roles in development. Meanwhile, female adults and youth remain apprehensive describing the change as a growing interest rather than an outright improvement (Figure 35).

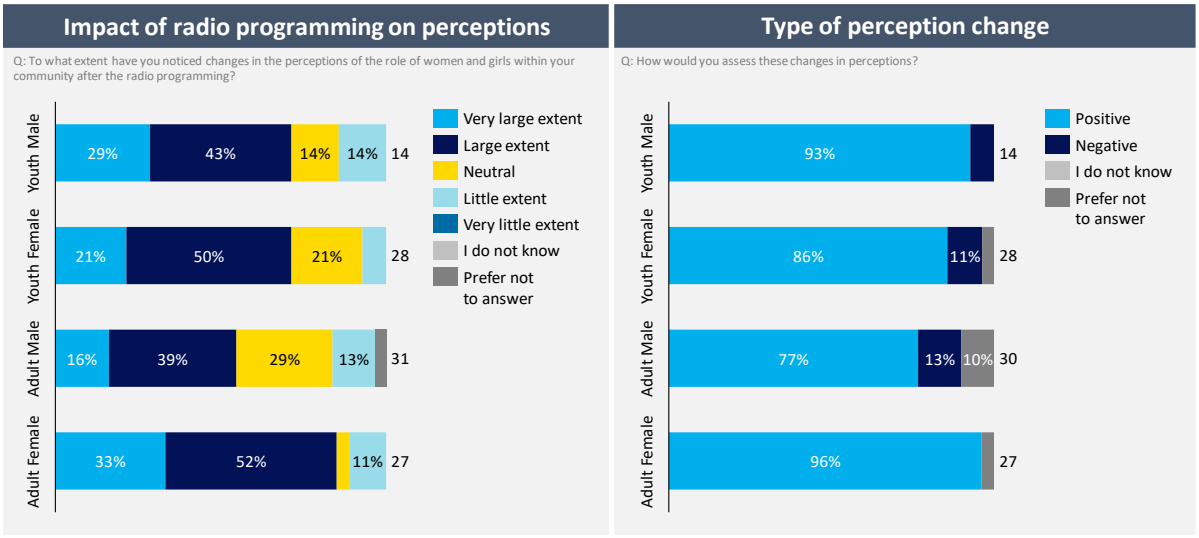
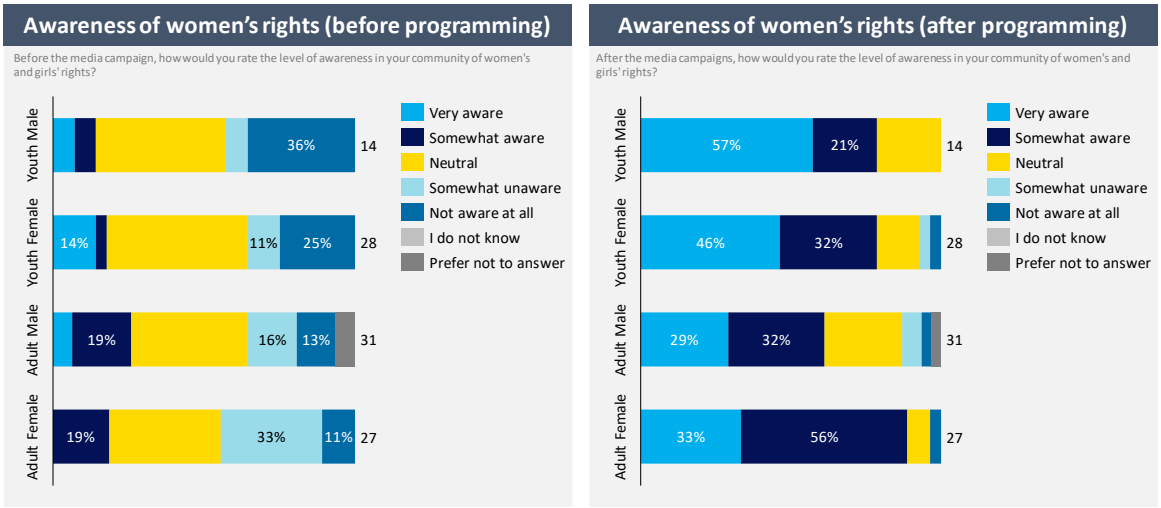


Figure 23. Impact of radio programming on perceptions of the role of women and girls in the community

To conclude, the radio programming had a positive impact on the level of awareness of women's and girls' rights within respondents' communities (Figure 24). Across the board, community awareness of the importance of women's active participation in the economic, political, and social aspects of life increased to over 50 percent after the radio programming. This positive trend is especially true when it comes to awareness of the importance of women's active participation in the economic, political, and social aspects of life where the percentage of those "not aware at all" dropped the most.



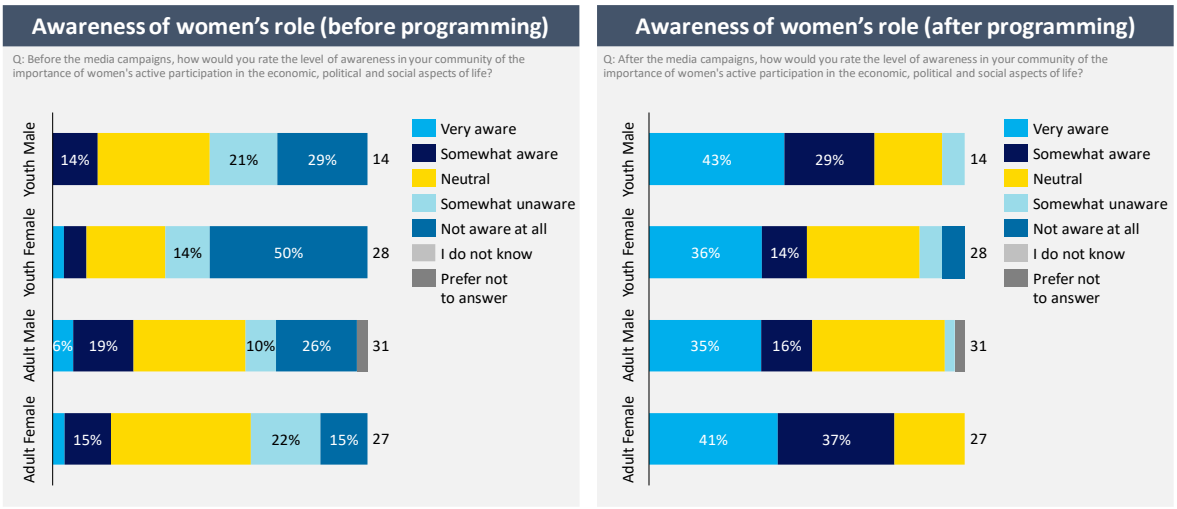


Figure 24. Impact of radio programming women's roles and rights

4.4. Sustainability

Sustainability refers to the continuation of benefits after an intervention has been completed.[13] For this evaluation, sustainability will be assessed both in programmatic terms, meaning the continuation of activities, partnerships, and outcomes, and in terms of sustainability of the impact of the project.

Programmatic sustainability

The primary source of programmatic sustainability comes from the formation of partnerships between CSOs and the improvement of their capacity.

"طلبت الحكومة من منظمات المجتمع المدني التوجه إليهم في حالة مواجهة أي مشاكل ، وقد أدى ذلك إلى حل مشكلات الاتصال لفرص التعاون المستقبلية".

"The government asked the CSOs to go to them in case they had any issues, this has resolved issues of communication for future collaboration opportunities."

- Interview with Search staff, December 2021

In this regard, the feedback from the partner CSOs was generally positive. While only one partner CSO reported believing that only their organization developed the appropriate skills to sustain these results, the remaining partners affirmed that the project has equipped all of the CSOs and CSO networks with the appropriate skills to attract additional donors for future initiatives on women's issues. The reason is that the network creation and capacity building that occurred as part of the project was sufficient in enabling them to further build capacities within their organization and communities. This will in turn allow CSOs to transfer knowledge effectively and sustainably. Local CSOs alike also believe in their ability to sustain activities under the same thematic beyond the project.

Search staff was certain that the collaboration between the networks of partner CSOs will continue beyond the project, as well as the collaboration between the CSOs and the government at the local and national levels.

When it comes to factors enabling the sustainability of the results, there was a consensus that a key one is the availability of funding. As it is not so easy for local and partner CSOs to self-

[13] OECD evaluation criteria https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm

finance, programmatic funding is crucial in guaranteeing the continuity of their activities. Other key elements highlighted were the continuation of collaboration at the same level of eagerness within the newly founded CSO networks and the sustained exchange in a constructive manner.

Finally, factors that can influence the sustainability of the project exceed the reach and control of Search and its partners. Indeed, it was pointed out that in the absence of a stable government in Sudan, a government that truly believes in the role of CSOs and local structures of governance, the continuation of the networks, collaborations, and activities might be challenging.

Impact sustainability

The project focused on teaching women how to sustain their revenue from their newly founded economic activities, ensuring the continuation of their livelihoods and the improvement of the economic situation of themselves and their families, including small agricultural and artisanal projects. The small businesses and economic activities the project created increased the sustainability of its impact. Although on Search's side, it has been raised that with the lack of financial support and training, some activities will be difficult to sustain.

The perceived sustainability of the achieved results was quite similar for local CSO members, local government representatives, and local activity participants. Although most believed that the creation of economic opportunities will remain dependent on the availability of project funding, other impacts such as the awareness among women and girls on their roles within their communities will continue beyond the project.

Sustainability of Media Programming

The sustainability of project activities is key to transforming people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls. According to the listenership survey, most respondents had more than one conversation with their family or a member of the community on the role of women and girls within the community. Women were found to be the most active in sharing the new practices they learned with their community (Figure *25*).

Drawing on these findings, it can be concluded that the project was successful at achieving some degree of sustainability within the local community. However, more work can be done towards the encouragement of more community sharing of new practices and learnings related to awareness of the role and rights of women and girls.

The theatre performances were also perceived as successful in raising awareness on issues such as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), female circumcision, and women's rights.

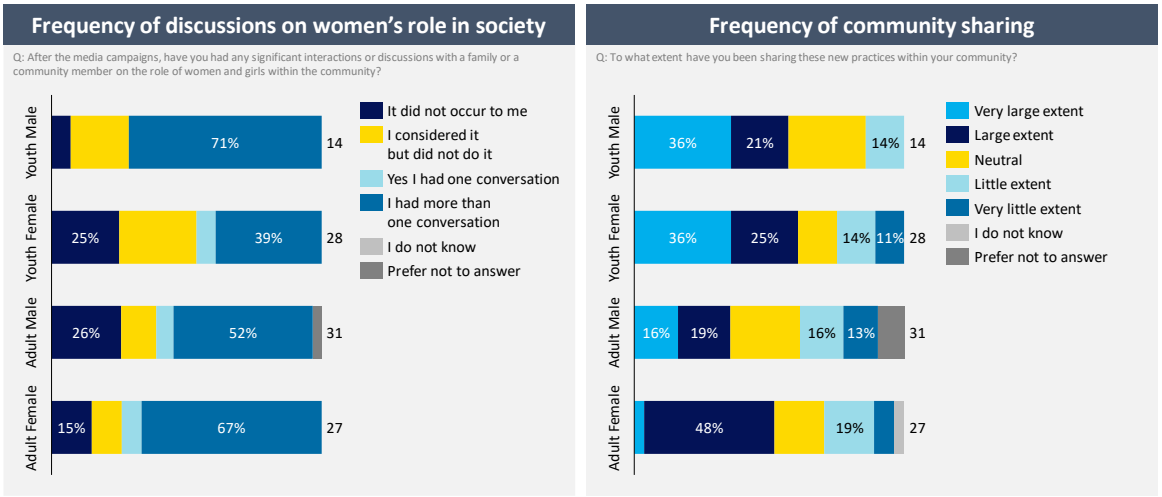


Figure 25. Sustainability of media campaigns

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

The following section highlights the key conclusions of the evaluation and provides actionable recommendations well-rooted and stemming from the study findings presented above.

Project design

One of the main challenges related to the implementation of project activities was their timing and pace. Long inactive or "waiting periods" did not help in keeping the momentum of the project and hindered its overall effectiveness. Moreover, the long waiting time to access funding slowed down the pace of the project and prolonged hitting the results framework checkmarks.

✓ **Reduce time between project activities**
The time elapsed between activity implementation could be shortened to enhance activity effectiveness. This would ensure that participants remain engaged in the work carried out and that learnings effectively build on one another. In the occurrence of any compelling circumstances such as political instability or the COVID-19 pandemic, additional efforts could go into keeping partner CSOs and CSO networks engaged through calls, messages, WhatsApp groups, and even visits from the Search team (if possible).

✓ **Provide grant money in timely intervals**
The timely provision of funds to implementing CSOs would ensure the project's smooth implementation and eliminate unnecessary waiting periods. Given the volatile context, the project's design should account for any potential liquidity issues when establishing the payment modes.

✓ **Ensure consistencies and build on previous projects**
Leveraging previous CSO's experiences, skills, and capacities already developed in past initiatives to custom design project activities would significantly increase the relevance and impact of the project activities. This will avoid any potential repetition of training, but rather equip CSOs with more advanced and targeted training.

Inclusion of key stakeholders

The effective and meaningful inclusion of all relevant stakeholders is crucial to achieving the multi-sectoral development of women and girls. Indeed, the inclusion of additional local and international networks working on women's rights and empowerment may have been helpful to build upon during the project design and implementation phases..

✓ **Ensure the meaningful engagement of all relevant stakeholders**
The inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, such as tribal, local, and national governmental structures, and representatives of social groups would enhance project ownership by the local community and facilitate its long-term sustainability. This increased inclusion would also add legitimacy and further tailor the project to the local community's needs. This could be achieved by including the relevant actors identified during the baseline study's preliminary mapping in both the design and implementation phases of the project.

