



**IDEAL** ●  
INCLUSIVE DECISIONS  
AT LOCAL LEVEL



# The IDEAL Impact in Rwanda

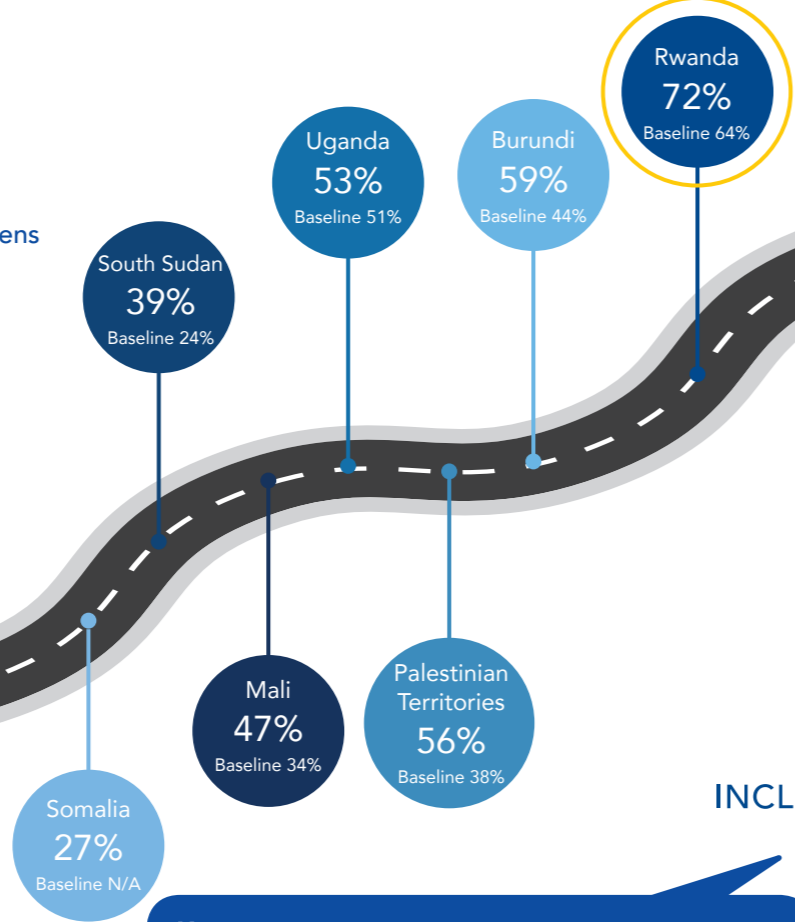
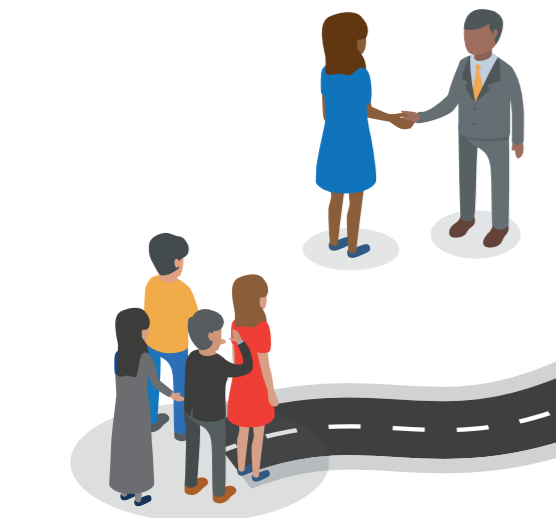
assessing the social contract between local  
governments and their citizens



# 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."

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**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."



An improved Social Contract between local governments and citizens



"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."



