



Management Response to Mid-Term Review 2019

By KPSRL Consortium Partners

Overall, we welcome the MTR and its confirmation of the fact that “the rationale behind the KPSRL [...] remains relevant” and that “the KPSRL undertakes suitable activities and meets expectations in fulfilling its mandate”. We are happy to read that the overall assessment of the progress made by the KPSRL is positive, and are particularly pleased with the positive findings related to the efforts undertaken by the KPSRL to stimulate learning – both for the MFA particularly, and the wider SRoL community in general – acknowledging that indeed these findings apply first and foremost for the SRoL community in The Netherlands (as indicated in the MTR).

We also welcome the fact that the MTR recognizes the core challenges we encounter in terms of further developing the KPSRL, and find that the MTR overall provides a fair assessment of these challenges and offers good starting points for addressing at least some of these. In this regard, it is particularly good to see that the MTR acknowledges that the Secretariat team undertakes an impressive amount of work, and points out very clearly that there is a need to either sharpen priorities (and hence limit activities) or increase the Secretariat capacity moving forward (particularly in light of the post-2020 decision-making process). We agree with the MTR that this requires the key stakeholders of the Platform to undertake a sound strategic reflection process – which we could foresee taking place in the beginning of 2020 as a main building block for the design of the post-2020 KPSRL.

We feel that the MTR does not provide a very nuanced reflection on the contributions of the Consortium Partners (CPs) to the KPSRL, though we acknowledge that the nature of these contributions are not very visible to outside partners. It would have been more balanced if the existing division of labor amongst the CPs and the Secretariat team would have been presented in the report (i.e. IDLO and Saferworld providing guidance and acting as sounding boards on the processes related to the Secretariat’s own learning agenda (e.g. scoping studies, ToC) and the ‘learning about learning’ line of work (including the ARC working groups and the practice labs); and Clingendael/CRU providing guidance and acting as a sounding board on the knowledge generation and uptake processes related to the ARF and KMF activities, as well as on the overall strategic positioning of the KPSRL vis-à-vis the MFA).