✓ **Facilitate the inclusion of governmental stakeholders in the CSO networks**
The inclusion of governmental representatives on the local in the existing CSO networks would facilitate the collaboration and communication between both bodies. Connecting with government representatives from relevant ministries and the Humanitarian Aid Commission, the media, and universities would increase the project sustainability. This can be achieved by signing shared honorary declarations or memorandums for the engagement on the multi-sectoral development of women and

girls. Furthermore, both bodies can engage in common advocacy efforts, and roadmaps with shared targets can be set up. Although these methods may not be legally binding or compelling, they hold a strong symbolic value for the engagement of governmental counterparts and their acknowledgement of the role of civil society. Additionally, nurturing these relationships with visits, status updates, and check-in meetings would increase this coordination in the long run.

✓ **Ensure the participation of women throughout all project phases**
The inclusion of women across all project phases would support Search in achieving its project objectives. This inclusion can be accomplished by setting up minimum quotas for women in decision making positions in partner CSOs. The inclusion of women during implementation can also be achieved by easing accessibility of activity locations for women.

Capacity building

The capacity-building component has proven to be one of the most successful pillars of the project. Nonetheless, the training was deemed to need more tailoring to better align with CSO needs. Furthermore, the reach of capacity-building activities was limited by the geographic focus of activities, restricting the project's positive impact to certain areas.

✓ **Consider the input of participants when designing capacity training**
Capacity-building is essential to ensure conflict-sensitive and impactful programming. Thus, it is necessary to ensure that it is shaped to meet participant needs. Customized training rooted in needs assessments would increase training relevance, providing participants with the tools needed to guarantee successful programming.

✓ **Add a mid-term training session based on feedback**
It would be advisable to institutionalize mid-term feedback for training activities to reassess their relevance to the identified needs. The mid-term feedback for training provided by partner CSOs will allow for a better understanding of the areas of improvement of partner and local CSOs based on their experiences implementing the project. This would allow Search to consolidate its capacity building with needs-based training to carry out the remaining project activities.

✓ **Provide training and training-of-trainers to the local communities**
Since local communities are the project's target beneficiaries, widening the scope of the capacity-building component to be inclusive of the local community would ensure the sustainability of the training and a broader project reach. This would make the project's teachings on conflict resolution, advocacy, CGA, and management accessible to the general population.

✓ **Provide legal training for CSOs working on the multi-sectoral development of women and girls**
Offering a course on the national legal frameworks that shape the field of women's development to partner CSOs would ensure that they aware of the legal contexts within which they operate. This legal training would also play a role in guaranteeing the sustainability of project objectives. Additionally, an increased awareness of the legal framework may promote a grassroots movement advocating for additional laws supporting women.

✓ **Train partner and local CSOs on how to access future funding and grants to sustain activities**
As it is not easy for local and partner CSOs to self-finance, programmatic funding is crucial in guaranteeing the continuity of their activities, and the sustainability of the project objectives. Therefore, training should be provided on how financially sustain

activities targeted to support the multi-sectoral development of women and girls through trainings on identifying and applying for funding opportunities.

✓ **Train partner and local CSOs on how to sustain their created networks**

The CSO networks created as part of the project proved to be one of the most successful elements in delivering the desired outputs. Though providing trainings for CSOs on how to nurture these relationships in a constructive manner and maintaining communication, CSOs will be able to keep up future collaborations with the same level of eagerness.

Programming

Livelihood supporting activities were perceived as the most impactful to vulnerable women and girls' multi-sectoral development, supporting their living situation and access to basic services (education, health, etc.). Acknowledging the role that men play in enabling the multi-sectoral development of vulnerable women and girls, by expanding the activities to be more inclusive of men across target areas the project could be even more impactful. Interviewees suggested the idea of creating an inclusive safe space for dialogue on the situation of women on the local and national levels.

Finally, the radio episodes broadcasted in local dialects were extremely effective in reaching different groups within the local communities.

✓ **Enhance focus on livelihood support**

Through small grants and in-kind support, women were able to sustain their basic needs as well as the needs of their dependents. To sustain this positive impact, it would be advisable to increase the focus of programming and funding toward this component. Additionally, the enhancement of women's livelihood support would enable them to support themselves and their families. This could in turn cater to altering the perception held by men towards women. This can be achieved through direct involvement of Search or support to CSOs who primarily work on improving the economic situation of women. Furthermore, programming can focus on facilitating women artisans' access to market places, or aiding them in setting up their own shops or stands.

✓ **Establishing a women center in each of the target states**

Investing in the mental and psychological well being of women is a step froward in achieving their multi-sectoral development. By establishing a women center in each of the project target states, women and girls who otherwise don't have access to psychological support, recreational activities, and specialized courses, would finally have a safe space where they can fulfill these needs.

✓ **Tackle the root causes of inequalities that women face**

The perceptions of men and women on women's access to basic services and multi-sectoral development proved to be quite contrasting, with youth and adults believing that communities do not invest in the development of women and girls. Thus, facilitating dialogue and constructive confrontation between men and women could help identify the root causes of barriers for women's empowerment. This will create a safe space for dialogue and establish a common ground for future initiatives. However, it is crucial to note that local norms and traditions regarding the role of women in society should be accounted for during project design and implementation to avoid any negative sentiments.

✓ **Focus on radio programming and theatre as main media modes of outreach**

Radio episodes and theatre performances have proven to be highly impactful in tackling perceptions on women and changing the outlook on their role and rights within their

local communities. These media outlets also allowed for a high reach in communities where literacy rates are low.

✓ **Continue upholding context-sensitive and Do No Harm approaches**

Search's context and conflict-sensitive approach have proven to facilitate the acceptance of the project and its activities by local communities. Adhering to a conflict-sensitive and a Do No Harm approach during design and implementation on the local, state, and national levels would be essential for future programming. This is especially true when tackling issues as sensitive as the role of women and their multi-sectoral development. Additionally, the prioritization of these approaches by Search and its partners enhanced the effectiveness of the project.

✓ **Continue factoring in the contextual differences to target key project activities**

As the project relied heavily on locally led initiatives, a big part of its success was driven by its integration of the local needs of each target area during project design. Given the success of this approach, Search's future programming should continue upholding these practices to maximize relevance and effectiveness.

6. Description of the Evaluator

Voluntas

With offices in Copenhagen, Khartoum and Tunis, Voluntas specializes in strategy and evaluation advisory in developing countries, conflict zones, fragile states, and transition environments. Our field of expertise is providing fact-based recommendations and policy options based on extensive research and data collection in volatile regions. We aim to inform our clients through close cooperation, a strong network, and results-based consulting. Our goal is to have a positive impact on populations affected by the crisis to improve their living standards and rights.

We have completed multiple large-scale quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis assignments, using surveys, KIIs, and focus group discussions. Furthermore, we have informed policy debates with presentations and publications on public perceptions, national and local-level political economy topics, and labor market assessments. We have published numerous reports on the MENA region, as well as articles in Foreign Affairs, Al Jazeera, Washington Post, and Current History. Moreover, we have partnerships and collaborations with leading experts and scholars on democratization, governance, human rights, and the rule of law in renowned academic institutions such as Yale University and the American University of Cairo, as well as think tanks.

We offer holistic consultancy services within a set framework of principles: **meaningfulness, diversity, and sustainability**. We deliver on all aspects of the project lifecycle from the inception to the follow-up stages. As a part of this engagement, we use data, analysis, and insights to develop fact-based programming, strategies, and policies. We specialize in working with local partners and building capacity to ensure the availability of data from difficult environments and vulnerable groups. We use this data and insights to inform the public debate. We both deliver on implementation and management support as well as reviews, monitoring, and evaluations.

Voluntas builds on a track record of +100 projects in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia with a strong focus on post-conflict environments for +40 clients. In 2017, we opened an office in Tunis to support our growing portfolio of projects in the region. We thereby have an on-the-ground presence in the region and a deep understanding of the socio-economic context and political environment.

Voluntas is a signatory to **the UN Global Compact**, a global voluntary initiative for companies and organizations seeking to implement universal sustainability principles and work towards the Sustainable Development Goals. We have expressed our support and intent to implement the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption. Voluntas is a signatory to the **Women's Empowerment Principles**.

7. Annexes

7.1. Logical Framework Indicators

	Indicator	Baseline Value (%)	Project Target (%)	Endline Value (%)
Impact: Increase the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development in the states of West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala.				
1	% of vulnerable women and girls in target areas who can cite one concrete example of how the action has improved their access to multi-sectoral development opportunities or basic services		60	86[I]
2	% CSOs who have a plan for activities that improve women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development beyond the project's end		70	100
SO1: Increase the capacity of targeted CSOs on the "Common Ground Approach," in technical areas relevant to their sector and in management, to improve their effectiveness.				
1.1	% of CSO participants who can provide an example of applying the CGA in their work that led to a more effective outcome than their previous approach would have	51.5	75	61.8
1.2	% of trained CSO participants who can provide at least one example of how they will apply a technical or management skill learned to improve the quality of their work	93	70	97.1
SO2: Improve collaboration among CSOs working on development issues that affect vulnerable women and girls, and between CSOs and government authorities, for more coherent efforts to improve access to services.				
2.1	% of CSO participants who report that coordination and communication among themselves and the government has improved	94.6	60	100
2.2	# of concrete opportunities for CSO collaboration identified	0	5	32.5[II]
2.3	% of government authorities who report they see added value in collaborating closely with CSOs to improve access to multi-sectoral development	89.1	70	n/a
SO3: Support the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls (in governance, education, migration, and agriculture).				

3.1	% of CSO participants who feel their perspectives are represented in government decision making	68.5	60	91
3.2	# of multi-sectoral development initiatives designed or implemented collaboratively among CSOs or between CSOs and government	0	10	33[III]
3.3	% of women and girls who find the initiatives implemented useful	n/a	75	86[IV]
3.4	% of residents who find the multi-sectoral initiatives implemented in their community useful	n/a	75	78[V]
3.5	# of vulnerable women and girls targeted by the initiatives	n/a	n/a	108,520[VI]

[I] The percentage was computed using the average percentage of female respondents that responded positively to the listenership questions 30 and 31

[II] The number was calculated based on the average percentage of respondents that responded positively to questions 18 and 25 of the endline survey, not the number of concrete opportunities

[III]The number is based on the percentage of respondents that responded positively to question 33 of the endline survey

[IV]The percentage was computed using the average percentage of female respondents that responded positively to the listenership questions q17, q18, and the cross tabulation of q21 and q22. Those considered to have responded positively are respondents that answered "very large extent, and large extent" in questions 17 and 18. Additionally, those that answered with "very large extent, and large extent" in q21 and simultaneously "positively" in q22, were also considered as positive respondents.

[V] The percentage was computed using the average percentage of total respondents that responded positively to the listenership questions q17, q18, and the cross tabulation of q21 and q22. Those considered to have responded positively are respondents that answered "very large extent, and large extent" in questions 17 and 18. Additionally, those that answered with "very large extent, and large extent" in q21 and simultaneously "positively" in q22, were also considered as positive respondents.

[VI] This is number is based on values stated by CSO representatives surveyed as part of the endline survey

Figure 26. Logical framework indicator

7.2. List of Key Informants

KII #	Profile	Gender	State	Date of Interview
1	Government/local CSO	F	West Kordofan	10/11/2021
2	Government/local CSO	F	Gedaref	21/11/2021
3	Government/local CSO	F	West Kordofan	23/11/2021
4	Media Representative	M	South Kordofan	23/11/2021
5	Government/local CSO	F	Gedaref	24/11/2021
6	CSO Partners	M	South Kordofan	26/11/2021
7	CSO Partners	M	Kassala	27 /11/2021
8	SFCG Team	F	Blue Nile	30/11/2021
9	Media	M	South Kordofan	1/12/2021
10	Media	M	Kassala	5/12/2021
11	CSO Partners	F	Gedaref	6/12/2021
12	Media Representative	M	Blue Nile	7/12/2021
13	SFCG Team	M	Khartoum	14/12/2021
14	Government/local CSO	M	Blue Nile	23/12/2021
15	CSO Partner	M	West Kordofan	14/01/2021

Figure 27. List of key informants

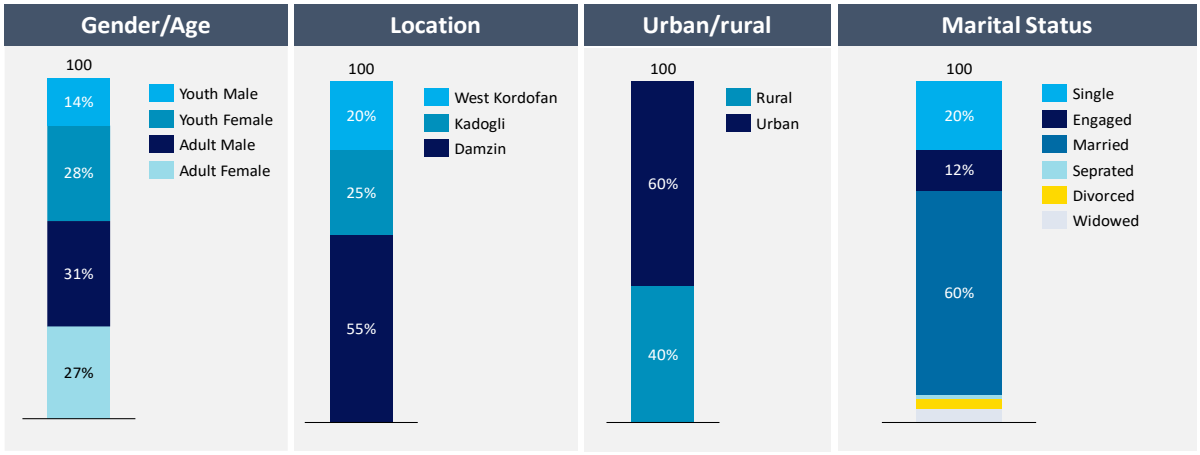
7.3. List of Focus Group Discussion Participants

Region	CSO/Grantee	# of participants
Blue Nile	Shali Al fil Women Association	1
	PACT International (affiliated with UNCEF)	1
	Association for tolerance and non-violence	1
	Raise Organization	1
Gedaref	Ministry of Education	1
	Zenab for Women In Development (ZWD)	2
	Aoun organization for social development	2
	Zakat office	1
Kassala	Sudanese Organization Research and Development (SORD)	2
	Al-Safsaf Group for Drama and Theater	1
	Cultural Roia Center	1
	Shimoos Organization	1
	Theatre group	1
	Retaj theater group	1
	Suad Organization for Breast Cancer	1
South Kordofan	Um Serdiba Association for Development (Um Serdiba)	1
	African Center for Development and Services	1
	Landmine victims organization	1
	Basigaat Jebal Elnoba Charitable Organization for Development and Reconstruction	1
	Humanitarian Organization for Environmental Sanitation and Development	1
	Algandol Organization for Development	1
	Zad Alkhair Charity Organization	1

