



Note: the following methodology was drafted by the PLATFORMA Secretariat and validated by the NMSDD implementers during the 2nd coordination meeting held in The Hague on 6th June 2017. Its use is restricted to the drafting exercise of the 4 national implementers in 2016, 2017 and first half of 2018.

National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues on Development (NMSDD)

Monitoring and Evaluation methodology proposal

A. Objectives of the monitoring and evaluation method

The main focus of the dialogues' monitoring and evaluation should be the analysis of how have the four national-scaled methodologies and strategies contributed to the achievements of the dialogues' objectives. On this regard, it is useful to recall the main objectives of the dialogues as described in the Specific Grant Agreement Action Description:

- “Objective 1: Raise awareness of the role of EU LRGs in development cooperation towards national stakeholders, including national governments;
- Objective 2: Provide support to EU LRGs active in development cooperation to adapt their international development policies to the new global development agenda;
- Objective 3: Promote a multi-actor and multi-level strategy to support local governance and territorial development in partner countries.

The Dialogues will contribute to deepen exchanges about (i) the legal and political reforms that might be required within the national context to support decentralised cooperation; (ii) an inclusive vision of decentralised cooperation in the post-2015 context; (iii) understanding EU partner countries' needs in order to provide a more effective regional and local response”.

In line with the dialogues' objectives, the four pilots are being developed on the basis of the following two main dimensions:

- 1. Supporting LRGs in the adaptation of their public policy strategy on development to the new global agenda, mainly through awareness raising (AR) to strengthen their knowledge and capacities to play an active role in the translation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs to the local policies and strategies in development. The AR dimension englobes the following specific objectives:**
 - **1.1.** Raise awareness and strengthen knowledge on the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda at the local level.
 - **1.2.** Raise awareness and strengthen capacities at the local level on how to integrate the SDGs approach to local policies on development and decentralized cooperation practices.

- **1.3.** Promote the exchange of best practices and knowledge among local governments for a better comprehension of the SDGs approach and on their integration in decentralized cooperation and development policies at the local level.

2. Advocacy to relevant stakeholders (AS), regional, national (and European) governments, as well as CSOs and other stakeholders on the need to involve LRGs in the policy making processes on development and cooperation, and on the SDGs agenda implementation.

- **2.1.** Create/upgrade structural dialogue between local, regional and national governments in the definition of development policies.
- **2.2.** Channel local priorities in the definition of national strategies and institutional frameworks in the field of development and cooperation.

Regarding the third main objective of the dialogues that concerns the transferability of such AR and AS strategies to partner countries, it is suggested that the four national reports raise recommendations and suggestions, to be considered and developed further in the final comparative analysis.

B. Structure of the national reports

It is agreed to evaluate the dialogues not only by their impact and/or results, but also by analysing how have the four strategies been designed and developed as an answer to an initial diagnosis of challenges and opportunities. Both quantitative and qualitative data will be collected in order to capture and measure all relevant dimensions of the dialogues.

The following schema is agreed as the common structure for the reporting of the four national pilots. Each of the following five chapters should be divided in two sections related to the two dimensions of the dialogues (awareness raising strategy and advocacy to relevant stakeholders):

1. Diagnosis

Please describe the initial context or status quo: which actors, which [structured or unstructured] dialogues exist (institutional context), which stakeholders are already engaged and how? What are the main challenges and opportunities identified?

2. Strategy

Please explain the strategy that was chosen to address the AR and AS dimensions: What general and specific objectives? which target groups were identified? (for instance, national government (AS) and local and regional governments (AR)), which priorities and lines of action were identified (for instance, training and raising awareness on the SDGs) and what outcomes were expected (for instance, better knowledge of local and regional governments of the SDGs; or better integration of the SDGs in formal education curriculums)? Were there any change/s introduced later on?

3. Implementation

Please describe the action plan and the methodology designed: concept, activities, events, deliverables, timeline, etc. Which kind of tools or methodologies were used to raise awareness? (typology of tools); Which kind of events or meetings were designed to lobby the relevant stakeholders?

4. Results:

Please explain what was achieved, which outputs (number of meetings, number of participants attended - segregated by gender and age groups - topics covered, which stakeholders were mobilized (how many representatives from local, regional and national governments, NGOs, CSOs, etc. were involved). What are the main successes, what are the main difficulties encountered, what are the main opportunities identified, etc.

5. Impact

Please provide information on the sustainable changes achieved thanks to the described outputs (ex.: knowledge was strengthened through best practices exchange and concrete applications have followed): what are the changes observed in terms of awareness in relevant stakeholders? Are there any follow up actions being implemented after the dialogues at the local/regional level? (ex.: a concrete commitment was signed by a certain number of mayors in favor of decentralized cooperation)

6. Conclusions, recommendations and further steps

Please describe what are the main lessons learnt in relation to the construction and implementation of both strategies. Please give concrete recommendations to eventual national associations both from EU and EU partner countries willing to engage in a similar exercise (you may refer to the 5 steps listed above).

C. Foreseen calendar for the elaboration of the national reports

A first version of the national reports should be drafted and sent to the Secretariat by 31 July 2017. Partners will be asked to update these reports by 31 January 2018. The four national reports will be the basis of the final comparative output that will be elaborated during the first trimester of 2018.