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Sida Decentralised Evaluation

Nordic Consulting Group A/S

External Evaluation of the Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia 2016–2020

Sweden's contribution to eradication of gender-based violence, strengthening of democracy, urban planning, climate change and the transition from aid to trade.

Final report, Synthesis report



External Evaluation of the Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia 2016–2020

**Final report, Synthesis report,
December 2020**

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The views and interpretations expressed in this report are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

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Foreword

Sida aims to constantly develop and adapt our working methods and our organisation based on evaluations, research, science and sharing and learning from experiences and evidence. When we learn from ourselves and from others, we build the foundation for Swedish development cooperation being a leading and driving force on development issues.

This evaluation shows how Swedish development cooperation in Bolivia, through the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz, works in close cooperation with partners and stakeholders.

It is highly rewarding that the evaluation concludes that the relevance of the contribution portfolio is high and that the Embassy has managed to adapt to evolving demands, not hesitating to take on new challenges and approaches, thus providing strategic, innovative and timely support also on complex processes and on sensitive issues. To learn about the resilience, adaptivity and innovation in the face of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, also makes this evaluation interesting beyond the country context.

The evaluation confirms that the priorities of Swedish development cooperation are still standing and may have become even more relevant in a world and a country hit by a pandemic with short and long term impact on health, economy, social structures, gender equality, democracy and human rights, environment and climate, well on most aspects of society.

Swedish development cooperation with Bolivia provides a human rights-based approach aiming at building capacities and strengthening accountability, poor people's perspectives on development and their own needs and rights, strong perspectives on gender equality, environment and climate change and conflict sensitivity as well as facilitating sustainable broader relations between Sweden and Bolivia.

The use of evaluations at the strategy level provides a strong tool to make informed choices and decisions about current and future work. As we move into the next phase of planned Swedish development cooperation in Bolivia 2021- 2025, we will build on what we and our partners know and have learned, both about the relevance, strength and sustainability of achieved results and of the need to constantly evolve and develop.

Lisa Fredriksson, Director of the Department for Europe and Latin America, Sida.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

CC	Climate Change
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CEDLA	Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo Laboral y Agrario / Center for Labour and Agrarian Development
COSMOL	Cooperativo de Servicios Públicos Montero Limitada
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EIF	Entidad de Intermediación Financiera
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
EPSAS	Entidades Prestadoras Servicios de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado Sanitario Servicios de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado Sanitario / Service Providers for Drinking Water and Sanitary Sewage
EQ	Evaluation Question
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FIC	Citizen Initiatives Fund
GAD	Gobierno Autónomo Departamental / Autonomous Departmental Government
GAM	Gobierno Autónomo Municipal / Autonomous Municipal Government
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEM	Gender Equitable Men Scale
GM	Gender Mainstreaming
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
HRW	Human Rights Watch
HQ	Headquarter
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDEA	Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IMAGES	International Men and Gender Equality Survey
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMP	Inclusive Markets Project
INE	Instituto Nacional de Estadística / National Institute of Statistics
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
LGBT+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
MAS	Movimiento al Socialismo / Movement towards Socialism
MDPA	Multidimensional Poverty Analysis
MDRyT	Ministerio de Desarrollo Rural y Tierras / Ministry for Rural Development and Land
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MPD	Ministerio de Planificación del Desarrollo / Ministry of Planning and Development
MSD	Market System Development

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

MSEK	Million Swedish Kronor
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OAS	Organisation of American States
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - Development Assistance Committee
OEP	Órgano Electoral Plurinacional / Plurinational Electoral Organ
OTGS	Open Trade Gate Sweden
PDIA	Problem-Driven Iterative Approach
PNC	Plan Nacional de Cuenca / National River Basin Plan
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
RISE	Swedish Research Institute
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
SENASAG	Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad Alimentaria / National Service of Agricultural Health and Food Safety
SI	Swedish Institute
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIMP	Swedish Institute Management Programme
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
SLIM	Servicios Legales Integrales Municipales / Special Office for Combatting Violence against Women
SME	Small-Medium enterprises
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
TED	Tribunales Electorales Departamentales / Departmental Tribunal Court
ToC	Theory of Change
TSE	Tribunal Supremo Electoral / Supreme Electoral Court
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNITAS	Unión Nacional de Instituciones para el Trabajo de Acción Social
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
V-Dem	Varieties of Democracy
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Preface

Sida commissioned Nordic Consulting Group A/S (NCG) to undertake an evaluation of the 2016-2010 Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia, implemented by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) through the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz, Bolivia. The general objectives of the evaluation were: i) to assess whether or not the contributions implemented (or under implementation) in Bolivia during the 2016-2020 years comply with the expected results as described in the Strategy; and ii) to provide recommendations based on the above assessment to be used for the planning and implementation of the coming Swedish strategy in Bolivia.

The NCG team was composed by Carsten Schwensen (Team Leader), Louise Scheibel Smed, Jocke Nyberg, José Antonio Perez Arenas, Pilar Uriona and Penny Hawkins (Quality Assurance). The evaluation was conducted in the period between June and November 2020 and included extensive document review, in-person interviews with key stakeholders based in Stockholm as well as remote interviews with key stakeholders and beneficiaries in Bolivia. Fieldwork was not possible due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Draft findings, conclusions and recommendations were discussed and validated with Embassy programme management and staff during a virtual workshop in October 2020. Based on these discussions and written comments received, the evaluation report was finalised.