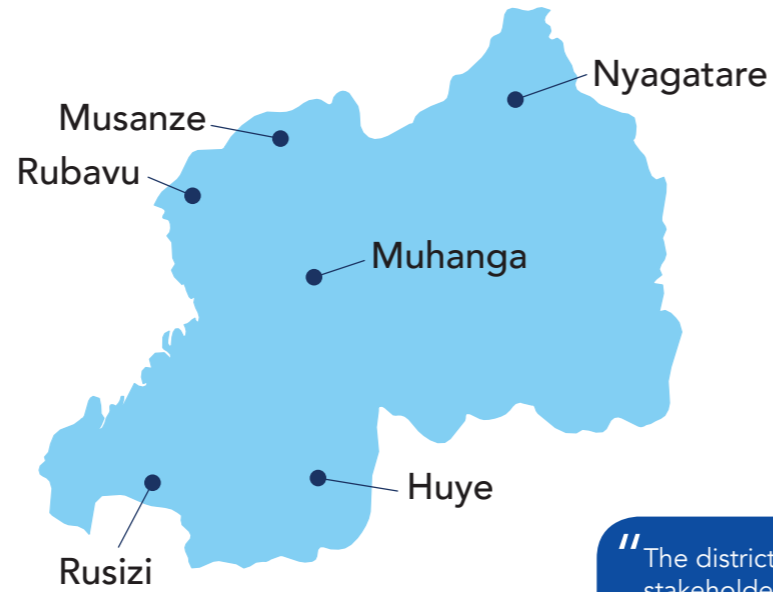
# IDEAL - Rwanda

Working with 6 municipalities and the Rwanda Association of Local Government Authorities (RALGA)

Dialogue Processes to strengthen political/public debate  
**18**

Workshops  
**27**

People Trained  
**2,913**  
169 Women 2,744 Men



## Key Achievements



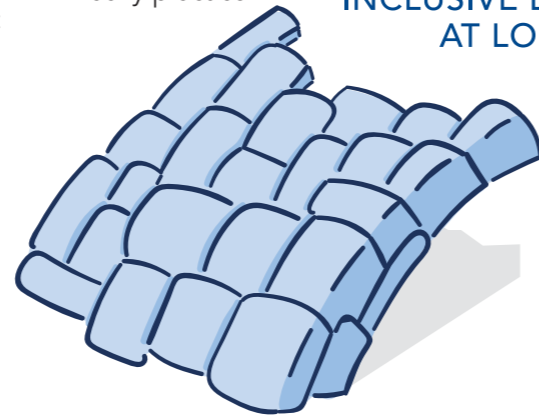
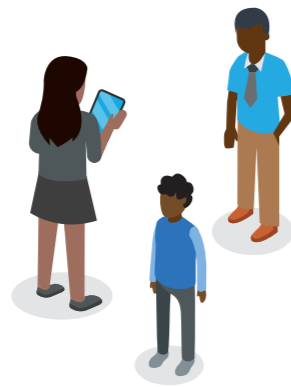
6 Improved Joint Action Development Forum mechanisms for local development exchange



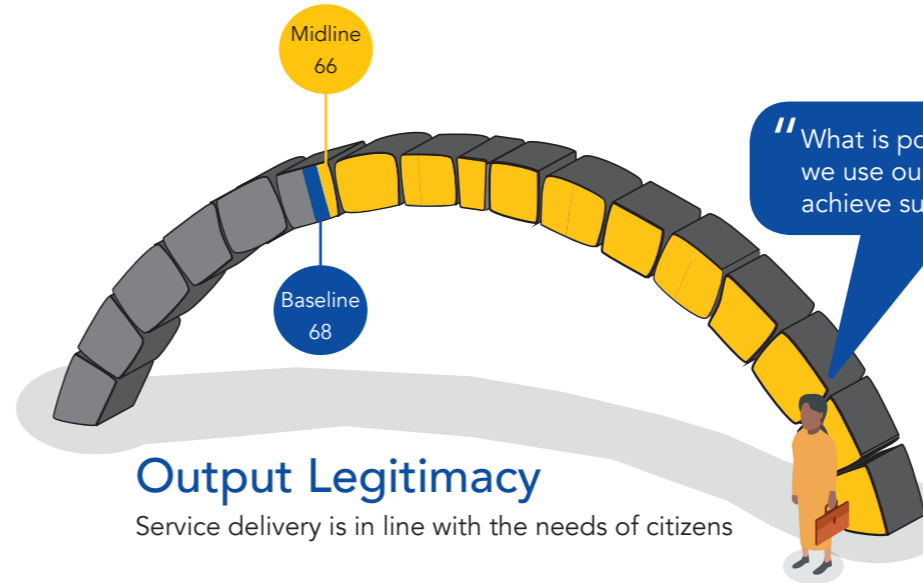
Officials learned to apply Dutch housing and protection services initiatives to their own context



