

# The IDEAL Impact in the Palestinian Territories

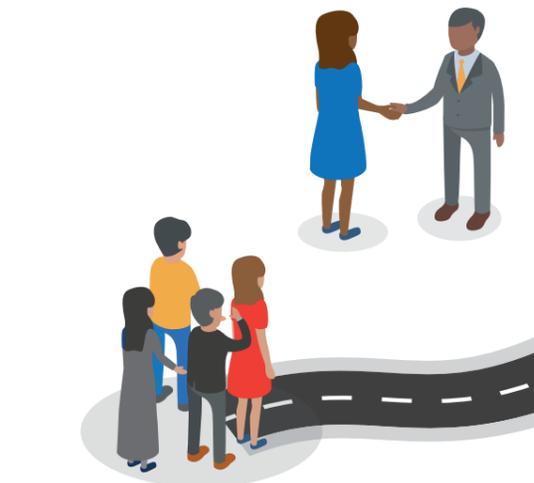
assessing the social contract between local  
governments and their citizens



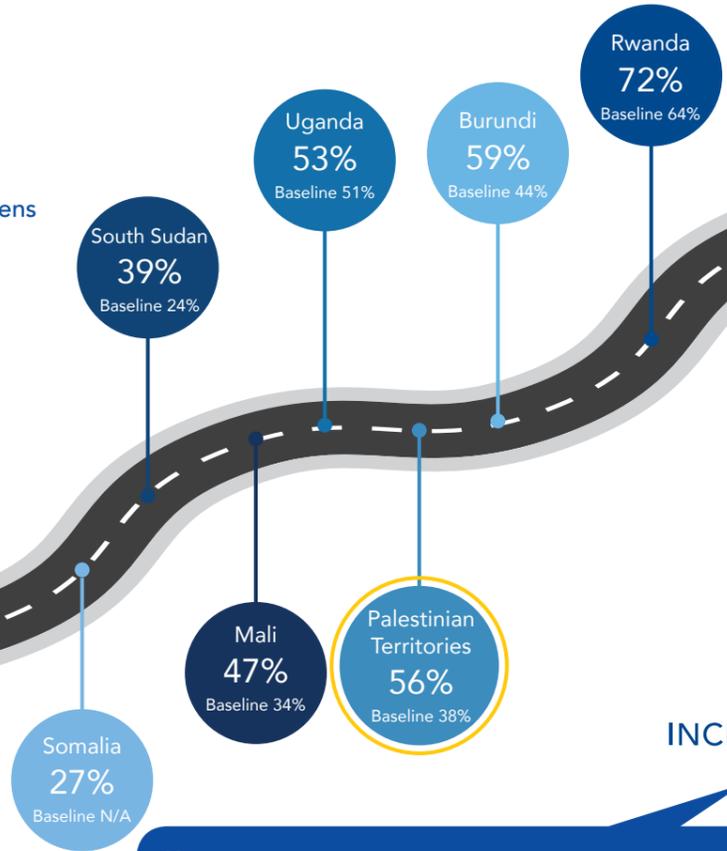
# The Overall IDEAL Program

## Social Contract

The contract between local governments and citizens



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



**IDEAL**  
INCLUSIVE DECISIONS  
AT LOCAL LEVEL



"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."

**Most Valued Aspects of VNGI Collaboration Overall**

- Technical Expertise
- Connecting and Convening people
- Policy Influencing

"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."