Executive Summary

The “Strategy for Sweden’s development cooperation with Bolivia 2016-2020” (hereinafter the “2016-2020 Strategy” or “Strategy”) provides a total of over 750 million Swedish kronor (MSEK) to Bolivia. The 2016-2020 Strategy focusses on three main strategic areas: i) strengthened democracy and gender equality and greater respect for human rights; ii) a better environment, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience to environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters; and iii) better opportunities and tools to enable poor people to improve their living conditions. In addition, the Strategy is supposed to support a transition from development aid to trade and other types of cooperation between Sweden and Bolivia (focus on Broader Relations).

As the 2016-2020 Strategy period is coming to an end, the Swedish Embassy in La Paz has commissioned an external evaluation with a dual objective: i) to assess implementation of the Strategy and the achieved results; and ii) to inform the development of the next strategy. The evaluation has been framed around 10 overall Evaluation Questions (EQs), structured around the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) evaluation criteria. While the relevance assessment has been based on the full portfolio of 42 projects (or “Contributions” as they are called in Sida), the remaining criteria have been covered by an in-depth assessment of 12 strategically selected Contributions. Due to Covid-19, it was not possible to conduct fieldwork as originally planned, thus data and information has mainly been gathered through remote interviews and a comprehensive desk review of internal and external documents.

KEY FINDINGS

Overall, the relevance of the Contribution portfolio is assessed to be high in view of the 2016-2020 Strategy and the need/ability to adjust the portfolio over the period. The portfolio provides good coverage of the three Strategy Areas, as well as of the related sub-areas. Several Contributions, in particular the more recent ones, integrate well across the three Strategy Areas and introduce in many cases innovative approaches and concepts. The links to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Bolivian strategies and policies are in general well-explained. The adjustments made to the portfolio during the period have been well-justified in view of emerging and evolving priorities and needs in the country (e.g. increased focus on urban policy development and need for emergency responses to the Covid-19 pandemic).

A Multidimensional Poverty Analysis (MDPA) has increasingly been included in the Contribution design processes and has helped to provide a deeper analysis of the poverty dimensions and a better targeting of the most vulnerable and poor groups in a given context. However, the level of direct

participation and involvement of local stakeholders, relevant public officials and service providers in the design processes has often been limited, thereby potentially limiting the relevance of the interventions for these groups.

Gender-based violence (GBV) has been identified as a core area in the Swedish portfolio. It is the core objective of several Contributions and has also been mainstreamed throughout the majority of the portfolio. Several Contributions address GBV as their main objective or as a secondary but rather dominating area. GBV has increased in Bolivia during the pandemic and has therefore become of even greater concern. Institutional support provided to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has allowed for a flexible and fast response to the Covid-19 emergency situation. An important element in UNICEF's support has been the establishing of a helpline to support some of the most vulnerable families and children in the country (including migrants) with psychosocial and mental support – an otherwise clearly underserved area in Bolivia.

In general, Sweden has a strong brand as a promotor of human rights and gender equality in Bolivia. This is also the case when it comes to more vulnerable population groups such as the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT+) community, sensitive topics such as abortion and sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Several Contributions address gender equality as a crosscutting issue, linking women's participation in politics to women's economic empowerment and the urgent need to combat GBV. It is evident that Sweden's cooperation in Bolivia is addressing issues that only recently have been given priority by international organisations, such as analysing the average time that women and men spent on paid and unpaid work and women's participation in the work force.

Women's economic empowerment is, however, an area that still needs to be further enhanced in the portfolio as a mechanism to improve gender equality and change attitudes towards gender roles. So far, only two Contributions (implemented through Fautapo and Swisscontact) have a particular focus on women's economic empowerment. Both these projects have been fairly successful and delivered a number of results and managed to set up substantial mechanisms for measuring results.

Sweden has been an important advocator for inclusion of both men and boys as central change agents in programming with the result that several partners have embraced masculinity as part of their approach to gender equality. Capacity development of national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) has supported new organisations working with masculinity in a more systematic way in GBV-prevention programmes, and partners have demonstrated willingness to integrate masculinity into their programmes and scale up existing interventions. Another immediate result of the Swedish support has been development of a Gender Equitable Men (GEM) scale survey of equitable gender and masculinity attitudes, applied to the personnel of the United Nation's (UN) agencies in Bolivia.

Sweden provided an important contribution to the election process in Bolivia through its support to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and IDEA International with the purpose of ensuring a free and fair election without any subsequent conflict. The objectives of the UNDP Contribution were clearly achieved, given the peaceful outcome of the elections and the fact that the results were recognised by the entire Bolivian society, including the competitors. The support provided to strengthening the new Plurinational Electoral Organ (OEP) and its operative institutions (the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE) and its regional bodies (the Departmental Tribunal Courts (TEDs)) had a wider purpose than just improving the capacity to organise free and fair elections, as the OEP's role is also to foster democratic values and standards beyond elections. Thus, it had an important educational and monitoring role of the behaviour of political parties, particularly on the issue of complying with the constitutional and regulatory gender parity requisite.