West Kordofan	Ministry of Education	1
	Ministry of Agriculture	1
	Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC)	1
	Cooperation Union	1
	Mozan for development and peace building	1
	Ministry of Finance	1
	Government secretariate	1

Figure 28. List of FGD participants

7.4. Listenership Survey Analysis



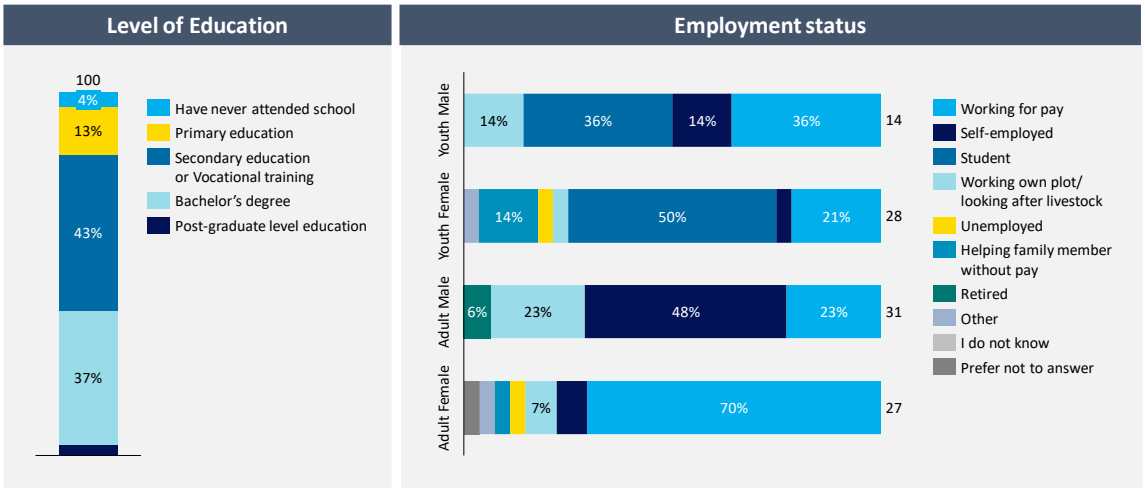


Figure 29. Demographics

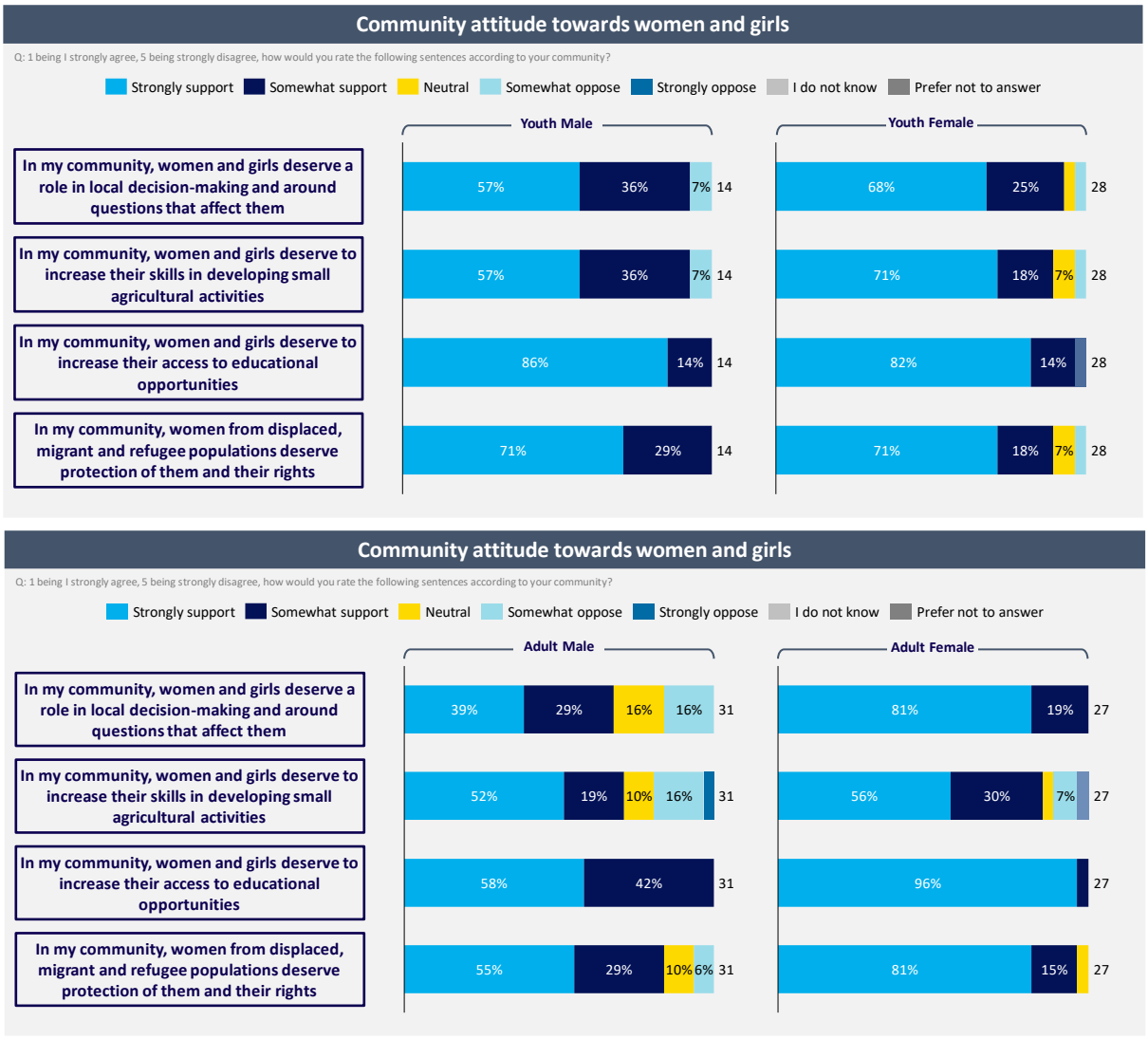


Figure 30. Community attitude towards women and girls

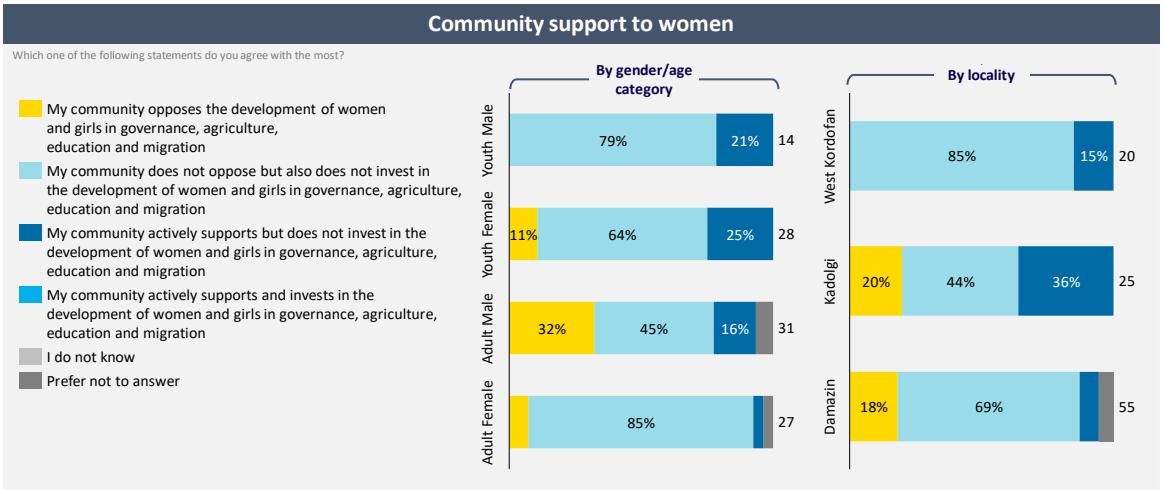


Figure 31. Community support to women

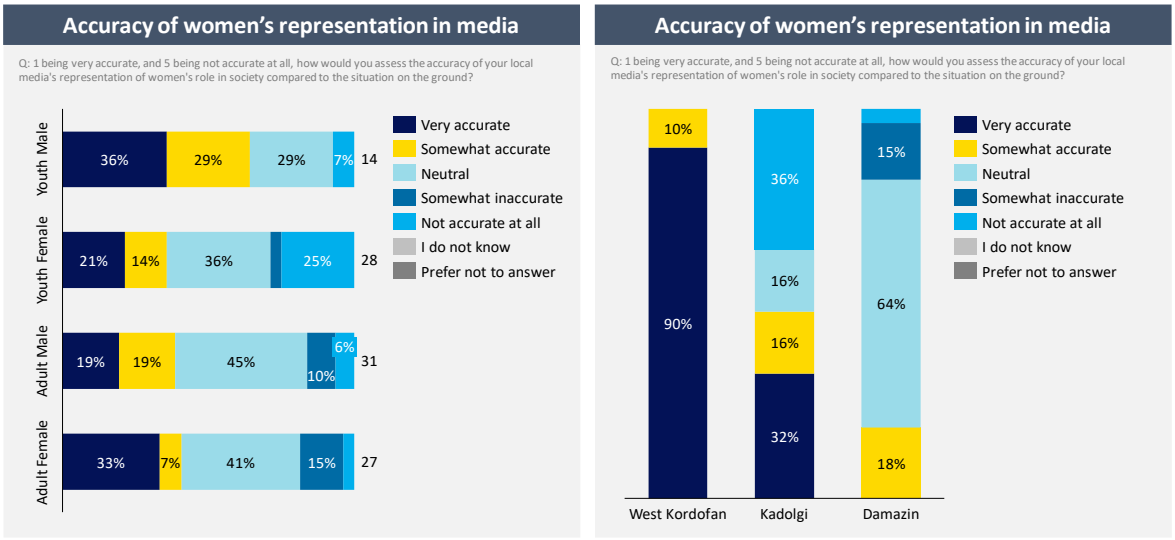


Figure 32. Accuracy of women's representation in media by gender/age and locality

