

# The IDEAL Impact in Mali

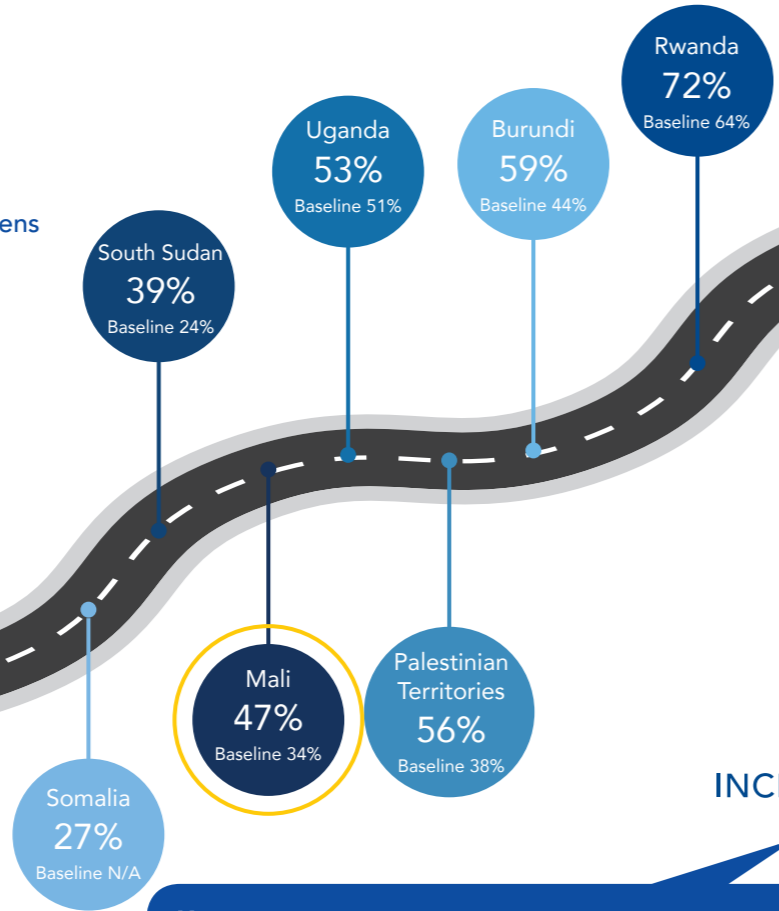
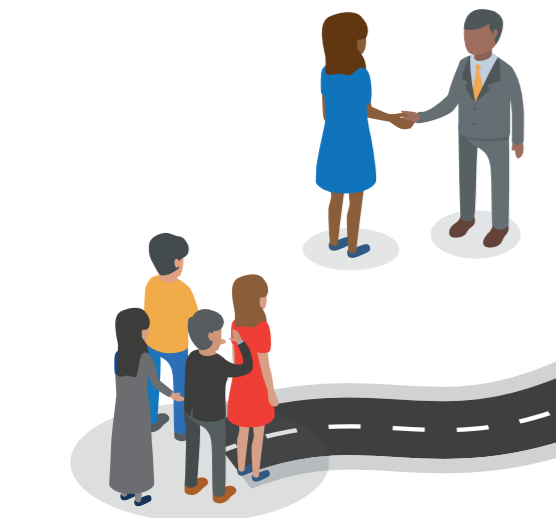
assessing the social contract between local  
governments and their citizens



# The Overall IDEAL Program

## Social Contract

The contract between local governments and citizens



"The unique selling proposition of a program such as IDEAL is the fact that it can work on the politics of local decision-making."



"The IDEAL program makes great efforts to adapt to the fragile contexts in which it works, and thus displays a conflict-sensitive approach in practice."

**IDEAL**  
INCLUSIVE DECISIONS  
AT LOCAL LEVEL



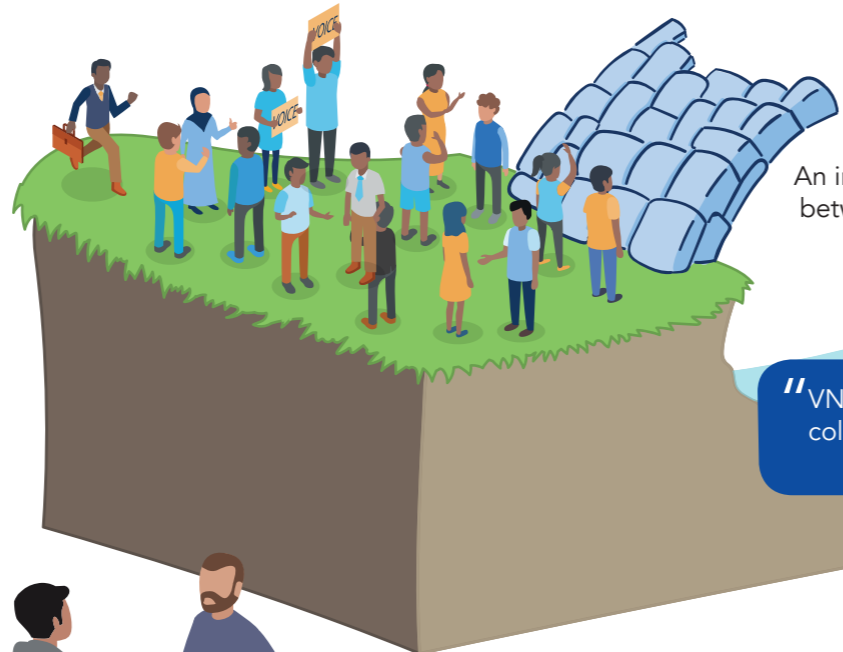
**Most Valued Aspects of VNGI Collaboration Overall**