Citizens' participation in democratic governance in the broad sense has been prominent in the portfolio and has been a central aspect of several Contributions. This includes establishing specific funds, targeting citizens with a priority on youth, women and vulnerable groups. Such fund modality has been launched through e.g. a Contribution implemented by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), which has successfully demonstrated a new model for decentralised environmental service delivery. Additionally, the Contribution implemented by Diakonia has successfully launched a special fund, targeting youth organisations, to implement small-scale projects. Although this initiative has only recently been initiated, results so far have been satisfactory and points to an interesting way forward.

The Swedish Embassy's increasing attention to urban planning over the Strategy period and focus on key environmental and climate change issues have been extremely timely and relevant in the Bolivian context, given a rapidly increasing urbanisation, lack of coherent urban planning and a complicated political situation in the country. The urban policy development process (implemented by UN-Habitat but with a broad UN agency involvement) has benefitted from participation and inputs from several other Contribution partners, with concrete experiences and engagements directly related to the urban development agenda. A major achievement – in view of the Bolivian political context – has been to develop and transfer the urban policy document from one government (the Movement Towards Socialism (MAS) government) to another (the interim government).

The Swedish support to urban planning processes has been rooted in the establishment of multi-stakeholder platforms and engagement. While this approach has been both cumbersome and time-consuming, it has been innovative in the Bolivian context and has facilitated cooperation. This has been fundamental for developing relationships between individuals and institutions and widening networks of public-private and private-private relationships. While this strategy of building alliances has taken time in the search for agreements and consensus, it has been key to achieving more consolidated project results and has provided a more solid foundation for continuation and expanding of the activities.

Support to decentralised and local development of basic water and sanitation services has proven to be a potentially strong and viable alternative to the otherwise heavily centralised interventions in this sector, particularly at a time when the accelerated urbanisation process in the country seriously threatens the water security of the population living in cities and peri-urban areas. When successful, the decentralised water and sanitation interventions are based on close and trusting cooperation with the municipalities involved, providing useful local solutions to wastewater, faecal sludge treatment and reuse of treated water and nutrients. These interventions demonstrate that it may be more effective to focus on different solutions and basic wastewater standards than trying to achieve very high standards in conventional sanitation projects.

The “Inclusive Market Project”¹ stands out as a particularly well-designed Contribution in the portfolio and includes both new strategic and innovative focus areas in a rural context as well as strong operational attention to specific Swedish priorities, in particular gender. A combined focus on the MDPA and the Market Systems Development (MSD) approach has allowed the project to focus on systemic solutions based on a rigorous analysis of factors that make a market system complex and on how dynamics are generated within and outside such systems. This has facilitated coordinated actions among groups of different market system actors through the establishment of multi-stakeholder platforms for engagement (horizontal as well as vertical integration). The project has encouraged and contributed to the development of short food supply chains which have been important for linking rural producers to urban consumers, including as a means of improving food security during the Covid-19 pandemic. The gender elements introduced through this project have been highly innovative in the Bolivian context. This Contribution has improved efficiency through the development of one joint project with one budget and one monitoring and administrative system.

While it was initially a huge challenge for the Embassy to conceptualise and operationalise the Broader Relations aspect and combine a focus on poverty orientation with trade relations within the same Contribution, the Embassy has gradually managed to better integrate this dual perspective into the Contribution portfolio. Good examples of this are the water and sanitation Contributions, where links have been made with private companies in Sweden, Brazil and Spain for development and provision of technologies appropriate to the Bolivian context. In addition to this, the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI), the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and the Swedish Research Institute (RISE) have been involved with the development of criteria for sustainable sanitation assessments. However, there seems to be further potential for unfolding the Broader Relations concept, including through stronger linkage of the Swedish-Bolivian research collaboration to the development-trade agenda.

¹Implemented by Swisscontact and jointly financed by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

An agreement with Open Trade Gate Sweden (OTGS) to support the “Integrated Market Project” has provided a particularly interesting opportunity to strengthen the Broader Relations concept. The aim of the OTGS to promote Bolivian quality and niche production (e.g. traditional organic production) may be of potential interest to the Nordic/Swedish consumer market, which is relatively small and therefore also a good fit to Bolivian smallholder production. Unfortunately, the timing of the planned OTGS interventions has been seriously hampered by the Covid-19 pandemic, and there is a considerable risk that this may negatively affect the expected results, as all planned networking and training activities now have to be done virtually instead of on the ground in Bolivia.

While scaling or replication of innovative models or concepts in many cases seems to be implicit in the Contribution design, this is in most cases not supported by assessments of national and local readiness, incentives and capacities to institutionalise and take ownership. While the use of multi-stakeholder approaches and decentralisation perspectives have contributed to more participation and engagement, serious financial and institutional weaknesses are threatening the sustainability of most Contributions. Even in those cases where municipalities and users have been contributing with counterpart financing and user payments during implementation, the Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically reversed this situation and new alternative solutions may need to be found in the short to medium term. In addition, the effective implementation period for many Contributions is still rather limited, and additional time will be required to prepare them for possible scaling.