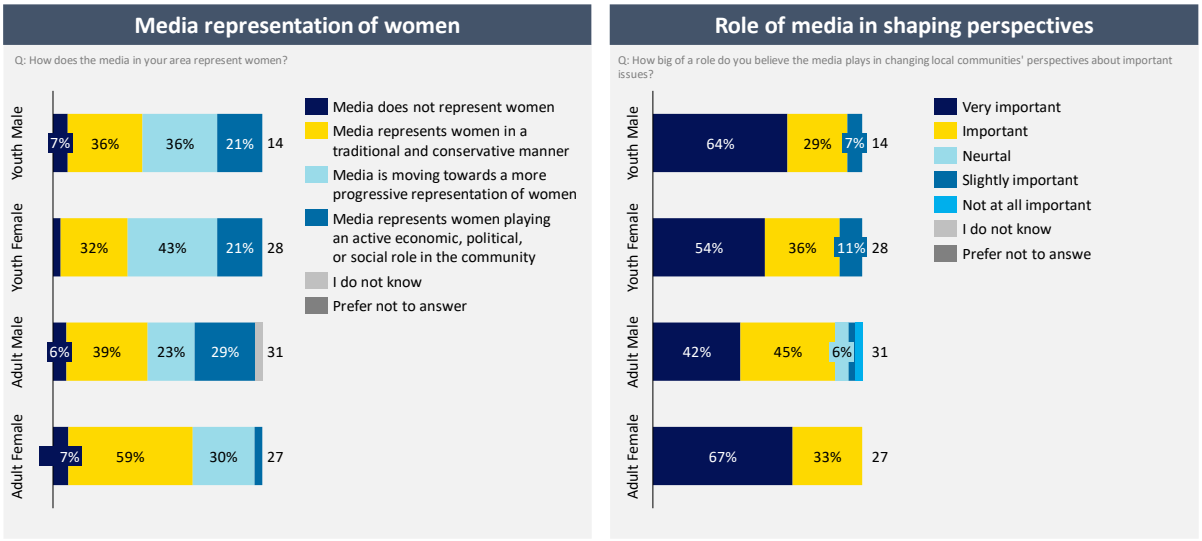


Figure 33.Media's role in shaping perceptions of women

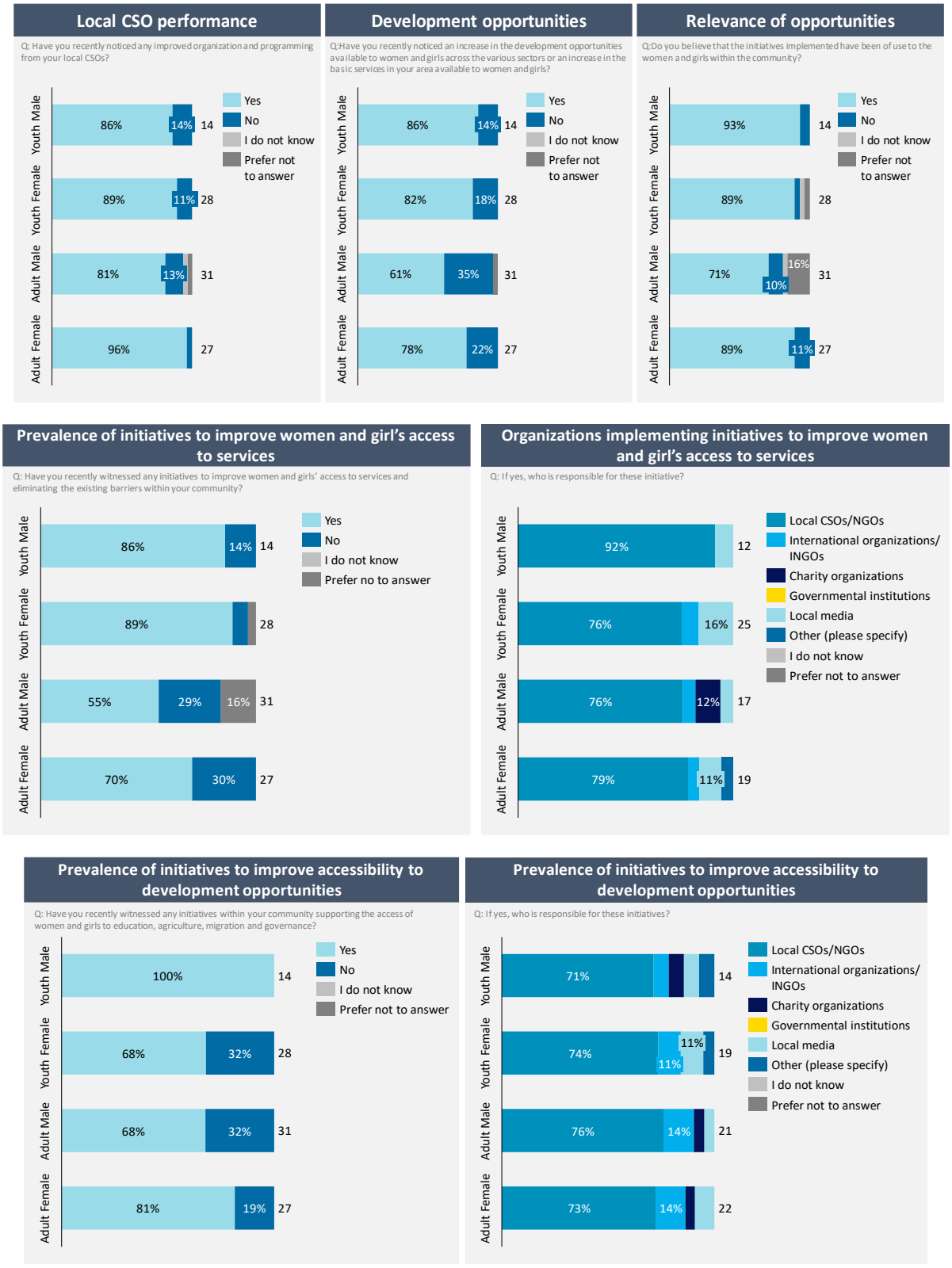


Figure 34. Local CSO activities and performance

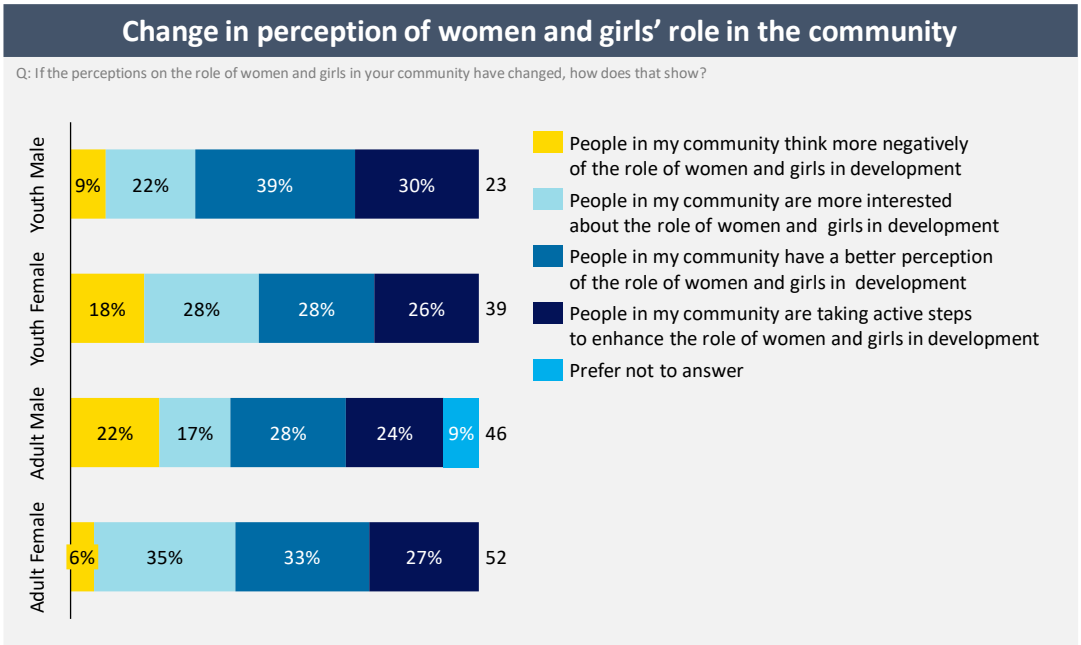


Figure 35. Type of change in perceptions of women and girls in the community

7.5. Endline Survey Analysis

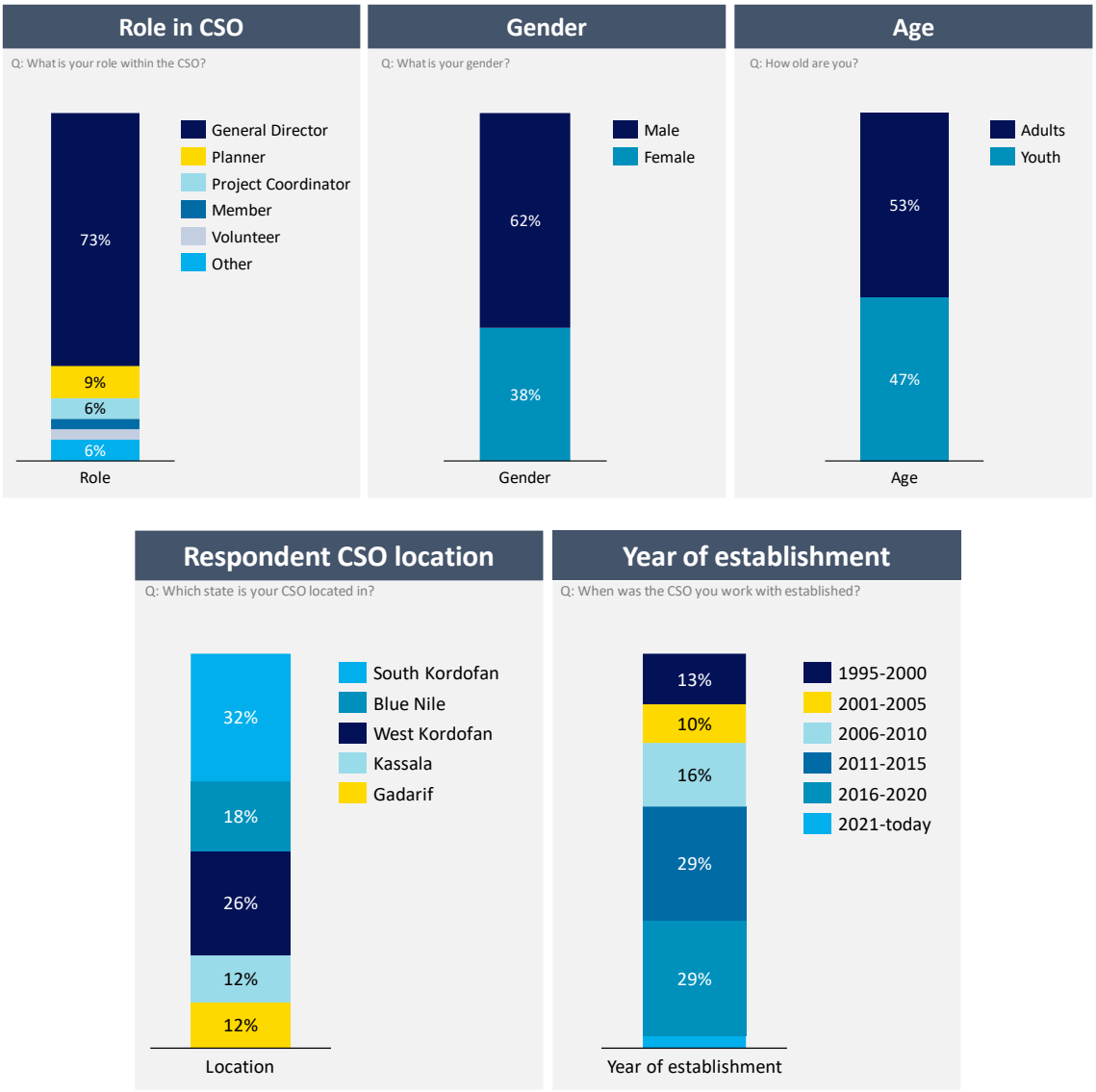


Figure 36. Demographics

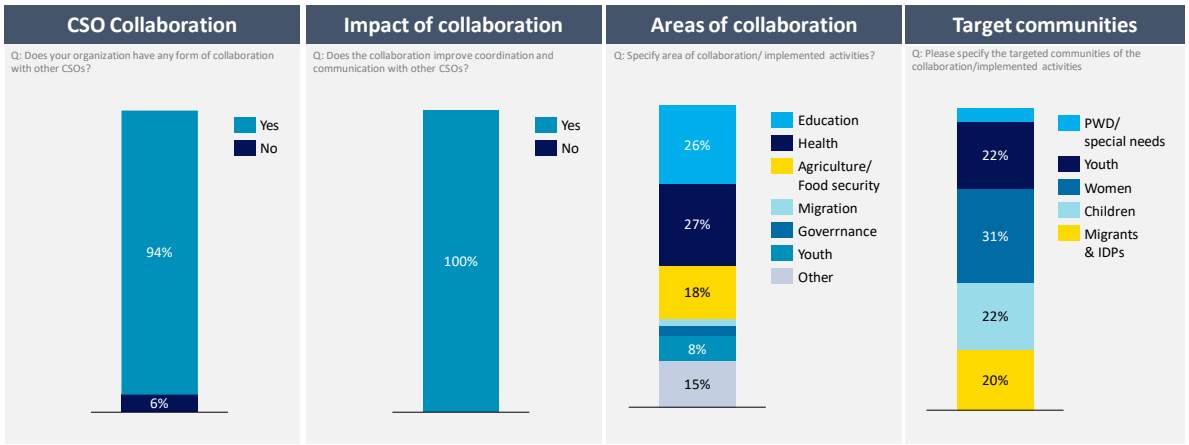


Figure 37. Collaboration between CSOs

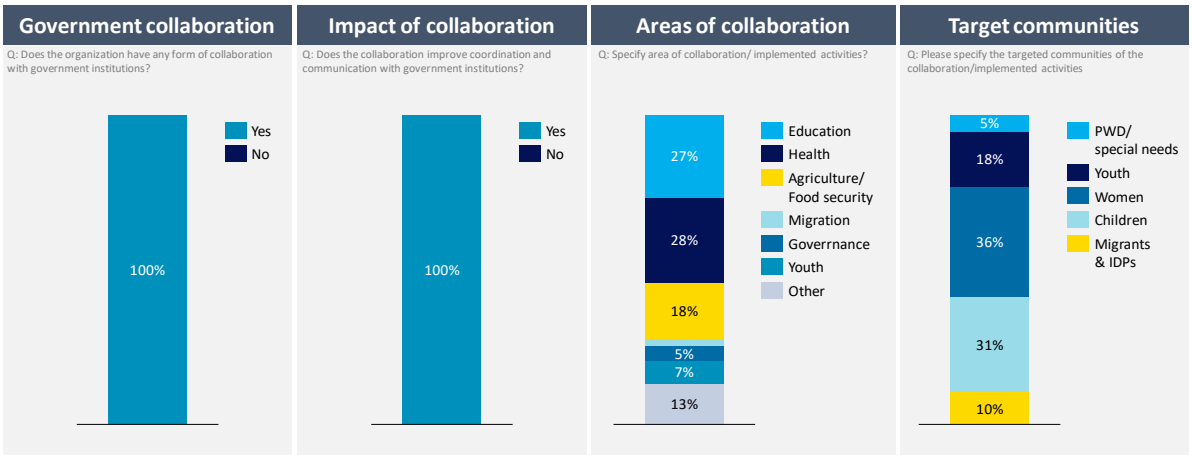


Figure 38. Government-CSO collaboration

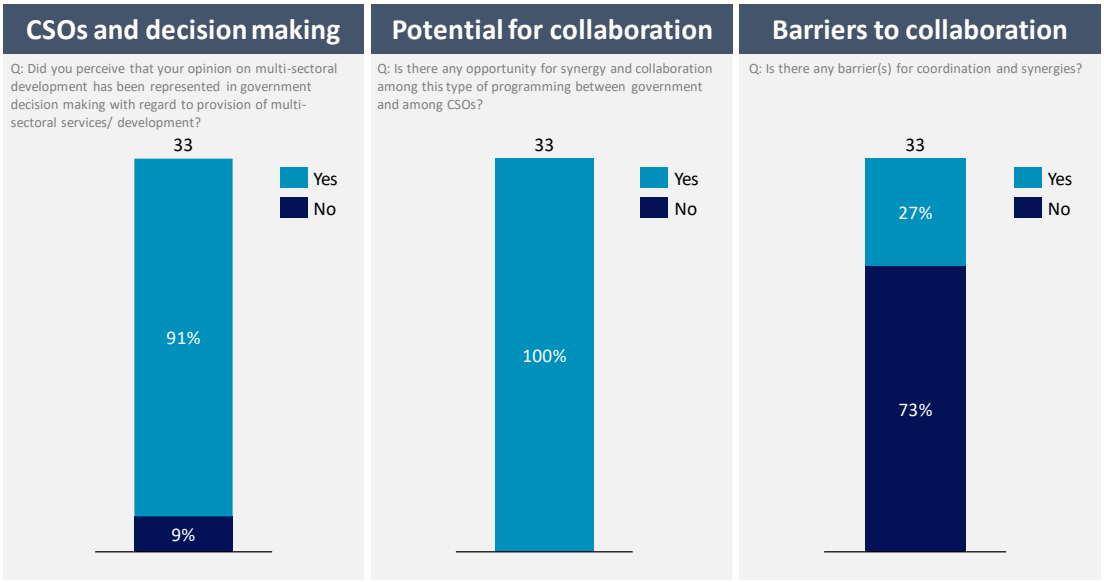


Figure 39. CSO inclusion and government collaboration

Figure 40. Barriers to government-CSO collaboration

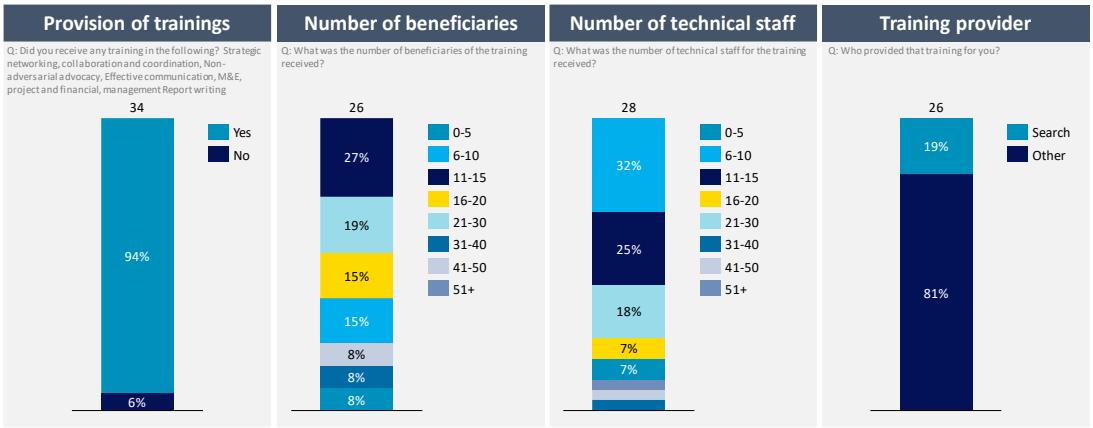


Figure 41. CSO management and technical training

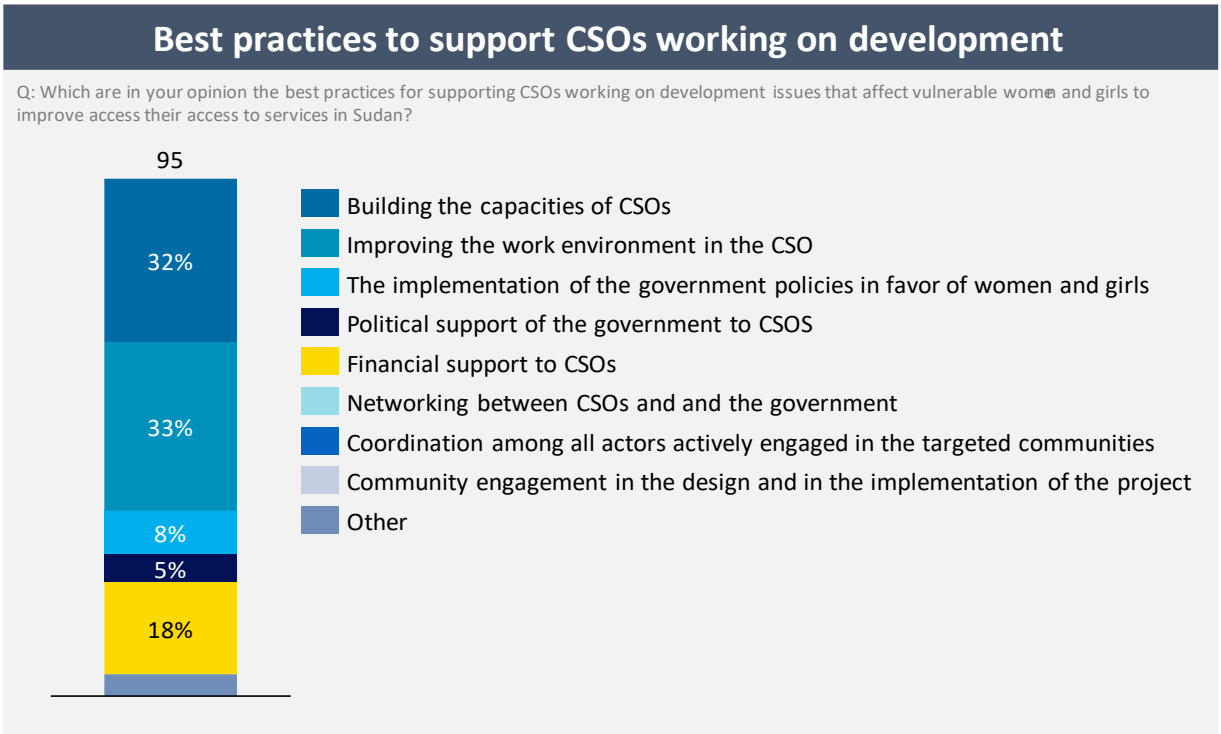


Figure 42. Best practices to support CSOs

7.6. Data collection tools

KII Guide for Search Project Staff

Background

Date of interview	
Name of interviewee	
State	
Gender	
Organization/Role	

Introduction

IF SPSC: Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center: an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum.

IF VOLUNTAS: Hello. My name is _____ and I represent Voluntas Policy Advisory, an independent, non-political advisory firm working across the Middle East and North Africa.

This interview is part of the final evaluation for the "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The evaluation is led by Voluntas in partnership with Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC). The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this interview is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. In addition to this discussion, the evaluation team is currently conducting interviews with representatives of local CSOs, government bodies, and media platforms.

This interview will take around 45 minutes to complete. Please note that this interview is anonymous, and your name will not be used in the reporting. You are free to withdraw at any stage of the interview and you are free to decline to answer any particular question without giving any reason.

Do you consent to participate in this interview?

☐	Yes
☐	No

[If the interviewee agrees to participate, please continue with the discussion. If s/he does not consent to participate in the research, thank the interviewee for his/her time and stop the interview]

Key Informant Interview

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the interview. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions about your experience and participation in the project.	
Question	**Answer**
101. Can you please describe your role in the project?	
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project.	
301. In your opinion, to what degree did the project's objectives and design respond to the target CSO's needs and priorities in terms of supporting vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development? a. Please elaborate further	

302.In your opinion, which elements of the project design worked well to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development in the five states of implementation? a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
303.In your opinion, which elements of the project design hindered the improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development? a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
304. How did Search design the project approach and activities to the local context of each of the five states? a. To what extent were gender equality and context-sensitivity concerns integrated into the project design? {Consider the Do No Harm approach}	
305. Were considerations of the differences in needs and priorities of men, women, and other vulnerable groups integrated into the project implementation? a. How so?	
306.Retrospectively, would you change any of the project's objectives, outcomes, or activities to make them more relevant to respond to local communities' and CSOs' needs? a. Why? b. Which ones?	
Effectiveness	
I would now like to discuss the effectiveness of the project.	
307.How successfully do you believe the project was at achieving the objectives and outcomes outlined within the project design?	
308. What are the major factors that have influenced (positively and negatively) the progress towards the project's outcomes and objectives?	
309. How effective were the different project partners in implementing their activities? a. Were they any challenges encountered while working with the CSO partners?	
310. Were there any challenges faced during project implementation? [consider organizational, logistical, or administrative challenges] a. If yes, can you please elaborate further? i. If yes, how have these challenges been overcome?	
311. How was equal participation in activities on a local level monitored throughout the project? a. What mitigation measures were taken to ensure equal participation?	
Impact	
I would now like to discuss the impact of the project.	
401. What do you see as the greatest success of the project? a. Why?	
402. What do you see as the greatest challenge to achieving the expected impact? a. Why?	
403. To what extent was the project successful: a. Increasing the capacities of local CSO partners i. If at all, how could it have been improved? b. Increasing the capacities of local CSOs targeted through the activities? i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	
404.To what extent was the project successful at strengthening the coordination: a. Among CSOs i. If at all, how could it have been improved? b. Between CSOs and government authorities in your state? i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	

405. To what extent was the project successful at contributing to the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions and advocacy efforts at: a. The local level b. The regional level c. The state-level i. Overall, how could it have been improved?	
406. To what extent do you believe the project contributed to the implementation of locally led actions that contribute to the multi-sectoral development of vulnerable women and girls? a. Please elaborate further. i. How could this contribution have been improved?	
407. Can you think of any unintended consequences (positive or negative) of the project? a. Were there any positive changes or unintended effects specifically with regards to beneficiary targeting?	
408. To what extent do you believe the media training has contributed to changing people's perceptions and attitudes towards women and girls? i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project.	
501. How likely do you think the capacities developed and opportunities created throughout this project will continue in the future, even without direct support from the project?	
502. What do you believe are factors that may enable this continuation? a. How can these factors be promoted?	
503. What do you believe are factors that may hinder this continuation? a. How can these factors potentially be overcome?	
504. Do you think there are any concrete steps that local CSOs and institutions are willing to take (or have already taken) to continue their work on this topic? a. Why?	
Lessons learned	
I would now like to discuss what lessons can be learned from the project.	
601. What are the main best practices that you believe should be implemented to ensure that vulnerable women and girls have access to multi-sectoral development?	
602. What could have been done differently to make the project be of higher quality and/or greater impact? a. Please provide examples.	
603. What lessons learned (if any) from this project do you think your CSO partners will benefit from after project closure?	

Interview duration (HH: MM)	

KII Guide for partner CSOs

Background information

Date of interview	
Name of interviewee	