RALGA applied the 2018 Gender Mainstreaming Strategy in their daily practice



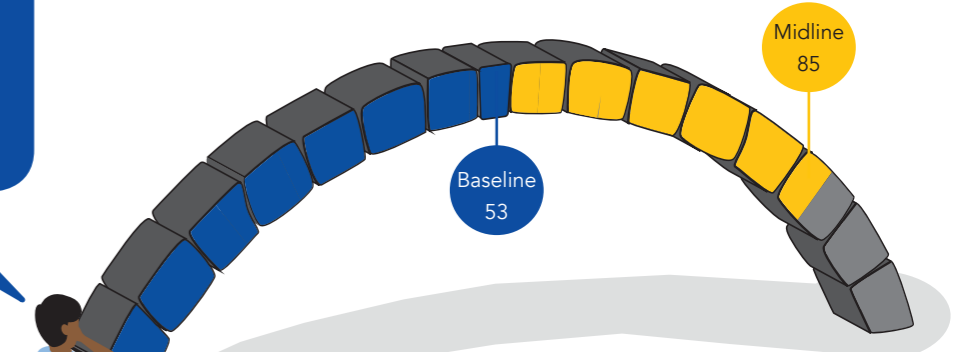
## IDEAL INCLUSIVE DECISIONS AT LOCAL LEVEL



"What is positive is that we have changed the way in which we use our land. The policy considers a long-term plan to achieve sustainable development." - LG staff

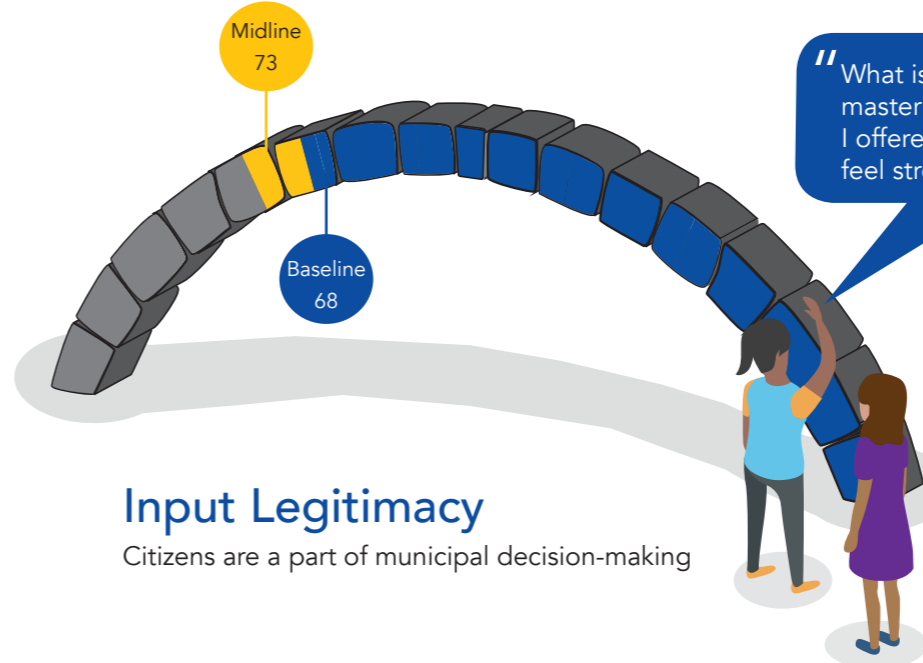


"The districts have new master plan policies that every stakeholder interprets in his or her own way. RALGA organized a one week of retreat at Rwamagana. After one week of retreat they came back and put into practice what they learned at Rwamagana. By now we have advantages because everyone had a common understanding of the master plan's policies. All those activities are organized by RALGA/IDEAL." - LG staff



Improved conditions for policy making and institutions

"What is positive is the integration of our community in master plan's development and in other planning in general. I offered capacity building through trainings; this made us feel stronger to deliver in our daily services." - LG staff



### Most Valued Aspects of VNGI Collaboration

- Technical Expertise
- Connecting and Convening people
- Policy Influencing

# 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

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Content by VNG International, programme quotes from ACE Europe (MTR) and social contract measurements as well as document design by KIT Royal

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