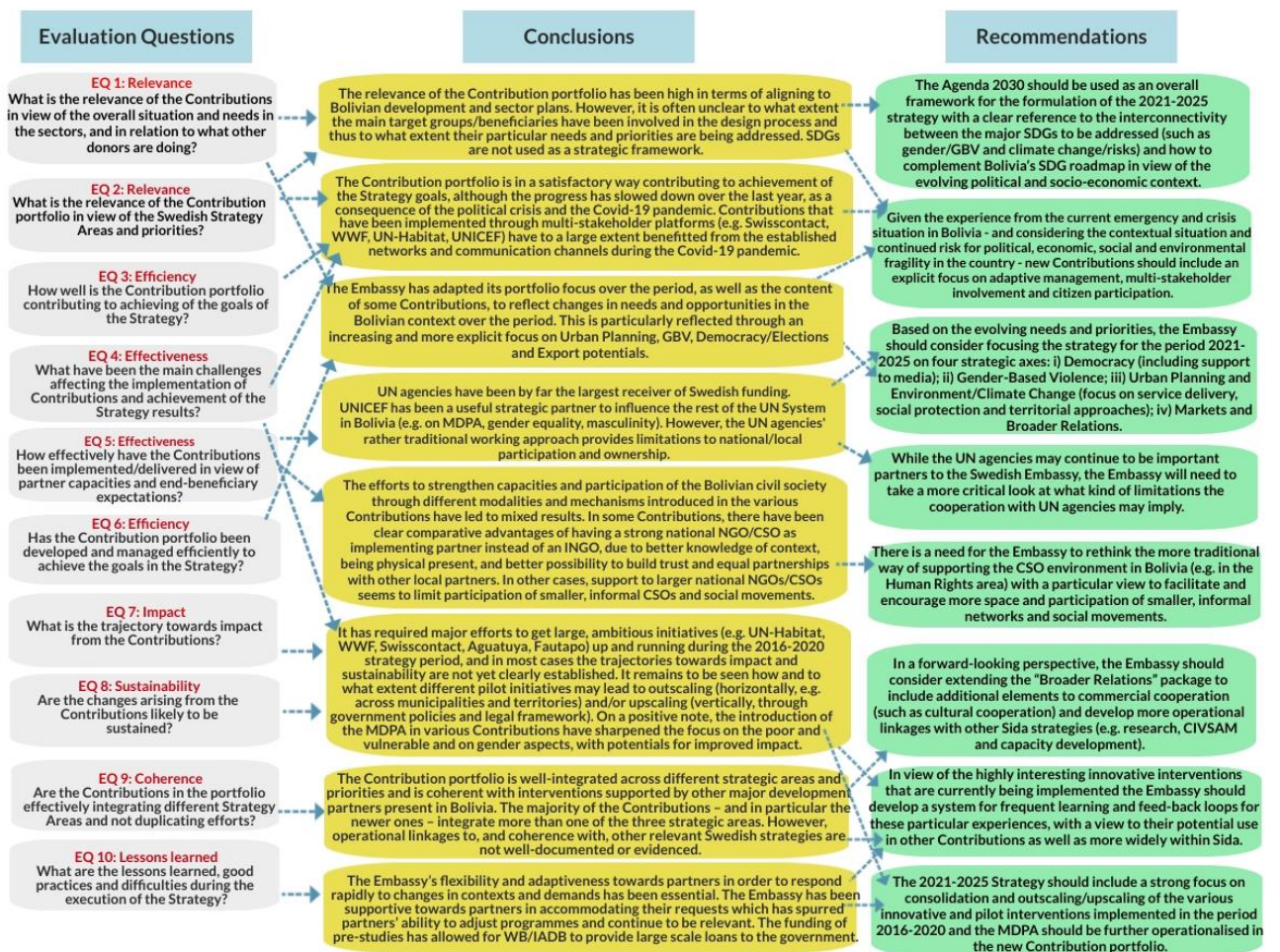
Overall, the capacities of the majority of the individually supported implementing partners are quite strong within their areas of expertise, and the vast majority of the partners also demonstrate capability and willingness to interact and share experiences with other key stakeholders. The 2016-2020 Strategy has been implemented through a mix of implementation modalities. In several cases, the supported Contributions are continuations of partnerships from previous strategy periods. The Embassy has, with a few exceptions, deliberately chosen not to cooperate directly with national authorities in Bolivia and instead explored opportunities for other more effective aid delivery modalities. The main reason for this was the insecurity of Sweden’s continued engagement in Bolivia and the initiated process of phasing out development cooperation.

The vast majority of the resources have been channelled through UN agencies, which in many cases presents a rather traditional way of working with partners, and national/local ownership and citizen participation is not always so obvious. A number of the Contributions are implemented through different CSO arrangements, which provide a better opportunity for strengthening of national/local capacities and ownership. However, the polarisation of civil society (mainly engaged in human rights) during the election also illustrated some challenges and shortcomings concerning this set-up. Instead of supporting the relatively large and well-established

organisations it may be worth considering how to reach less established organisations and social movements.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The table below summarises the main conclusions and recommendations from the evaluation in view of the 10 EQs. Further detailing and operationalisation of the conclusions and recommendations are presented in Section 6 and Section 7.



1 Introduction

1.1 PURPOSE AND FOCUS OF THE EVALUATION

Sweden has provided development aid to Bolivia since the end of the 1980s, with small projects until 1992, whereafter the first cooperation agreement was signed. Since then, five country strategies have been implemented² with the current Strategy covering the period 2016-2020.