State	
Gender	
Organization/Role	

Introduction

IF SPSC: Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center: an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum.

IF VOLUNTAS: Hello. My name is _____ and I represent Voluntas Policy Advisory, an independent, non-political advisory firm working across the Middle East and North Africa.

This interview is part of the final evaluation for the "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The evaluation is led by Voluntas in partnership with Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC). The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this interview is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. In addition to this discussion, the evaluation team is currently conducting interviews with representatives of local CSOs, government bodies, and media platforms.

This interview will take around 45 minutes to complete. Please note that this interview is anonymous, and your name will not be used in the reporting. You are free to withdraw at any stage of the interview and you are free to decline to answer any particular question without giving any reason.

Do you consent to participate in this interview?

☐	Yes
☐	No

[If the interviewee agrees to participate, please continue with the discussion. If s/he does not consent to participate in the research, thank the interviewee for his/her time and stop the interview]

Key Informant Interview

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the interview. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions about your experience and participation in the project within your state.	
Question	**Answer**
101. Can you please describe your role in: a. The project b. Within your CSO	
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project within your state.	
301. In your opinion, to what degree did the project's objectives and design respond to the target CSO's needs and priorities in terms of supporting vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development? a. Please elaborate	
302. In your opinion, which elements of the project worked well to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development?	

a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
303. In your opinion, which elements of the project – if any – hindered the improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development? a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
304. How did you contribute to the design of the project approach and activities within your state? b. To what extent were gender equality and context-sensitivity concerns integrated into the project design?	
305. Were considerations of the differences in needs, roles, and priorities of men, women, and other vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants) applied in the project's design and implementation? a. How so?	
306. Retrospectively, would you change any of the project's objectives, outcomes, or activities to make them more relevant to respond to local communities' and CSOs' needs? a. Why? Which ones?	
Effectiveness	
I would now like to discuss the effectiveness of the project within your state.	
307. How successfully do you believe the project was at achieving the objectives and outcomes outlined within the project design?	
308. What are the major factors that have influenced (positively and negatively) the progress towards the project's outcomes and objectives?	
309. To what extent do you think the project implementation followed a 'Do No Harm' approach? a. Please provide examples.	
310. How have project developments and results been gathered, processed, and documented? a. How did you measure how the project activities achieved the intended results? b. What changes, if any, did you make to your plans based on the results you documented?	
311. Were there any challenges faced during project implementation? a. If yes, can you please elaborate further? b. If yes, how have these challenges been overcome?	
312. How was the equal participation of men and women in activities integrated into the design of the project?	
313. Were barriers to the equal participation of men and women in activities conducted on a local level identified and addressed in the design and implementation of the project? a. Why? Why not? b. What mitigation measures were taken to ensure equal participation?	
Impact	
I would now like to discuss the impact of the project within your state.	
401. What do you see as the greatest success of the project? a. Why?	
402. What do you see as the greatest challenge to achieving the expected impact? a. Why?	
403. To what extent was the project successful: a. Increasing your capacity as a partner i. If at all, how could it have been improved? b. Increasing the capacities of local CSOs i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	
404. To what extent was the project successful at strengthening the coordination: a. Among CSOs	

i. If at all, how could it have been improved? b. Between CSOs and government authorities in your state? i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	
405. To what extent was the project successful at contributing to the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions and advocacy efforts at: a. The local level b. The regional level c. The state-level i. Overall, how could it have been improved?	
406. To what extent do you believe the project contributed to the implementation of locally led actions that contribute to the multi-sectoral development of vulnerable women and girls? a. Please elaborate further. b. How could this contribution have been improved?	
407. Can you think of any unintended consequences (positive or negative) of the project? a. Were there any positive changes or unintended effects specifically with regards to beneficiary targeting?	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project within your state.	
501. How likely do you think the capacities developed and opportunities created throughout this project will continue in the future, even without direct support from the project?	
502. What do you believe are factors that may enable this continuation? a. How can these factors be promoted?	
503. What do you believe are factors that may hinder this continuation? a. How can these factors potentially be overcome?	
504. Do you think there are any concrete steps that local CSOs and institutions are willing to take (or have already taken) to continue their work on this topic? a. Why?	
Lessons learned	
I would now like to discuss what lessons can be learned from the project within your state.	
601. What are the best practices of this project that you believe should be implemented to ensure that vulnerable women and girls have access to multi-sectoral development?	
602. What could have been done differently to make the project be of higher quality and/or greater impact? a. Please provide examples.	

Interview duration (HH: MM)	

KII Guide for Media Stakeholder

Background information

Date of interview	
Name of interviewee	
State	
Gender	
Organization/Role	

Introduction

IF SPSC: Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center: an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum.

IF VOLUNTAS: Hello. My name is _____ and I represent Voluntas Policy Advisory, an independent, non-political advisory firm working across the Middle East and North Africa.

This interview is part of the final evaluation for the "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The evaluation is led by Voluntas in partnership with Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC). The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this interview is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. In addition to this discussion, the evaluation team is currently conducting interviews with representatives of local CSOs, government bodies, and media platforms.

