



LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: EVALUATION for 2030

2019 National Evaluation
Capacities Conference

EVALUATION IN CRISIS CONTEXTS: MEASURING SDG 16-LINKED OUTCOMES IN FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTS

UNDP SOMALIA

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#NECdev

BACKGROUND

- ▶ National Development Plan (NDP-9) consultations are underway, throughout which SDG 16 is highlighted as a key commitment.
- ▶ Somalia not only suffers from a limited data landscape, but also weak institutional capacities related to data
- ▶ Difficult to undertake evidence-based policy decisions and monitor 2030 Agenda targets.
- ▶ Measuring SDG 16 as a g7+ country: qualitative and quantitative assessment (as well as non-official data) required for holistic measurement
 - ▶ How do we reconcile the need to measure such an important SDG with data challenges at hand?
- ▶ SDG 16 M&E Project: pilot effort to build capacity of government to monitor SDGs, consolidate peace and security data, promote holistic approach to peace and security M&E



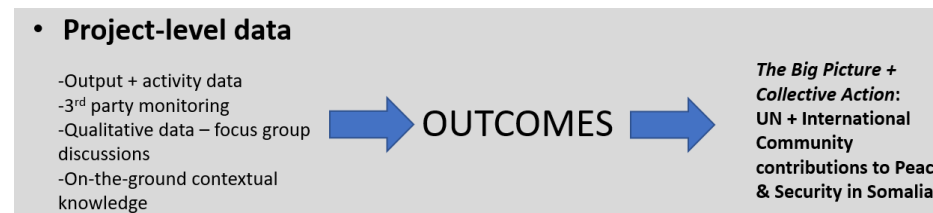
OPERATING ENVIRONMENT FOR SDG 16 MEASUREMENT

- ▶ Fragile contexts presents myriad challenges for SDG 16 measurement:
 - ▶ Sensitive nature of the data required;
 - ▶ Many SDG 16 indicators require qualitative and quantitative data for holistic measurement;
 - ▶ Non-official sources, such as human rights data.
- ▶ Data landscape
 - ▶ Ad-hoc and one-off perception surveys and reports – few joint data collection efforts
 - ▶ Reliance on 3rd party monitoring
 - ▶ Limited output/project level data generated
 - ▶ Data collection limited by security risks, difficulty to validate data, multiple political sensitivities/biases can influence data collection process
- ▶ Gov/UN
 - ▶ Unwillingness to share peace and security related data
 - ▶ “Smoke and mirrors” data recycling culture
 - ▶ Limited output/project level data generated



UNDP SOMALIA SDG 16 MONITORING FRAMEWORK

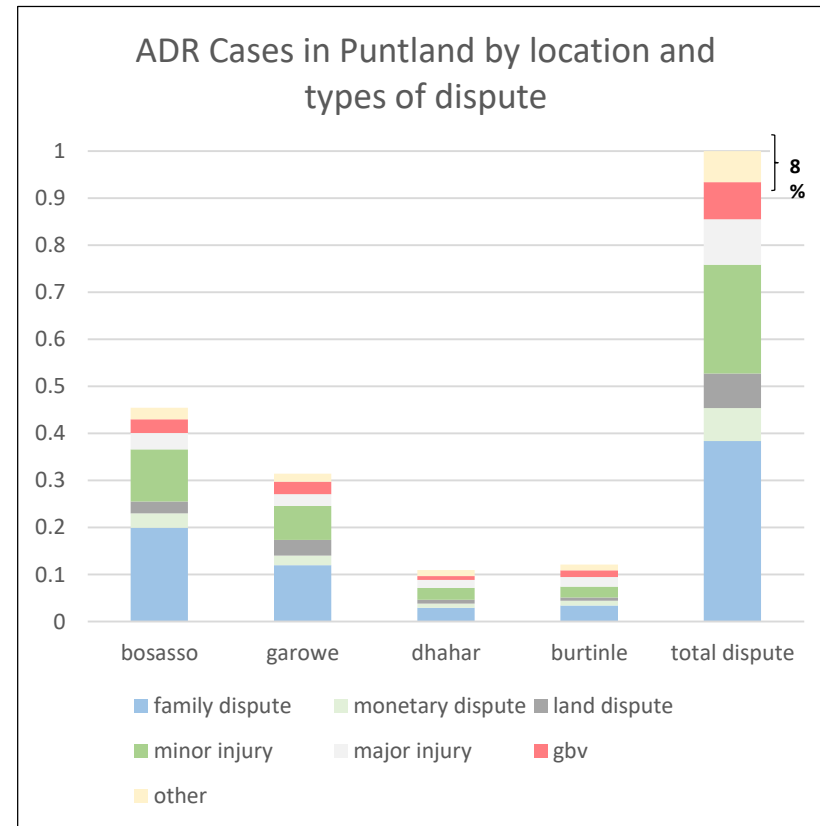
- Supporting Somalia in measuring SDG 16 first requires ensuring that outcomes – both within projects that support the Somali government, and within the Somali National Development Plan – are meaningfully linked to SDG 16 indicators.
- Outcomes being measured through data collection are able to show impact being achieved at the community level.