The “Strategy for Sweden’s development cooperation with Bolivia 2016-2020” (in the following the “2016-2020 Strategy”) provides a total of more than 750 million Swedish kronor (MSEK) and was approved with the overall aim to contribute to three strategic areas:

- Strengthened democracy and gender equality and greater respect for human rights.
- A better environment, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience to environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters.
- Better opportunities and tools to enable poor people to improve their living conditions.

Sub-areas within the three areas emphasise public participation, strengthening of democratic institutions and capacity development of public institutions and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). Gender based violence (GBV) is a specific priority under Strategic Area 1, whereas Strategic Area 2 emphasises rural areas and a focus on small-scale agriculture and sustainable services. Trade and sustainable investments are highlighted under Strategic Area 3. Besides an explicit focus on poor people across all areas, specific target groups include women, children and indigenous people. A number of projects (or “Contributions” as they are called in Sida) have been approved within these overall strategic areas.

In addition to the Strategy Areas mentioned above, the 2016-2020 Strategy with Bolivia is supposed to support a transition from development cooperation to Broader Relations; in essence facilitate a transit from development aid to trade and other types of cooperation. Thus, a broadened relationship includes a larger focus on trade aspects and is expected to contribute to more viability, increased prosperity and support to sustainable development in Bolivia. A dedicated transition process may imply that different strategic choices are made in terms of Contributions and partners to enable a combined effort of poverty reduction and improved conditions for trade and investment. In this regard, a focus on innovation

² 1992/3-1995/6, 1997-2001, 2003-2007, 2009-2013 and 2016-2020.

has been a key priority of the Embassy as well as of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida in general).

1.2 OVERALL OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

The 2016-2020 Strategy is coming to an end and therefore the Swedish Embassy in La Paz has commissioned an external evaluation. The objective is two-folded: i) to assess implementation of the Strategy and achieved results; and ii) to inform the development of the next strategy. According to the Terms of Reference (ToR), the general **objectives** of the evaluation are:

- to assess whether or not the Contributions implemented (or under implementation) in Bolivia during the period 2016-2020 comply with the expected results as described in the Strategy; and
- to provide recommendations based on the above assessment to be used for the planning and implementation of the coming Swedish strategy in Bolivia.

The **scope** of the evaluation covers the entire country programme as reflected in the 2016-2020 Strategy, over the five-year period. While not explicitly part of the current evaluation, other complementary elements, such as Swedish strategic support to e.g. research and capacity development, will also be taken into consideration in this evaluation where deemed relevant.

The full range of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) evaluation criteria is applied in the evaluation (i.e. relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability and coherence). The ToR emphasises the need to focus on the relevance criteria and results (effectiveness and efficiency) but also coherence and trajectories towards impact and sustainability have been assessed.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

Following this introduction, Section 2 provides a background where the context is presented, followed by an analysis of how the Embassy developed the country portfolio under evaluation. Section 3 describes the methodology applied, including the selection of 12 Contributions for in-depth study. Sections 4 and 5 present the findings; first an analysis of the relevance of the country portfolio and the individual Contributions are provided; and secondly, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and trajectories towards impact and sustainability are analysed. Section 5 is structured according to the three thematic areas reflected in the Strategy. Section 6 provides the conclusions followed by recommendations in Section 7.

2 Background

2.1 CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

Democracy and civil and political rights

The clearest trend and most important tendency in the 2016-2020 period has been Bolivia's democratic backsliding. The Movement Towards Socialism (MAS) government's systematic weakening of the respect and protection of civil and political rights has been gradual. The manoeuvrability of CSOs not aligned with the MAS has been greatly reduced (including both national CSOs and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs)). The expulsion of the Danish NGO IBIS at the end of 2013, for allegedly providing support to the indigenous protest march around the TIPNIS project, and the decision not to renew the convention of the German Konrad Adenauer Foundation, which supports indigenous peoples' participation in democracy, bear witness to this.

What the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute at the University of Gothenburg (see Table 1) labels an "electoral autocracy" became evident from 2017 onwards when the constitutional court gave a green light to Evo Morales' candidacy to participate for the third time in a presidential election. This occurred despite a majority of the Bolivian people voting "no" to this in a referendum in 2016 and instead supporting the two-term limit reflected in the Constitution from 2009. The fraudulent general elections in October 2019, and the following resignation and exile of Evo Morales, uncovered the failure of the MAS government to solve and manage the many deep-rooted historical conflicts and inequalities. The new political landscape which emerged presented multiple challenges, but also opportunities to democratise Bolivia, this time in a more sustainable way. The post-electoral political developments will define the future and determine whether this opportunity to democratise Bolivia was seized or not.

The backsliding trend for democracy between 2016 and 2019 is well-documented in research by some of the most recognised organisations monitoring the state of democracy in the world (see Table 1). In their qualitative analyses and reflections on the state of Bolivia's democracy, the V-Dem Institute and Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) clearly show that a reverse trend has occurred. The rankings refer to subjects like Clean Elections, Representative Government, Checks on Government, Civil Society Participation, Absence of Corruption and many more.³

³ For example, IDEA International works with five main democracy "attributes" that contain 16 sub-attributes based on 97 indicators.