This interview will take around 45 minutes to complete. Please note that this interview is anonymous, and your name will not be used in the reporting. You are free to withdraw at any stage of the interview and you are free to decline to answer any particular question without giving any reason.

Do you consent to participate in this interview?

☐	Yes
☐	No

[If the interviewee agrees to participate, please continue with the discussion. If s/he does not consent to participate in the research, thank the interviewee for his/her time and stop the interview]

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the interview. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions about your experience and participation in the project.	
Question	**Answer**
101. How did you hear about this project? a. How did you come to be involved in this project? b. What activities did you partner with Search on?	
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project.	
201. How would you describe people's perceptions and attitudes towards the involvement of women and girls in development within your state/community? a. Prior to the project? b. Since the implementation of the project?	
202. What do you think are the main challenges regarding the involvement of women and girls in development within your state?	

a. How do you believe the media influences this perception of women and girls in society? b. In your opinion, did the project work to address these challenges?	
203.To what extent did you find the project suitable to your community's needs? a. If anything, what could have been done to make it more suitable?	
301.In your opinion, which elements of the project design worked well to improve the perceptions and attitudes towards the involvement of women and girls in development within your state/community? a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
302.In your opinion, which elements of the project design hindered the improvement of the perceptions and attitudes towards the involvement of women and girls in development within your state/community? a. Which elements did not (if any)?	
303. Were considerations of the differences in needs, roles, and priorities of men, women, and other vulnerable groups applied in the project's design and implementation? a. How so?	
Effectiveness	
I would now like to discuss the effectiveness of the project.	
304. Were the project activities you worked on effectively designed to align with perceptions and attitudes of the local communities. a. What was your degree of involvement throughout this design process? b. If at all, how could the project design have been improved?	
305. To what extent did the project activities you worked on effectively work towards transforming the perceptions and attitudes held towards women and girls in development? a. If at all, how could this have been improved?	
306. To what extent did the project activities you participated in effectively work towards boosting awareness of ongoing activities to increase women and girls' access to services contributing to their development? a. If at all, how could this have been improved?	
307. Were there any challenges faced during activity implementation? a. If yes, can you please elaborate further? b. If yes, how have these challenges been overcome?	
Impact	
I would now like to discuss the impact of the project.	
401. How did the training provided by Search contribute to the activities you implemented as part of this project? a. What were the training's most beneficial aspects? b. How were you able to make use of the training provided throughout your work? c. How could have the training been improved?	
402. What has been the feedback from readers/viewers/listeners on the activities you implemented as part of this project?	
403. Do you believe that the activities implemented had any impact on the perception and attitudes held towards the role of women and girls in development? a. How so? b. How do you think that these changes have affected your community?	

404. Can you think of any unintended consequences (positive or negative) of the project?	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project.	
501. Outside the scope of this project, how do you believe the capacities developed throughout the training will contribute to your work?	
502. What do you see as the main results of the activities you implemented as part of the project in your community?	
503. To what extent are the activity results likely to continue after the project? a. In what ways? b. What factors would hinder this continuation? c. What factors would enable this continuation?	
Lessons learned	
I would now like to discuss what lessons can be learned from the project.	
601. What were your major likes and dislikes about the project? a. Why?	
602. What would you change if they did the project again? a. Why?	

Interview duration (HH: MM)	

KII Guide for Government/Local CSO representatives

Background information

Date of interview	
Name of interviewee	
State	
Gender	
Organization/Role	

Introduction

IF SPSC: Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center: an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum.

IF VOLUNTAS: Hello. My name is _____ and I represent Voluntas Policy Advisory, an independent, non-political advisory firm working across the Middle East and North Africa.

This interview is part of the final evaluation for the "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The evaluation is led by Voluntas in partnership with Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC). The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The project activities took place across five states in Sudan: West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and Kassala. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this discussion interview is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. In addition to this discussion, the evaluation team is currently conducting interviews with representatives of local CSOs, government bodies, and media platforms.

This interview will take around 45 minutes to complete. Please note that this interview is anonymous, and your name will not be used in the reporting. You are free to withdraw at any stage of the interview and you are free to decline to answer any particular question without giving any reason.

Do you consent to participate in this interview?

☐	Yes
☐	No

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the interview. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions about your experience and participation in the project.	
Question	**Answer**
101. What activities did you participate in?	
102. Who led the activities that you participated in?	☐ Search for Common Ground ☐ Badya Center for Integrated Development (Badya) ☐ Um Serbida ☐ Paralegal's Association (PASS) ☐ Human Security Initative Organization (MAMAN) ☐ Elsharq Center for Culture (ECC) ☐ Other (please specify):
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project.	
201. How would you describe the perceptions of the role of women and girls in development in your state/locality?	

a. Prior to the project? Since the implementation of the project?	
202. What do you think are the main challenges regarding the improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities across various sectors?	
203. In your opinion, did the activity/activities address these challenges? a. If at all, how could these challenges have been better addressed?	
204. To what extent did you find the activity/activities suitable to your needs (in terms of building the capacity needed to improve the role of women and girls in development)? a. If anything, what could have been done to make it more suitable?	
301. From your perspective, how well did the activity/activities you participated in: a. Provide local CSOs and relevant actors citizens, and the security sector with a space to discuss, share feedback, and build their capacity on gender-related issues? i. Why? Examples? b. Provide participants with the necessary skillset needed to support women within their societies? i. Why? Examples?	
Effectiveness	
302. Do you believe that activities you participated in were sufficiently inclusive of: a. Marginalized groups (e.g. youth, women, people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants..) b. Relevant stakeholders (e.g. CSOs, local government representatives, local community representatives)	
303. What changes would you have made to the composition of activity attendees? a. Why so?	
304. Were there any challenges/difficulties that came up throughout the activity you participated in? a. If so, how was the challenge/difficulty overcome? What was Search's role? b. What is your assessment of this response?	
Impact	
401. To what extent were the activities you participated in the project successful at: a. Increasing your technical and management capacities? i. If at all, how could it have been improved? b. Further developing your planning capacities through the integration of the Common Ground Approach? i. If at all, how could it have been improved?	
205. Do you believe that the activities you engaged in helped improve the communication and coordination between local CSOs and government authorities? a. Please elaborate on your response and provide examples if possible b. If at all, what could have been done to improve this?	
206. Do you believe that the activities you engaged in helped improve the communication and coordination amongst local CSOs? a. Please elaborate on your response b. If at all, what could have been done to improve this?	
207. To what extent do you believe the activities were successful at contributing to the implementation of development actions across various sectors and advocacy efforts for vulnerable women and girls at: a. The local level b. The regional level c. The state-level	

i. Overall, how could it have been improved?	
402. To what extent do you believe the activities you participated in contributed to the implementation of locally led actions that contribute to the development of vulnerable women and girls across various sectors? a. Please elaborate further. b. How could this contribution have been improved?	
403. Can you think of any unintended consequences (positive or negative) of the activities carried out?	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project.	
501. How likely do you think the activity results are likely to be implemented and benefit the local community?	
502. What do you believe are factors that may enable this continuation? a. How can these factors be promoted?	
503. What do you believe are factors that may hinder this continuation? a. How can these factors potentially be overcome?	
504. How likely is it that you will have an opportunity to implement the ideas or solutions developed during this project in your work? a. Why? Why not?	
505. Has your organization taken or is planning to take any concrete steps to continue its work on this topic? a. Please elaborate further.	
Lessons learned	
I would now like to discuss what lessons can be learned from the project.	
601. What were your favorite aspects of the activity/activities you participated in? a. Why?	
602. What were your least favorite aspects about the activity/activities you participated in? a. Why?	
603. What would you change about the activity/activities you participated in if you were to do it again? a. Why?	

Interview duration (HH: MM)	

FGD Guide for South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Kassala

Background information

Date of FGD	
State	
Name of facilitator	
Name of note-taker	
Location	
Duration (HH: MM)	

	Name	State	Organization	Role	Gender	Consent
Participant 1						
Participant 2						
Participant 3						
Participant 4						
Participant 5						
Participant 6						
Participant 7						
Participant 8						

Introduction

Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC): an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum. Voluntas – a Danish development consultancy – in partnership with SPSC has been assigned to carry out the final evaluation of Search for Common Ground's project "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this discussion is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. The focus group discussion should take around 90 minutes. Please note that your participation is voluntary and anonymous and can be terminated at any time. Your answers and data are confidential and are voluntarily contributing to improving the knowledge of public opinion of economic reform in Sudan. Thank you.

Informed Consent

Before starting the discussion, I would like to receive your informed consent on the following questions.

	Yes	No
a. Do you all understand that you are not obliged to participate in the discussion and that you will not be penalized if you decline to participate?		
b. Do you all understand that even if you agree to participate, you are free to leave the discussion at any point?		
c. Do you all understand that you can decline to answer any questions that you do not want to answer?		
d. Do you all understand that there is no financial compensation in return for your participation in the discussion?		
e. Do you all consent to participate?		

[If all the participants agree to participate, please continue with the discussion. If some respondent does not consent to participate in the discussion*, thank them for their time and ask them to leave the discussion]*

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the discussion. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions in relation to the project.	
Question	**Answer**
101.First, everyone at a time, please, briefly introduce yourselves stating: a. Your name b. Your organization c. The activity/activities you participated in	
102. How would you describe the general perception of the role of women within your community? a. How does this impact women and girls' access to development opportunities? b. How has this changed over time, if at all?	
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project.	
201. How have the activities you participated in supported you/the organization in designing and implementing projects/activities that improve vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities across various sectors? *[consider technical and managerial skills, as well as new professional connections]* a. Can you provide some practical examples? b. If at all, how could the activities have been improved?	
202. Do you believe that the activities you participated in accounted for the different needs, roles, and priorities of women, men, and vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants)? Consider: a. The material used b. The method through which the activities were implemented c. Composition of activity participants	
Effectiveness	
I would now like to discuss the effectiveness of the project.	
Project indicator: • % of trained CSO participants who can provide at least one example of how they will apply a technical or management skill learned to improve the quality of their work.	
301. How has the technical and/or management skills training received from Search affected your CSO/institutions' quality of work, if at all? a. Can you provide some practical examples?	**For Researcher:** # of people reporting an example of a positive impact of the training: ___
Project indicator: • % of CSO participants who can provide an example of applying the CGA in their work that led to a more effective outcome than their previous approach would have	
302. How was the Common Ground Approach (CGA) utilized to plan for your organization/institution's activities, if at all? a. How has the CGA affected the effectiveness of your activities? b. Can you provide some practical examples?	**For Researcher:** # of people reporting an example of a positive impact of the training: ___
Project indicator: • % of CSO participants who report that coordination and communication among themselves and the government have improved. • % of government authorities who report they see added value in collaborating closely with CSOs to improve access to multi-sectoral development.	

• % of CSO participants who feel their perspectives are represented in government decision making	
303. Did the project succeed at providing CSOs, and local community and government representatives with a space to exchange ideas on development issues affecting vulnerable women and girls? *[prompt for examples where possible]* a. Why? Why not? b. How has this affected each stakeholder's perception of the other, if at all? c. How has this affected the sense of inclusion of CSOs and local community representatives in decision-making processes, if at all? d. Have you shared any policy recommendations with government authorities?	**For Researcher:** # of participants reporting increased communication and coordination: ___ # of government authorities reporting a value-added in working with CSOs: ___ # of CSOs feeling that their perspectives are accounted for by government authorities: ___ # of policy recommendations shared with government authorities: ___
Project indicator: • # of concrete opportunities for CSOs collaboration identified • # multi-sectoral development initiatives designed or implemented collaboratively among CSOs or between CSOs and government	
304. To what extent did the project improve the opportunities for collaboration between CSOs and governmental institutions or other local organizations on efforts related to service delivery in support of women and girls? a. Why? b. Please provide an example.	
305. Do you believe the project supported the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to improving the access of vulnerable women and girls to development opportunities across various sectors? Think of actions that relate to agriculture, education, governance, and migrant protection a. If so, how? i. Please provide an example. b. Did these locally led actions increase communities' awareness of the rights of women from displaced, migrant, and refugee populations? i. Can you tell us how many of these awareness-increasing initiatives have you witnessed? c. How would you assess the effectiveness of these locally led actions?	
306. If any, what has been the project's impact on: a. The functioning of women networks [consider strength, durability, and prevailing weaknesses] b. CSOs interaction with local government authorities on women-related issues c. Reaching concrete *(on paper)* agreements with government authorities regarding the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions for women	
307. Were there any external or internal challenges that hindered the project's ability to contribute to improving access to development opportunities for vulnerable women and girls across various sectors? a. What were the factors driving these challenges? b. What was done to overcome these challenges? What was Search's role?	
308. Were there any groups that faced specific barriers to participation in the project activities? (e.g. youth, women, people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants)	

a. Were there specific measures taken to ensure their participation? b. If anything, what could have been done to make it more suitable?	
Impact	
I would now like to discuss the impact of the project.	
401. What do you believe was the impact of the activities you took part in on the improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities across various sectors? a. On a local level i. Please provide examples b. On a state level i. Please provide examples c. On a national level i. Please provide examples.	
402. Let's focus on the impact of your activities/initiatives on the local level. Did they contribute to vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities in: a. Agriculture? i. If yes, how? b. Education? i. If yes, how? c. Decision-making and governance? i. If yes, how? d. Protection for displaced and migrant women and girls? i. If yes, how?	
403. Are there particular beneficiary stories that came out of the implementation of these local actions that you would like to highlight?	
Project indicator: • # of CSO participants who report they have been involved in at least one advocacy action	
404. As part of your participation in the project, have you been involved with at least one advocacy action within your community? a. If yes, can you give an example? b. How was this advocacy action received within your community? c. What was its impact, if any?	
405. Do you believe that the project design and implementation successfully accounted for pre-existing prejudices within the community regarding the empowerment of women, girls, youth, and vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants)? a. Why? Why not? b. Were there any negative repercussions of the activities carried out? [e.g. dissatisfaction or backlash from the community]	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project's outcomes.	
Project indicator: • % CSOs who have a plan for activities that improve women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development beyond the project's end	
501. Can you name any specific initiatives/women's networks/relationships between CSOs and government that have continued/are planned to start following the end of the project? a. Are there any initiatives with a focus on the improvement of access to agriculture, education, governance, and migrant protection for women and girls?	