- What makes this endeavor difficult**, particularly in a context like Somalia, is that available data should correctly capture incidents in order to parse their contributions to outcomes—something that is, in and of itself extremely challenging in the current setting.

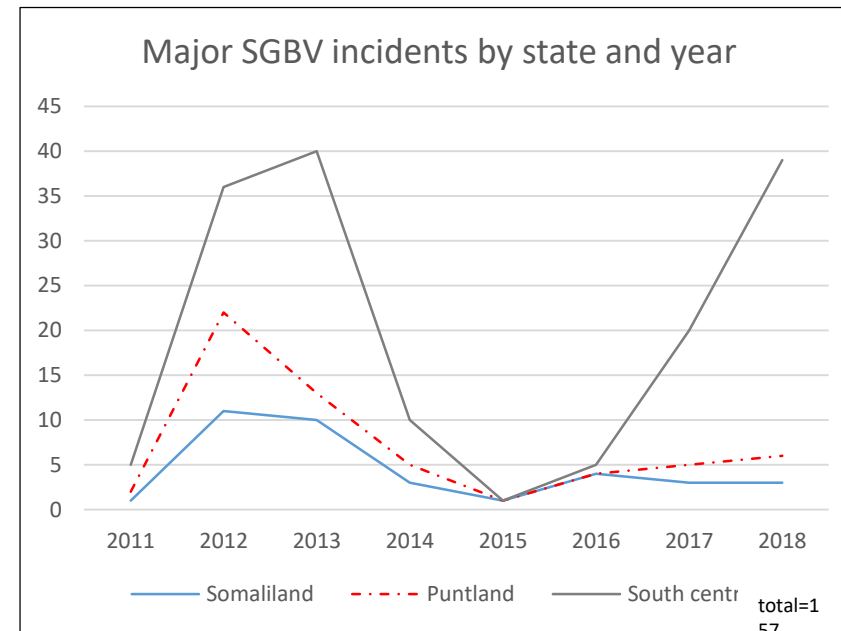
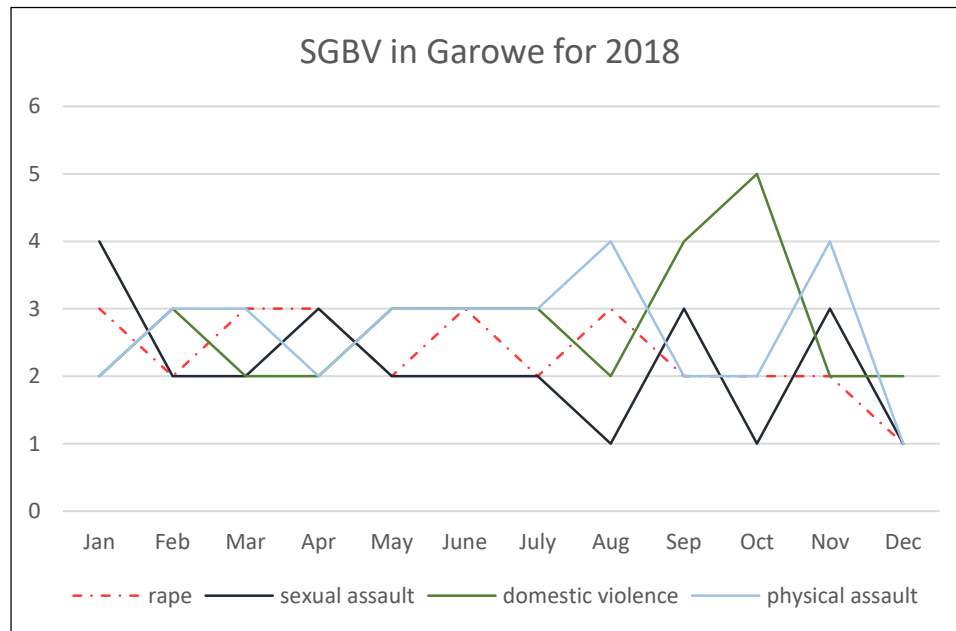
UNDP SOMALIA SDG 16 MONITORING FRAMEWORK (cont'd)

- ▶ In conflict-affected contexts, we first look to making use of **existing observational datasets**, both cross sectional and longitudinal.
 - ▶ These datasets will allow direct behaviors to be measured (i.e. in SDG16 Target 3/Rule of Law context, reports of victimization to police, or referrals to Alternative Dispute Resolution centres)
 - ▶ Such approach provides the most convincing evidence of the efficacy of a given initiative.
 - ▶ Complementary datasets containing information that is more widely available in conflict-affected countries, such as violent events (conflict-related deaths, terrorist attacks, etc.), are also useful in examining the effectiveness of interventions, and contribute to outcome and impact-level measurement.