- Technical Expertise
- Connecting and Convening people
- Policy Influencing



The IDEAL program works with seven Local Government Associations in 6 of the 7 countries: Burundi, Mali, the Palestinian Territories, Rwanda, Somalia, and Uganda.

"In countries where the LGA is a co-implementor, the IDEAL program is relevant to strengthen the capacity, the visibility of the organisation and its credibility."



"Development players appreciate the capacity of VNGI/IDEAL to support processes at LG level, to manage tensions between technical staff and politicians, to deal with the political implications of what are seemingly 'easy' technical issues."

"The added value of the IDEAL program lies in the particular mandate and expertise of VNGI working with LGAs and with local governments."

"VNG makes considerable efforts to look for collaboration, synergy and complementarity."



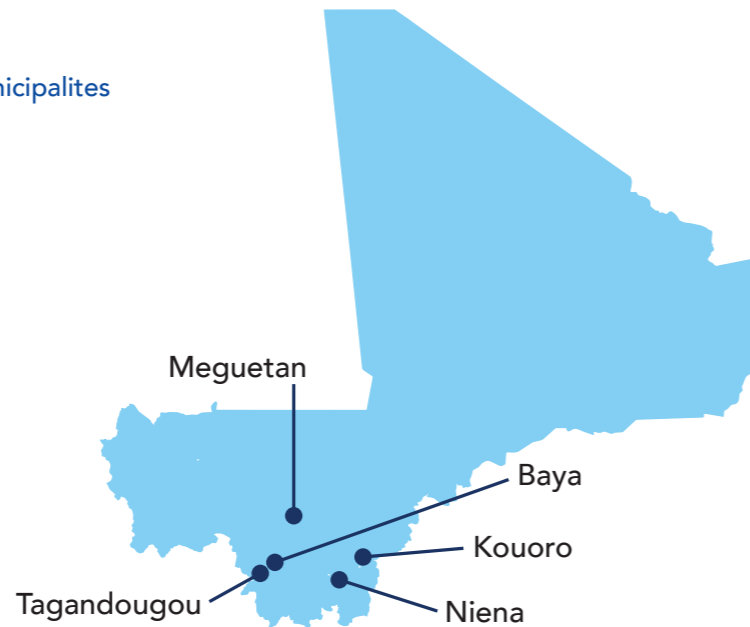
# IDEAL - Mali

Working with 5 municipalities and the Association des Municipalites du Mali (AMM)

Dialogue Processes to strengthen political/public debate  
**36**

Workshops  
**52**

People Trained  
**1,280**  
425 Women 201 Youth



**Output Legitimacy**  
Service delivery is in line with the needs of citizens

Midline 44  
Baseline 42

"Better collaboration in the commune. Development and implementation of plans. Better water management, multi-stakeholder management of drinking water supply. Partners bring new ideas and experiences. Very good but we need some retraining. The good collaboration is essential."  
- Civil Society Member

## Key Achievements

- Professions are willing to pay daily municipal access fees
- Conflict resolution initiatives between gold exploitation workers and other water users in Baya
- Communes take ownership in drafting inclusive five-year annual plans
- AMM has organized activities promoting gender equality

"Since the IDEAL training in 2018, I integrate personal, gender and function perceptions and function into my work."  
- Local Government Staff

## IDEAL INCLUSIVE DECISIONS AT LOCAL LEVEL

**Enabling Environment**  
Improved conditions for policy making and institutions

Midline 46  
Baseline 22



**Input Legitimacy**  
Citizens are a part of municipal decision-making

Midline 57  
Baseline 48

"The objective of the program was to decrease the social exclusion. We need to consider all the concerns and needs when designing activities and interventions."  
- Women's Group Member

### Most Valued Aspects of VNGI Collaboration

- Technical Expertise
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# The IDEAL programme

IDEAL is a programme by VNG International that works on the involvement of citizens in local governance in seven countries facing fragility or conflict. The participation of citizens contributes to inclusive decision-making. It improves local governance and the delivery of basic services. It makes local governance more sustainable and increases welfare and stability. Our drive and expertise is to support local governments in building bridges with all their citizens – including marginalised groups.

## Building better futures

by strengthening democratic local government

VNG International are experts in strengthening democratic local government in developing and transitional countries. Local governments play a key role in the provision of basic services such as water, waste management, health care and housing. They have a profound impact on areas like safety, food security, rule of law, and women's rights. This is how our projects contribute in a sustainable way to better futures for people, communities and countries.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands

**IDEAL** ●  
INCLUSIVE DECISIONS  
AT LOCAL LEVEL

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