502. In your opinion, what are the possibilities for future engagement in a similar topic?	
503. What local, regional, and national factors do you think may: a. Support the continuation of these locally led initiatives b. Challenge the continuation of these locally led initiatives i. What mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure that doesn't happen?	

FGD Guide for Gedaref and West Kordofan

Background information

Date of FGD	
State	
Name of facilitator	
Name of note-taker	
Location	
Duration (HH: MM)	

	Name	State	Organization	Role	Gender	Consent
Participant 1						
Participant 2						
Participant 3						
Participant 4						
Participant 5						
Participant 6						
Participant 7						
Participant 8						

Introduction

Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC): an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum. Voluntas – a Danish development consultancy – in partnership with SPSC has been assigned to carry out the final evaluation of Search for Common Ground's project "Maa Baaad Nanmo – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The evaluation aims to assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, as well as its reach, resonance, and response. Moreover, it seeks to provide a constructive review and recommendations for future interventions.

The purpose of this discussion is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. The focus group discussion should take around 90 minutes. Please note that your participation is voluntary and anonymous and can be terminated at any time. Your answers and data are confidential and are voluntarily contributing to improving the knowledge of public opinion of economic reform in Sudan. Thank you.

Informed Consent

Before starting the discussion, I would like to receive your informed consent on the following questions.

	Yes	No
a. Do you all understand that you are not obliged to participate in the discussion and that you will not be penalized if you decline to participate?		
b. Do you all understand that even if you agree to participate, you are free to leave the discussion at any point?		
c. Do you all understand that you can decline to answer any questions that you do not want to answer?		
d. Do you all understand that there is no financial compensation in return for your participation in the discussion?		
e. Do you all consent to participate?		

[If all the participants agree to participate, please continue with the discussion. If some respondent does not consent to participate in the discussion*, thank them for their time and ask them to leave the discussion]*

Focus Group Discussion

General Questions	
Thank you for participating in the discussion. I would like to begin by asking you some general questions in relation to the project.	
Question	**Answer**
103.First, everyone at a time, please, briefly introduce yourselves stating: a. Your name b. Your organization c. The activity/activities you participated in	
104. How would you describe the general perception of the role of women within your community? a. How does this impact women and girls' access to development opportunities? b. How has this changed over time, if at all?	
Relevance	
Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the relevance of the project.	
203. How have the activities you participated in supported you/the organization in designing and implementing projects/activities that improve vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities across various sectors? *[consider technical and managerial skills, as well as new professional connections]* a. Can you provide some practical examples? b. If at all, how could the activities have been improved?	
204. Do you believe that the activities you participated in accounted for the different needs, roles, and priorities of women, men, and vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants)? Consider: a. The material used b. The method through which the activities were implemented c. Composition of activity participants	
205. To what extent did you find the theater play's perceptions of women relevant to you? a. How about your community? b. Can you provide an example of this relevance?	
206. To what extent did you find the Comic book's perceptions of women relevant to you? a. How about your community? b. Can you provide an example of this relevance?	
Effectiveness	
I would now like to discuss the effectiveness of the project.	
Project indicator: • % of trained CSO participants who can provide at least one example of how they will apply a technical or management skill learned to improve the quality of their work.	
309. How has the technical and/or management skills training received from Search affected your CSO/institutions' quality of work, if at all? a. Can you provide some practical examples?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of people reporting an example of a positive impact of the training: ___

Project indicator: • % of CSO participants who can provide an example of applying the CGA in their work that led to a more effective outcome than their previous approach would have	
310. How was the Common Ground Approach (CGA) utilized to plan for your organization/institution's activities, if at all? a. How has the CGA affected the effectiveness of your activities? b. Can you provide some practical examples?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of people reporting an example of a positive impact of the training: ___
Project indicator: • % of CSO participants who report that coordination and communication among themselves and the government have improved. • % of government authorities who report they see added value in collaborating closely with CSOs to improve access to multi-sectoral development. • % of CSO participants who feel their perspectives are represented in government decision making	
311. Did the project succeed at providing CSOs, and local community and government representatives with a space to exchange ideas on development issues affecting vulnerable women and girls? *[prompt for examples where possible]* a. Why? Why not? b. How has this affected each stakeholder's perception of the other, if at all? c. How has this affected the sense of inclusion of CSOs and local community representatives in decision-making processes, if at all? d. Have you shared any policy recommendations with government authorities?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of participants reporting increased communication and coordination: ___ # of government authorities reporting a value-added in working with CSOs: ___ # of CSOs feeling that their perspectives are accounted for by government authorities: ___ # of policy recommendations shared with government authorities: ___
Project indicator: • # of concrete opportunities for CSOs collaboration identified • # multi-sectoral development initiatives designed or implemented collaboratively among CSOs or between CSOs and government	

312. To what extent did the project improve the opportunities for collaboration between CSOs and governmental institutions or other local organizations on efforts related to service delivery in support of women and girls? a. Why? b. Please provide an example.	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of collaboration opportunities between CSOs reported: ___ # of collaborations between CSOs and government authorities reported: ___
313. Do you believe the project supported the formulation and implementation of concrete locally led actions that contribute to improving the access of vulnerable women and girls to development opportunities across various sectors? Think of actions that relate to agriculture, education, governance, and migrant protection a. If so, how? i. Please provide an example. b. Did these locally led actions increase communities' awareness of the rights of women from displaced, migrant, and refugee populations? i. Can you tell us how many of these awareness-increasing initiatives have you witnessed? c. How would you assess the effectiveness of these locally led actions?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of initiatives that increase communities' awareness of the rights of women from displaced, migrant, and refugee populations.: ___
314. If any, what has been the project's impact on: a. The functioning of women networks [consider strength, durability, and prevailing weaknesses] b. CSOs interaction with local government authorities on women-related issues c. Reaching concrete *(on paper)* agreements with government authorities regarding the implementation of multi-sectoral development actions for women	
315. For the theatre play, what was the main message/messages? a. How successful do you believe the theater plays were at transmitting this message/these messages? b. Do you think your community was able to also understand this message/these messages?	
316. For the comic book, what was the main message/ messages? a. How successful do you believe the comic book was at transmitting this message/these messages? b. Do you think your community was able to also understand this message/these messages?	
317. Were there any external or internal challenges that hindered the project's ability to contribute to improving access to development opportunities for vulnerable women and girls across various sectors?	

a. What were the factors driving these challenges? b. What was done to overcome these challenges? What was Search's role?	
318. Were there any groups that faced specific barriers to participation in the project activities? (e.g. youth, women, people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants) a. Were there specific measures taken to ensure their participation? b. If anything, what could have been done to make it more suitable?	
Impact	
I would now like to discuss the impact of the project.	
406. What do you believe was the impact of the activities you took part in on the improvement of vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities across various sectors? a. On a local level i. Please provide examples b. On a state level i. Please provide examples c. On a national level i. Please provide examples.	
407. Let's focus on the impact of your activities/initiatives on the local level. Did they contribute to vulnerable women and girls' access to development opportunities in: a. Agriculture? i. If yes, how? b. Education? i. If yes, how? c. Decision-making and governance? i. If yes, how? d. Protection for displaced and migrant women and girls? i. If yes, how?	
408. Are there particular beneficiary stories that came out of the implementation of these local actions that you would like to highlight?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** Get details about a beneficiary success story
Project indicator: • # of CSO participants who report they have been involved in at least one advocacy action	
409. As part of your participation in the project, have you been involved with at least one advocacy action within your community? a. If yes, can you give an example? b. How was this advocacy action received within your community? **c.** What was its impact, if any?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** Get details about an advocacy initiative success story # of CSO participants who report they have been involved in at least one advocacy action: ___

410. Do you believe that the project design and implementation successfully accounted for pre-existing prejudices within the community regarding the empowerment of women, girls, youth, and vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, IDPs, migrants)? a. Why? Why not? b. Were there any negative repercussions of the activities carried out? [e.g. dissatisfaction or backlash from the community]	
411. To what extent do you think that the theatre capable of changing community perceptions about the role of women and girls? a. Have you felt more confident in your role within the community after watching the theater play? b. Have you been able to take on additional roles within the community/ your family/ your work after watching the theater plays?	
412. Did you experience any negative feelings or witness any negative actions caused by the theater play's messaging about women and girls? a. If yes, what feelings or actions have you experienced?	
413. To what extent do you think that a comic book is capable of changing community perceptions about the role of women and girls? a. Have you felt more confident in your role within the community after reading the comic book? b. Have you been able to take on additional roles within the community/ your family/ your work after reading the comic book?	
414. Did you experience any negative feelings or witness any negative actions caused by the comic book's messaging about women and girls? a. If yes, what feelings or actions have you experienced?	
Sustainability	
I am now going to ask you about the sustainability of the project's outcomes.	
Project indicator: • % CSOs who have a plan for activities that improve women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development beyond the project's end	
504. Can you name any specific initiatives/women's networks/relationships between CSOs and government that have continued/are planned to start following the end of the project? a. Are there any initiatives with a focus on the improvement of access to agriculture, education, governance, and migrant protection for women and girls?	**FOR SPSC Researcher:** # of activities planned for the future: ___ # of initiatives that have tangibly increased women's skills to develop small agricultural activities: ___
505. In your opinion, what are the possibilities for future engagement in a similar topic?	
506. Following the theatre play, can you think of any locally led initiatives that took place inspired by the participative performance that tackled subjects on the roles of women and youth, their rights, how communities can support their empowerment? a. Can you provide an example?	
507. What local, regional, and national factors do you think may: a. Support the continuation of these locally led initiatives	

b. Challenge the continuation of these locally led initiatives i. What mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure that doesn't happen?	
508. To what extent have you noticed changes in the perceptions of the role of women and girls within your community after the theater plays were performed? a. How would you assess these changes in perceptions? b. If the perceptions on the role of women and girls in your community have changed, how does that show?	
501. To what extent have you noticed changes in the perceptions of the role of women and girls within your community after the publication of the comic book? a. How would you assess these changes in perceptions? b. If the perceptions on the role of women and girls in your community have changed, how does that show?	

Endline survey questionnaire

#	Question	Answer options	Notes for data collection	Q in baseline	Indicator
Hello. My name is _____ and I represent Sudan Polling and Statistics Center, an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum. Voluntas – a Danish development consultancy – in partnership with SPSC has been assigned to carry out the final evaluation of Search for Common Ground's project "*Maa Baaad Nanmo* – We Grow Together: Supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls". The evaluation is led by Voluntas in partnership with Sudan Polling and Statistics Center (SPSC). The project has the overall goal of increasing the capacity, networks, and opportunities of Sudanese CSOs to improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development. The purpose of this survey is to help inform the evaluation with regards to your experiences, and your views on the achievements and challenges of the project. This survey will take around 30 minutes to complete. You are free to withdraw at any stage, and you are free to decline to answer any particular question without giving any reason.					
A	Do you consent to participate in the survey?	1- Yes 2- No	STOP: if NO stop interview		
Questions					
1	What is your name?				
2	What is the name of the CSO you work with?			1	
3	Which state is your CSO located in?	1- Gedaref 2- Kassala 3- West Kordofan 4- Blue Nile 5- South Kordofan		2	
4	Which city is your CSO located in?	1- Bao 2- Boot 3- Damazine 4- Daim Elnoor 5- Diling 6- Fashaga 7- Fula 8- Gaisan 9- Gedaref 10- Gulley 11- Habila 12- Kadugli 13- Kassala 14- Khasm Algirba 15- Lagawa 16- Mojlad 17- Nihood 18- Wad Elmahi		2	
5	When was the CSO you work with established?	[YYYY]		3	
6	What is your role within the CSO?	1- General director 2- Planner 3- Coordinator of the implemented		4	

		project 4- Member 5- Volunteer 6- Other (please specify)			
7	What is your gender?	1- Female 2- Male	Interviewer to enter interviewee's gender	5	
8	How old are you?	1- 0-4 2- 5-9 3- 10-14 4- 15-19 5- 20-24 6- 25-29 7- 30-34 8- 35-39 9- 40-49 10- 50-59 11- More than 60		6	
9	Does your CSO have specific strategies or plans for activities that improve women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development (education, health, agriculture, migration)?	1- Yes 2- No		7	% CSOs who have a plan for activities that improve women and girls' access to multi-sectoral developme nt beyond the project's end
10	If yes, could you specify your area of work/implemented activities?	1- Education 2- Health 3- Agriculture/ Food security 4- Migration 5- Governance 6- Youth 7- Other (please specify)	SKIP if Q9 is NO	7	# vulnerable women and girls targeted by the initiatives.
11	If yes, could you please specify your targeted communities		SKIP if Q9 is NO	7	
12	If yes, could you please specify the targeted communities' estimated number	[Number]	SKIP if Q9 is NO	7	
13	Do you know what the Common Ground Approach (CGA) is?	1- Yes 2- No		8	