Table 1. Bolivia's downward ranking in Global State of Democracy Indexes

Source and democracy index name	BOLIVIA: Ranked position in list with all countries studied (selected years)		
	2010	2016	2020
1. V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg: Varieties of Democracy, Liberal Democracy Index	N/A	85/179	105/179
Regime type:	N/A	Electoral Democracy	Electoral Autocracy
2. EIU: “Democracy Index”	80/167	90/165	104/167
Regime type:	Hybrid regime	Hybrid regime	Hybrid regime
3. Freedom House: “Freedom in the World”	N/A	68/100	63/100
Regime type:	Partly Free	Partly Free	Partly Free
4. IDEA International: “Global State of Democracy”:	No ranking	No ranking	No ranking
Regime type:	N/A	Hybrid regime	Hybrid regime

Note 1: In the indexes of V-Dem and EIU, the ranking scale from best to worst moves upwards (1 best, 179 worst). In the index by Freedom House the ranking scale reflects the opposite (165 best and 1 worst).

Note 2 on regime type classifications:

1. V-Dem Institute: Liberal democracies, Electoral Democracies, Electoral Autocracies, Closed Autocracies.

2. EIU: Full democracies, Flawed democracies, Hybrid regimes, Authoritarian regimes.

3. Freedom House: Free, Partly Free, Not Free.

4. IDEA International: Democracies, Hybrid regime, Non-democratic regime.

In the most comprehensive index by V-Dem Institute, covering 487 indicators, Bolivia is one of the approximately 15 countries “substantially declining” on the Liberal Democracy Index. Bolivia has fallen 15 positions between 2016 and 2020 and moved from an electoral democracy to a so-called electoral autocracy.⁴ In Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index (CPI) Bolivia is ranked in the poorer end as number 123 out of 180 countries, with 31 points on a scale from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). A small improvement was registered from 2018 to 2019 (two points increase) but Bolivia is still at a lower level compared with 2012 (34 points).⁵

The trend was corroborated by Sweden’s cooperation partners in Bolivia who provided a variety of facts and stories from the ground. A key factor behind this trend is the breakdown of democratic institutions, aggravated by the executive interfering in, and taking control of, a number of autonomous judicial, legislative, and executive authorities, such as the Constitutional Court, the OEP and the National Human Rights ombudsman. A report by the Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo Laboral y Agrario (CEDLA), a research CSO, emphasises the successive elimination of separation of powers. The efforts to control and

⁴ The four organisations in Table 1 draw the same conclusion in their most recent (2019 and 2020) reports on the state of democracy in the world. See for example:

<https://freedomhouse.org/issues/democracies-decline> and <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>

⁵ <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2019/results/bol>.

intimidate independent media has also been a strategy by MAS. In the World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders, Bolivia worsened from position 97 (out of 180 countries) in 2016 to position 113 in 2020. The Union Nacional de Instituciones para el Trabajo de Acción Social (UNITAS), a CSO network, provides examples of a wide range of violations of the interlinked rights of media freedom, media integrity and freedom of expression, such as arbitrary assignments of state advertisement, censorship, harassment, criminalisation of journalists and blocking access to information. The latter has been applied to block possibilities for the wider public to hold public officials accountable; citizens' access to sessions in the senate was abolished in 2016. Reports from both CEDLA and UNITAS include a long list of violations of civil and political rights, such as freedom of association and right to peaceful protest, and also show persecution of human rights defenders.⁶

Additionally, the interim government, which assumed power in November 2019, has received criticism for limiting and repressing peaceful protests, with the armed forces using excessive force. A report by Amnesty International (September 2020) states that the government, under the pretext of responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, adopted a series of measures to “try to silence those who question their policies”.⁷ The Human Rights Watch (HRW), the UN Commissioner of Human Rights and the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights have expressed similar concerns. In September 2020, HRW published a critical report accusing the interim government of political persecution of Evo Morales' supporters via the judiciary. “*Jeanine Áñez, who replaced Morales as interim president, had a chance to break with the past and ensure judicial independence. Instead, her government has publicly pressured prosecutors and judges to act to further its interests, leading to criminal investigations of more than 100 people linked to the Morales government and Morales supporters for sedition and/or terrorism*”, the report points out. What this and other reports concludes is that while some issues were solved with the fall of Morales, new issues arose.

According to national and international observers, the elections held on the 18th of October 2020 were organised well, with a fair level of transparency and efficiency. The Organisation of American States (OAS), one of the major electoral observers, issued a preliminary report with positive remarks. The report also considered the limitations due to the prevalence of the Covid-19 pandemic.⁸ Many feared new outbreaks of violence as a reaction to the election result. This did not materialise, and with the convincing victory of the MAS presidential candidate Luis Arce in the first round with 55% of the votes,⁹ the worst risk of post-election conflict seems to have been avoided.

⁶ See “Informe de Situación. Condiciones del entorno en el que las organizaciones de la sociedad civil desarrollan sus acciones en Bolivia” (UNIR, February, 2020).

⁷ Decrees 4199, 4200, 4231.

⁸ See OAS report dated 21 October 2020: <http://www.oas.org/documents/spa/press/Informe-preliminar-Bolivia-2020.pdf>.

⁹ <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/america/luis-arce-wins-landslide-in-bolivian-elections/2017297#>.