UNDP SOMALIA SDG 16 MONITORING FRAMEWORK: CHALLENGES

- ▶ Quality administrative data sets in active or post-conflict settings, however, hardly exist and where they do, they are rarely consistent.
- ▶ Therefore, to evaluate peace and security outcomes, **additional measures are needed beyond the number of violent incidents, or reports of victimization of SGBV, etc.**



USING PROXIES

▶ Finding proxies that illustrate whether people are on a pathway toward desired outcomes also help demonstrate whether improvements to peace and security have been achieved, **however:**

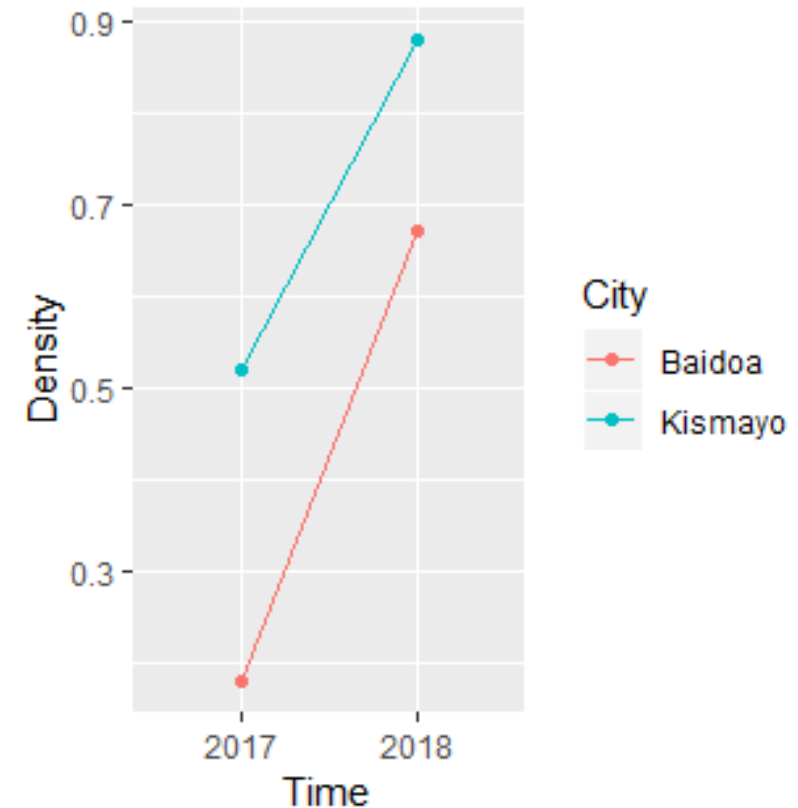
- ▶ **Measuring behaviors** directly is challenging in fragile contexts and may not always produce an accurate characterization of the reality on the ground.
- ▶ Conflict-affected countries are especially challenging environments for data collection around sensitive topics such as terrorism, SGBV, or the implementation of programs that are controversial or sensitive
- ▶ Directly measuring attitudes on such subjects could lead to unreliable data, or potentially put both enumerators and respondents at risk.
 - ▶ With conflict-sensitive subjects, “proxies-of-proxies” are needed, through sensitive question methodologies, or:
 - ▶ In the case of programme-related evaluation, measuring proxies in strategic timeframes if the intervention is sensitive.



USING PROXIES

- In data collection, **proxy measurements** are often used for outcomes (variables) that cannot be directly measured.
- In a **conflict setting** with **weak institutions** where there is a **lack of administrative data**, how do you measure:
 - Indicator 16.3.1: “Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms”
- For the above indicator, no single empirical measure can be expected to display all of the facets of the concept of “*reported their victimization to competent authorities.*”
- Using a proxy indicator captured from a household panel survey for the use of “Formal Courts” is the best measure in the Somali context for “*competent authorities*”

Question: Have you used the **formal court** for any types of disputes?



PILOTING ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Strengthening data generation in Somalia Rule of Law programme to feed into SDG 16 reporting
- ▶ Building data related capacity in Somali government
- ▶ Focus on SDG 16 Target 3, given institutional arrangement (Joint Rule of Law Programme)
- ▶ Published two reports on piloting 16.3.1 and 16.3.2 indicator measurement, sharing results with Rule of Law WG (Chaired by Ministry of Justice)
- ▶ Focusing on Puntland as test case for state-level SDG 16 measurement
- ▶ Continuous consolidation of SDG 16 related data across the mission





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Thank You

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