



IMPLEMENTER DIALOGUE

Political Economy Analysis: *A meaningful tool for designing and implementing security and rule of law programs*

Date: Tuesday, 17th March 2020

Time: 09:30 – 13:00

Venue: IDLO Hague Branch Office, Hofweg 9E

Background and Concept

In October 2019, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), in cooperation with the Knowledge Platform for Security and Rule of Law (KPSRL), convened a first Implementer Dialogue (ID) focused on adaptive programming¹ for security and rule of law interventions in fragile and (post)-conflict settings. Undertaking an adaptive programming approach provides the opportunity for development practitioners, program implementers, policy and decision makers to better inform program design and implementation, to test pathways for change and amend project resources, and ultimately to advance global development outcomes and policy reforms in the field of security of and rule of law (RoL).

The ID identified that traditional security and rule of law programs have lacked in situating these interventions within an understanding of the prevailing political and economic processes. As such, there has been a comprehensive shift over the last years to engage more steadily and analytically with the political nature of change, for example in instances impacting the strengthening of institutional integrity in the justice sector or improving access to justice for women and marginalized groups. Conducting a Political Economy Analysis (PEA) is one tool that can be utilized to understand and support the design and implementation of politically feasible programs, by setting informed objectives of what can be achieved, over what timescale and the risks involved. To this end, the ID drew on the experience and expertise of invited participants, who in turn shared insights into various analytical tools and approaches, including the PEA, as well as a Gender Political Economy Analysis (GPEA) and the problem driven iterative adaptation-based approach (PDIA) as a model for learning and defining local solutions for local problems. These approaches and tools combined contribute to contextual understanding, including on incentives, relationships, and distribution and contestation of power between different groups and individuals.

A key outcome of the ID included increased awareness on the importance of having a flexible program design and delivery model, allowing for the opportunity and supporting the need to adapt outcomes and outputs throughout the implementation phase of an intervention. Further, in order to be realistic about what is programmatically viable and to leverage on opportunities for solutions and change it is necessary to understand context-specific political and economic dimensions. Justice centered programs, in particular,

¹ Adaptive programming is the ability to flexibly develop and adjust programmatic objectives, activities and resources to achieve a program's strategic aim(s) in reflection of political, economic and societal developments as well as programmatic experiences and lessons learned.

must be shaped to be resilient to adapt to political challenges and opportunities, and should include continuous political engagement.

To build on these outcomes, IDLO and KPSRL are organizing a follow-up Implementer Dialogue to learn from experts and organizational pilot initiatives about the relevance and importance of engaging with the PEA for security and rule of law programs and strategies, as a continual and iterative process. The ID aims to deconstruct how, when, why and with what purpose the PEA can be used as an analytical tool and framework for program design and implementation, identifying key challenges, opportunities, experiences and risks. The dialogue will provide an opportunity to share IDLO's experience of engaging with its own institutional guidelines on PEA, which were recently piloted and applied in Somalia and Morocco.

Objective

This Implementer Dialogue aims to convene development practitioners, implementers, policy and decisions makers in order to disseminate expert knowledge and practical experience on adaptive programming, with a specific focus on engaging with the PEA as an analytical tool to formulate high-impact and high-quality security and rule of law programming.

The following questions will be addressed:

1. With what purpose and at what stage should we conduct the PEA for security and rule of law interventions?
2. What are the advantages and the challenges of conducting the PEA for security and rule of law interventions?
3. How can we ensure that the PEA is properly built into program design and implementation, and where relevant, in agreement with partners and donors?
4. How can we ensure that PEAs are undertaken at regular intervals and as an iterative process? How can we avoid the PEA being a one-off exercise?
5. How do we ensure that the PEA remains relevant in the environment of constant political change - and therefore also how do we ensure that programs remain relevant?

To ensure an open and pragmatic exchange, the dialogue will be held under *Chatham House Rules*, among a targeted limited group of relevant organizations, with existing or emerging linkages among respective portfolios of work.

Proposed Agenda

09:30 – 09:45 Opening Welcome by IDLO and KPSRL

09:45 – 10:00 Participant Introductions

10:00 – 11:00 Expert Speaker Panel

- *Erwin van Veen, Clingendael Institute, Senior Research Fellow*

- *Alina Rocha Menocal, Overseas Development Institute, Senior Research Fellow*

- *Taylor Brown, Director and Senior Governance Specialist, Palladium Group*

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 11:45 Group Discussion 1: How can we ensure that PEAs are undertaken at regular intervals and as an iterative process?

11:45 – 12:15 Group Discussion 2: How do we ensure that the PEA remains relevant in the environment of constant political change - and therefore also how do we ensure that programs remain relevant?

12:15 – 12:30 Wrap-up and Conclusion

12:30 – 13:00 Light lunch offered

Registration

Please register to participate in this dialogue by contacting the IDLO Program Development team via Caroline Lammertink-de Bruin (cdebruin@idlo.int) or the Knowledge Platform Security and Rule of Law via Messina Laurette MANIRAIZA (M.Manirakiza@kpsrl.org).