Economic development and social and economic rights

The significant progress made in Bolivia in terms of reducing poverty and inequality slowed down from 2016. Although the official national statistics indicate a poverty rate of 34%, CEDLA's recently completed multi-dimensional poverty assessment (MDPA) indicated that 61% of the Bolivian population lives in poverty when considering lack of resources, opportunities and choice, power and voice and human security.

This has coincided with a reduction of foreign and national investments and a fall in the prices of Bolivia's main commodities (oil and natural gas). The fiscal deficit increased by around 8%, particularly due to excessive public spending and investments in nonviable public companies. The positive economic trend with growth in excess of 4% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ended in 2019, during which year GDP grew at a much reduced 2.8%. The decrease in demand for natural gas from Argentina and Brazil (Bolivia's main export markets) is expected to further negatively impact the economy. According to the updated International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts from October 2020, due to the outbreak of Covid-19, GDP growth is expected to fall to -7% in 2020 and recover to 5.6% in 2021, subject to the post-pandemic global economic recovery.¹⁰ This is expected to lead to closure of companies and further increases in the informal sector, which already represents more than 60% of the economy. In the labour market, Bolivia has a high percentage of self-employed, informal and vulnerable workers as compared with other countries of similar income per capita. The country's informality is among the highest in the region. The informal sector accounts for around 60-80% of Bolivia's labour market, depending on the source consulted. This is one of the largest in the world.¹¹

The Bolivian economy seems rather strong in appearance: sustained growth, inflation under control (1.8% in 2019 and 2.3% in 2020 (April 2020 World Economic Outlook IMF)), a public debt which remains relatively low (57.7% of GDP) and large currency reserves. However, Bolivia's export primarily depends on exports of natural gas and raw materials. A fall in the price of gas on the world market and decrease in export volumes have resulted in a reduction of Bolivia's export revenues which directly affects the central and local governments' budgets. Thus, increased diversification and improved conditions for trade and investment in other sectors are deemed crucial factors to encourage more sustainable development and investments.

¹⁰ https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDP_RPCH@WEO/ISR/BOL.

¹¹ ILO indicates 80% <https://ilostat.ilo.org/topics/informality/>, whereas IMF indicates the informal Bolivian economy to constitute 60% in 2018.

Bolivia is deemed one of the least competitive economies in Latin America.¹² In comparison with other countries in the region, Bolivia faces a gap in its capacity to take advantage of international market opportunities. Addressing the shortcomings in Bolivia's export performance is a major challenge and at least four elements of export competitiveness seem to require particular attention: i) the incentives that actual and potential exporters face; ii) the efficiency of service providers in the economy; iii) the effectiveness of trade support institutions to assist private sector companies in discovering and exploiting international market opportunities; and iv) the creation of capacities in business management in entrepreneurial groups. The latter in particular is essential for entrepreneurs to gain access to and stay in the market and thereby ensure their sustainability.¹³

The rural and agricultural sector has been severely impacted by Covid-19. A recently published rehabilitation plan by the Ministry for Rural Development and Land (MDRyT) for the agricultural sector suggests that both a short term plan (six months) and a medium to long term plan (post Covid-19) will be needed to recover the sector. At the same time, it is emphasised that the success of this plan will require that all public and private agricultural actors – regardless of size, region, or sector – are able to merge traditional knowledge with modern technology. Active participation by the Government is foreseen as necessary for the process of reorganisation and facilitation of processes and services, in order to provide the conditions necessary for the transformation. Thus, while the post Covid-19 pandemic is causing a number of critical challenges to this sector, it is at the same time recognised as an opportunity for reorganisation of the sector through multi-stakeholder involvement.¹⁴

Urbanisation, environment and climate change

The economic challenges in Bolivia are further complicated by the large rural-urban migration. Bolivia has become a predominantly urban country during the last years. According to UN data, 67.5% of the population lives in cities and human settlements. This is a major fact for a country that was seen as a rural country until few years ago. Nevertheless, Bolivia still has a smaller urban population than the average for the Latin American region (around 80%), and this provides an opportunity for Bolivia to plan urban development ahead to foster development and create conditions for a better life for the Bolivian population. Current scenarios indicate that by 2030, 80% of the Bolivian population will be living in cities.

The rapidly growing urbanisation process in Bolivia put further pressure on the need for water and sanitation services in urban and peri-urban settlements. While drinking water coverage at the national level is above 85%, sanitation reaches only 60% of the population (2017).¹⁵ Although the water and sanitation situation in

¹² <https://www.statista.com/statistics/787310/competitiveness-index-latin-america/>

¹³ Global Competitiveness Report, 2019.

¹⁴ Plan Nacional de Respuesta y Rehabilitación para el Sector Agropecuario ante los efectos del COVID-19, 2020.

¹⁵ Atlas Municipal de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible en Bolivia 2020.

general is better in urban areas, the rapid rural-urban migration is putting the sector under pressure. Sanitation conditions in many peri-urban areas are therefore insufficient to meet the continuous growing demand from people who have migrated to these areas (e.g. in Montero around 50% of the population is without sanitation services).