14	Have you ever applied it in your work?	1- Yes 2- No		9	
15	If yes, can you provide an example of applying the CGA in your work?		SKIP if Q14 is NO	10	% of CSO participants who can provide an example of applying the CGA in their work that led to a more effective outcome than their previous approach would have
16	Do you think that that approach led to a more effective outcome than your previous approach would have?	1- Yes 2- No		11	
17	If yes, can you explain?			11	
18	Does your organization have any form of collaboration with other CSOs?	1- Yes 2- No		12	# of concrete opportunities for CSOs collaboration identified
19	If yes, specify the name of organizations you collaborate with?		SKIP if Q18 is no	13	
20	Specify the area of collaboration/ implemented activities?	1- Education 2- Health 3- Agriculture/ Food security 4- Migration 5- Governance 6- Youth 7- Other (please specify)		14	
21	Please specify the location of the collaboration/implemented activities			15	
22	Please specify the targeted communities of the collaboration/implemented activities			15	
23	Please specify the participants of the			15	

	collaboration/implemented activities				
24	Does the collaboration improve coordination and communication with other CSOs?	1- Yes 2- No		16	% of CSO participants who report that coordination and communication among themselves have improved.
25	Does the organization have any form of collaboration with government institutions?	1- Yes 2- No		17	# of concrete opportunities for CSOs collaboration identified
26	If yes, specify the name of the institution?		SKIP if Q24 is NO	18	
27	Specify the area of collaboration/ implemented activities?	1- Education 2- Health 3- Agriculture/ Food security 4- Migration 5- Governance 6- Youth 7- Other (please specify)		19	
28	Please, specify the location			20	
29	Please specify the targeted communities			20	
30	Please specify the participants			20	
31	Does the collaboration improve coordination and communication with government institutions?	1- Yes 2- No		21	% of CSO participants who report that coordination and communication among themselves and government has improved
32	Did you perceive that your opinion on multi-sectoral development has been represented in government decision-	1- Yes 2- No		22	% of CSO participants who feel their perspective

	making with regard to the provision of multi-sectoral services/ development?				s are represented in government decision making
33	Is there any opportunity for synergy and collaboration among this type of programming between government and among CSOs?	1- Yes 2- No		23	# multi sectoral development initiatives designed or implemented collaboratively among CSOs or between CSOs and government
34	Is there any barrier(s) for coordination and synergies?	1- Yes 2- No		24	
35	If yes, which?	1- Lack of clear understanding of coordination from the government side 2- Government focuses on their political agenda and do not consider the priority of the communities 3- Government institutions are not familiar and not acquainted with the mandate and the roles CSOs play in the community 4- Successive change in the government officials 5- Government views CSOs as anti-government and having their own agenda, weakening their	SKIP if Q34 is NO Let the interviewee answer openly and then check all relevant answers	24	

		trust in CSO work 6- Government lack of financial resources limited the possibility of synergy 7- Other (please specify)			
36	Did you (director, planning, and project officer) receive any training in the following? Strategic networking, collaboration, and coordination Non-adversarial advocacy Effective communication Monitoring, evaluation, project and financial management Report writing	1- Yes 2- No	[Matrix question] For each type of training, YES or NO	25	% of CSOs who have improved their reporting skills % of CSOs who have improved their program planning skills % of CSOs who have improved their financial management practices
37	What was the number of beneficiaries of the training received?		Repeat for each training received with a response of YES in Q34	25	
38	What was the number of technical staff for the training received?		Repeat for each training received with a response of YES in Q34	25	
39	Who provided that training for you?	1- Search 2- Other			
40	Do you think collaboration with government and community engagement could bring change in the communities with regard to multi-sectoral development?	1- Yes 2- No		26	
41	Could you please give an example of how you will benefit from the above areas of training that are relevant to your work to improve its quality?			27	% of trained CSOs participants who can provide at least one

					example of how they will apply a technical or management skill learned to improve the quality of their work.
42	What are the barriers to women and girls' access to basic services?	1- Early marriage 2- girls child labor child 3- Far locations of schools 4- Helping families secure necessities like water and firewood 5- Lack of finances or resources 6- Inadequate government policies 7- Lack of security 8- Other (please specify)	Let the interviewee answer openly and then check all relevant answers	28	
43	What are government policies on women and girls' rights and access to basic services, if at all?			29	
44	How would you rate the effectiveness of these policies?	1- Highly effective 2- Somewhat effective 3- Neutral 4- Somewhat ineffective 5- Highly ineffective		Add on	
45	What are the contextual and project-related risks that require monitoring?	1- Security policies and procedures 2- Heavy rains 3- Fragile security situations in targeted communities 4- Culture and norms 5- Resistance from the local	Let the interviewee answer openly and then check all relevant answers	30	

		administration 6- Other (please specify)			
46	What can the project do to assure it is conflict-sensitive and respects "Do No Harm" principles?	1- Respecting the cultural sensitivity of the community 2- Assessing the need of the community with full engagement of women, men, and girls 3- Build trust with community members 4- Inclusion of women in all project phases 5- Inclusion of women in building the community capacity on peace issues and conflict resolution 6- Using the local language 7- Other (please specify)	Let the interviewee answer openly and then check all relevant answers	31	
47	Which are in your opinion the best practices for supporting CSOs working on development issues that affect vulnerable women and girls to improve access their access to services in Sudan?	1- Building the capacities of CSOs 2- Improving the work environment in the CSO 3- The implementation of the government policies in favor of women and girls 4- Political support of the government to CSOS 5- Financial support to CSOs 6- Networking between CSOs and the government	Let the interviewee answer openly and then check all relevant answers	32	

		7- Coordination among all actors actively engaged in the targeted communities 8- Community engagement in the design and the implementation of the project 9- Other (please specify)			

Listenership survey questionnaire

Category	#	Question	Answer options	Notes for data collection
Consent	Hello. My name is _____ and I work for Sudan Polling and Statistics Centre: an independent, non-political survey company based in Khartoum. We are conducting this survey in partnership with Voluntas Policy Advisory which has been assigned by Search for Common Ground to conduct a survey on supporting Sudanese CSOs to improve multi-sectoral development for vulnerable women and girls. The findings of the survey will help Search improve vulnerable women and girls' access to multi-sectoral development.			
	Please note that all answers and information provided during this interview cannot and will not be referenced to you as an individual. As such, all answers provided are anonymous and will only be used in aggregated form. Moreover, you are not obligated to participate in the survey, and you will not be penalized if you decline to participate. Even if you agree to participate, you are free to end the survey at any point and you can decline to answer any questions that you do not want to answer. Please note that there is no financial compensation in return for your participation in the survey.			
	A	Do you consent to participate in the survey?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	STOP: if NO stop interview
QUESTION FOR SPSC Researcher	**OBSERVATION BASED QUESTION FOR SPSC Researcher**			
	B	Urban/Rural	1- Urban 2- Rural	
QUESTIONS FOR SURVEY RESPONDENT				
Demographics	**SECTION 1**			
	1	What is your gender?	1- Male 2- Female 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	2	Where do you currently reside?	1- Elfula 2- Babanosa 3- Elmujlad 4- Kadogli 5- Eldilling 6- Eldamazin 7- Elrosaris 8- Gedaref 9- Elshoak 10- Kassala 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	3	How old are you?	[number] 96- I don't know	

			97- Prefer not to answer	
	4	What is your marital status?	1- Single 2- Engaged 3- Married 4- Separated 5- Divorced 6- Widowed 7- Other 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
Socioeconomic indicators	5	What is the highest education level you have attained?	1- Have never attended school 2- Primary education 3- Secondary education or Vocational training 4- Bachelor's degree 5- Post-graduate level education 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	6	What is your current employment status?	1- Working for pay 2- Self-employed 3- Student 4- Working own plot/looking after livestock 5- Unemployed 6- Helping family members without pay 7- Long term sick or disabled 8- Retired 9- Other 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
Role and representation of women	**SECTION 2**			
	7	1 being I strongly agree, 5 being I don't agree at all, how would you rate the following sentences according to your community?	1- Women should stay at home and are only responsible for child care, housework, and taking care of the family	[Matrix question] Enter number for each sentence

			2- Women tend to have no education, no job, or no decision making role 3- Women who try to have an education, a job, or a decision making role, are looked at negatively 4- Women tend to have an education or job, or a decision making role 5- Women need to have an education, or a job, or a decision making role 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	8	How does the media in your area represent women?	1- Media does not represent women 2- Media represents women in a traditional and conservative manner 3- Media is moving towards a more progressive representation of women (e.g. showcasing women playing an active economic, political, or social role in the community) 4- Media represents women playing an active economic, political, or social role in the community 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	9	How big of a role do you believe the media plays in changing local communities'	1- Very important 2- Important 3- Neutral 4- Slightly	

		perspectives about important issues?	important 5- Not at all important 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	10	1 being very accurate, and 5 being not accurate at all, how would you assess the accuracy of your local media's representation of women's role in society compared to the situation on the ground?	[1-5] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	SECTION 3 (Radio programming)			
	11	Have you heard of radio programming with a focus on transforming people's perceptions and attitudes towards the role of women and girls within your community?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	ONLY move to Section 3.1 if the answer was YES IF answer was NOT Yes, move to Section 4
	SECTION 3.1			
	12	To what extent did you find the radio programming relevant?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Neutral 4- Little extent 5- Very little extent 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	13	To what extent do you believe your community will also find it relevant?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Neutral 4- Little extent 5- Very little extent 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	14	In your opinion, what was the main message of the programming? [check all that apply]	1- Importance of the inclusion of women in decision-making processes 2- Importance of the role of women	**DO NOT READ OUT ANSWER OPTIONS**

			in achieving and sustaining peace and security in society 3- Impact of security disturbances on women and youth 4- Availability of and access to services in support of women (e.g. gender-based violence and trauma support for women) 5- Other (please specify) 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	15	How successful do you believe the radio project was at transmitting this message/these messages?	1- Very successful 2- Somewhat successful 3- Neutral 4- Somewhat unsuccessful 5- Unsuccessful 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	16	To what extent do you believe that radio programming is capable of changing community perceptions about the role of women and girls?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Neutral 4- Little extent 5- Very little extent 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
o % of women and girls who find the initiatives implemented useful o % of residents who find the multi-sectoral initiatives	17	To what extent have you felt more confident in your role within the community after listening to the radio programming?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Little extent 4- Very little extent 5- No change 96- I don't know	

implemented in their community useful			97- Prefer not to answer	
	18	To what extent have you felt like you are able to take on additional roles within the community/ your family/ your work after listening to the radio programming?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Little extent 4- Very little extent 5- No change 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	19	Did you experience any negative feelings or witness any negative actions caused by the radio programming's messaging about women and girls?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	20	If yes, what feelings or actions have you experienced?	[Enter answer] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	SKIP IF THE ANSWER TO Q19 IS NOT YES
	21	To what extent have you noticed changes in the perceptions of the role of women and girls within your community after the radio programming?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Little extent 4- Very little extent 5- No change 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	22	How would you assess these changes in perceptions?	1- Positive 2- Negative 3- I don't know 4- Prefer not to answer	SKIP IF THE ANSWER TO Q21 IS NO CHANGE/I DON'T KNOW/PREFER NOT TO ANSWER
	23	If the perceptions on the role of women and girls in your community have changed, how does that show? [check all that apply]	1- People in my community think more negatively of the role of women and girls in development 2- People in my community are more interested about the role of women and girls in development 3- People in my community have a better perception of the role of	SKIP IF THE ANSWER TO Q21 IS NO CHANGE/I DON'T KNOW/PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

			women and girls in development 4- People in my community are taking active steps to enhance the role of women and girls in development 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	End of section			
	SECTION 4			
	24	What do you think about the following statement? **Statement 1:** In my community, women and girls deserve a role in local decision-making and around questions that affect them **Statement 2:** In my community, women and girls deserve to increase their skills in developing small agricultural activities **Statement 3:** In my community, women and girls deserve to increase their access to educational opportunities **Statement 4:** In my community, women from displaced, migrant and refugee populations deserve the protection of them and their rights	1- Strongly support 2- Somewhat support 3- Neutral 4- Somewhat oppose 5- Strongly oppose 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	[Matrix question] For each statement a selection from the answer options has to be made
	25	Which one of the following statements do you agree with the most?	1- My community opposes the development of women and girls in governance, agriculture, education, and migration 2- My community does not oppose but also does not	

			invest in the development of women and girls in governance, agriculture, education, and migration 3- My community actively supports but does not invest in the development of women and girls in governance, agriculture, education and migration 3- My community actively supports and invests in the development of women and girls in governance, agriculture, education and migration 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	26	Before the media campaign, how would you rate the level of awareness in your community of women's and girls' rights? 1 being very aware, and 5 being not aware at all. [the campaigns include radio, theater, and comic books]	[1-5] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	SKIP IF Q11 IS NOT YES
	27	After the media campaigns, how would you rate the level of awareness in your community of women's and girls' rights? [the campaigns include radio, theater, and comic books]	[1-5] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	28	Before the media campaigns, how would you rate the level of awareness in your community of the	[1-5] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	

		importance of women's active participation in the economic, political and social aspects of life? 1 being very aware, and 5 being not aware at all. [the campaigns include radio, theater, and comic books]		
	29	After the media campaigns, how would you rate the level of awareness in your community of the importance of women's active participation in the economic, political and social aspects of life? [the campaigns include radio,]	[1-5] 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
o % of vulnerable women and girls in target areas who can cite one concrete example of how the action has improved their access to multi-sectoral development opportunities or basic services	30	Have you recently noticed any improved organization and programming from your local CSOs?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	31	Have you recently noticed an increase in the development opportunities available to women and girls across the various sectors or an increase in the basic services in your area available to women and girls?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	32	Do you believe that the initiatives implemented have been of use to the women and girls within the community?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	SKIP IF ANSWER TO Q30 IS NOT YES
	33	After the media campaigns, have you had any significant interactions or discussions with a family or a community member on the role of women and girls within the community? [the	1- It did not occur to me 2- I considered it but did not do it 3- Yes I had one conversation 4- I had more than one conversation 96- I don't know	SKIP IF Q11 IS NOT YES

		campaigns include radio, theater, and comic books]	97- Prefer not to answer	
	34	After the different awareness raising campaigns, would you say that you have learned new practices related to gender equality and the empowerment of women within the community?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	35	To what extent have you been sharing these new practices within your community?	1- Very large extent 2- Large extent 3- Little extent 4- Very little extent 5- No change 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	36	Have you recently witnessed any initiatives to improve women and girls' access to services and eliminating the existing barriers within your community?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	37	If yes, who is responsible for these initiatives?	1- Local CSOs/NGOs 2- International organizations/INGOs 3- Charity organizations 4- Governmental institutions 5- Local media 6- Other (please specify) 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	38	Have you recently witnessed any initiatives within your community supporting the access of women and girls to education,	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	

		agriculture, migration and governance?		
	38	If yes, who is responsible for these initiatives?	1- Local CSOs/NGOs 2- International organizations/INGOs 3- Charity organizations 4- Governmental institutions 5- Local media 6- Other (please specify) 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	39	Do you support these new methods of engagement and programming of CSOs and local radios with regards to raising awareness around the role of women and girls?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	
	40	Have you noticed an increase in cooperation between CSOs and local radios in raising awareness around the role of women and girls?	1- Yes 2- No 96- I don't know 97- Prefer not to answer	