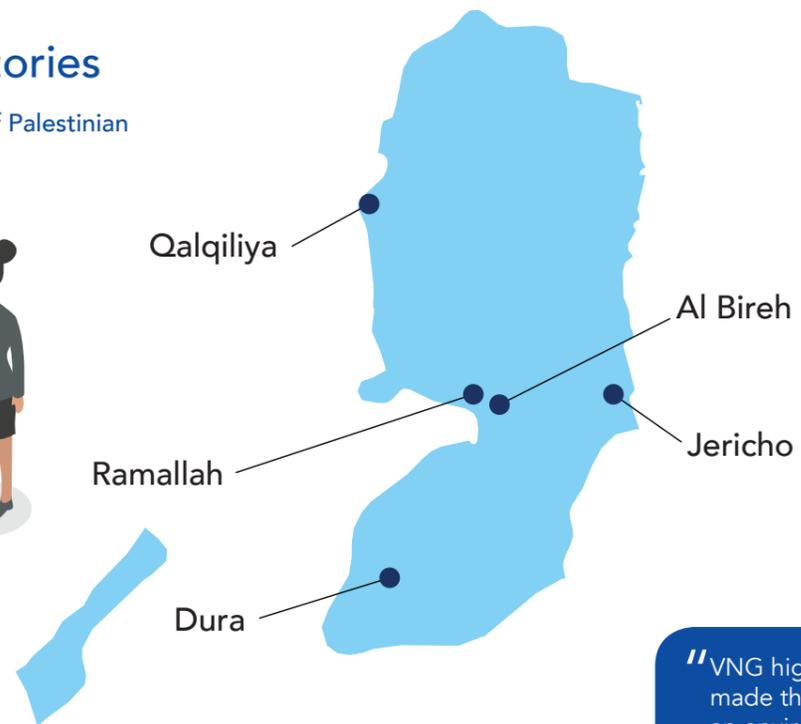
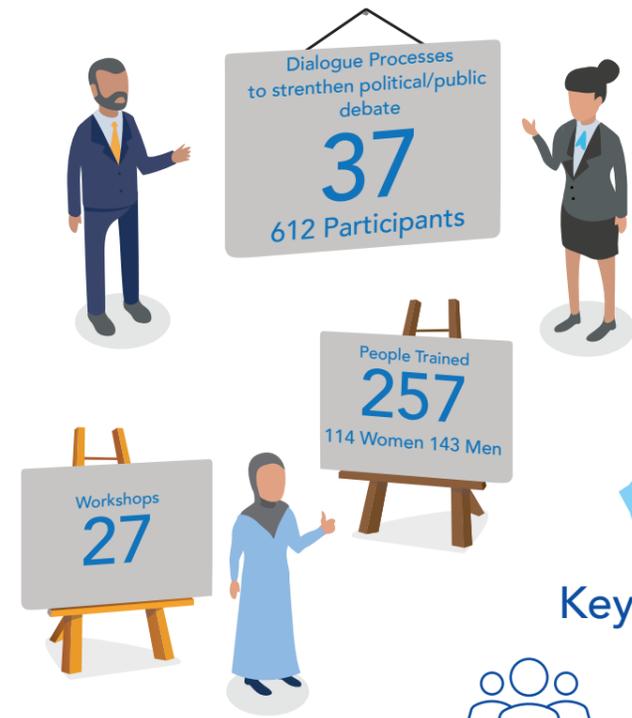
"The added value of the IDEAL program lies in the particular mandate and expertise of VNGI working with LGAs and with local governments."

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



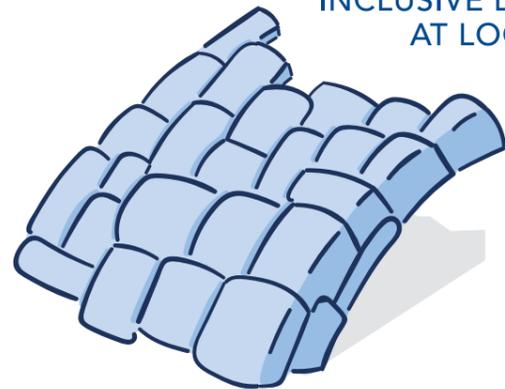
# IDEAL - The Palestinian Territories

Working with 5 municipalities and the Association of Palestinian Local Authorities (APLA)



## Key Achievements

- Community-driven initiatives
- Enabling private investment for districts' business cases
- APLA has started to deliver LED services to municipalities



## IDEAL INCLUSIVE DECISIONS AT LOCAL LEVEL



### Most Valued Aspects of VNGI Collaboration

- Technical Expertise
- Connecting and Convening people
- Policy Influencing
- Seed money for projects



### Output Legitimacy

Service delivery is in line with the needs of citizens

Midline 53  
Baseline 49

"Two years ago the LED Forum was not as competent as it is now. The forum brought in new ideas and concepts. Over the last year, there has been an improvement in infrastructure, waste management, cleanliness of the streets, electricity and renewable energy."  
- Women's group representative, Qalqilya Municipality

"VNG highlighted the role of the municipality in LED. They made three things clear to the municipality by 1. Providing an environment that encourages investment 2. Providing the tools necessary like creating the LED unit, council and institutionalization. 3. Increasing exposure to existing examples of other municipalities and countries."  
- Dura municipality, LG staff

### Enabling Environment

Improved conditions for policy making and institutions

Midline 62  
Baseline 30

### Input Legitimacy

Citizens are a part of municipal decision-making

Midline 57  
Baseline 37

"VNGI plays important role in creating a comprehensive understanding of LED within the municipality. When streets needed to be repaired we thought about pedestrian space, space for women to sell goods, energy-efficient lighting, etc. Street planning has become more inclusive with more attention paid to citizen well-being, before it was just seen as an engineering matter."  
- LG Staff Member Jericho

# 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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