Bolivia is a country highly vulnerable to climate change. An evaluation carried out through the “Climate Change Vulnerability Index” qualifies Paraguay and Bolivia as the most exposed and vulnerable economies in South America in agricultural terms. Bolivia is located in position 127 of 181 countries evaluated according to level of vulnerability and willingness to improve resilience. Bolivia’s high vulnerability to climate change is due to a combination of several factors: i) it is one of the poorest countries in Latin America and suffers from one of the worst patterns of inequality; ii) it has the highest percentage of indigenous people in South America, and much of the poverty and inequality is concentrated in these populations; iii) it is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, with a wide variety of ecosystems that are vulnerable to different impacts of climate change; iv) more than half of the country is Amazonian, with high levels of deforestation, which adds to the vulnerability to flooding; v) it is located in a climatically volatile region, and is one of the countries in the world most affected by “natural” disasters in recent years; and vi) it is home to about 20% of the world's tropical glaciers, which are retreating rapidly.¹⁶

Bolivia’s greenhouse gas emissions levels per capita exceed that of many European countries, despite having a far lower per capita income. Approximately 80% of the CO₂ emissions come from changes in land use and deforestation, primarily due to unsustainable practices in agriculture, forestry, mining, oil and human settlements.¹⁷ In addition, poor air quality in urban areas, caused mainly by the emission of air pollutants from the transport sector, is becoming an increasing public health problem. In Bolivia, the vehicle fleet has seen exponential growth, from less than half a million vehicles in 2003 to close to two million in 2018. This, together with a lack of environmental regulations to remove old vehicles from circulation, has led the country to have one of the oldest and most heavily polluting vehicle fleets in the region. Serious deficiencies in solid waste management, in particular within the intermediate and small cities, is causing another important threat to the environment and public health.

Between 2002 and 2012, 84% of the municipalities in Bolivia were affected by flooding, and 67% by drought.¹⁸ As in much of South America, a mix of flooding, drought and mudslides have plagued Bolivia in the last decade because of El Niño events and changes in the climate. Water supply and utilisation is a

¹⁶ Reliefweb, 2019.

¹⁷ Net Carbon Emissions from Deforestation in Bolivia during 1990-2000 and 2000-2010: Results from a Carbon Bookkeeping Model, L. Andersen 2016.

¹⁸ Vice Ministerio de Defensa Civil, 2014.

particular concern, as most of the country's mining and agricultural activities rely on scarce water sources. In addition, nearly 40% of the country's electricity is drawn from hydroelectric dams powered by glacial runoff and rainfall. While the effects of climate change do not force migration directly, they exacerbate existing points of insecurity and the urbanisation process. This puts further pressure on the urban infrastructure, in particular on water and sanitation services. In the second half of 2016, La Paz was hit by a major water crisis, as was the rest of the western highlands, which particularly affected Potosí, which has since suffered from the lack of sufficient water supply.

Gender equality and women's rights

Women's political representation has improved in the period under evaluation. Following the general election in 2014, women represented 50% of the members of the Chamber of Deputies and 44% of the members of the Chamber of Senators. In 2019, these figures increased to 53% and 47% respectively.¹⁹ However, the qualitative participation of women and sexual harassment of women in politics continues to be a challenge that needs to be addressed. According to UN Women estimates, in 2018 between 65% and 70% of the women parliamentarians had been victims of harassment, threats and even homicide. A special law against harassment and violence against politically elected women was adopted in 2012 and is now complemented by regional and municipal legislation and implementation strategies. In 2020, implementation is yet to be carried out.²⁰ In 2016, however, a Gender Equality Observatory was established with support from Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) International with the mandate to monitor progress and restrictions on political equality. Throughout 2018, there were 93 complaints and 17 resignations related to harassment and violence against women in politics.

According to the Pan American Health Organisation, Bolivia is one of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean with the highest frequency of physical violence against women. According to the country's statistical authority, three-quarters of all women living in a relationship experienced violence from their partners, and 44% have experienced violence in their relationship in the past twelve months. Indigenous women in rural areas are particularly vulnerable. A 2017 government survey on the prevalence of GBV found that in the Department of La Paz, which encompasses El Alto, 87% of the women said they had experienced some form of GBV in their lifetime and 66% reported experiencing some form of sexual violence. From January to the end of September 2020, 86 women had been murdered ("*femicidios*") and only 19 perpetrators had been convicted. Fifty-three of the incidences occurred during the quarantine period, indicating the impact of Covid-19 on violence against women. This is also reflected in Bolivia's reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).²¹

¹⁹ The National Universal Periodic Review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, November 2019.

²⁰ Social Institute and Gender Index Latin America, 2020.

²¹ Atlas Municipal de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible en Bolivia 2020.

Official data on GBV cases for 2020 will only be published in the beginning of 2021, but according to stakeholder interviews an increase has occurred during the quarantine period (a similar pattern is observed in other countries).

The Comprehensive Act on Guaranteeing Women a Life Free of Violence, Act No. 348 from 2013, set the legal framework for combatting violence against women, and this law has been complemented by laws at regional and municipal levels to combat GBV.²² There are more public institutions dedicated to operationalising strategies and plans, as well as monitoring mechanisms to dismantle violations of women's rights. A few examples of progress made: i) in 2016, the National Institute of Statistics (INE) conducted the first ever survey on the prevalence and characteristics of violence against women, with the aim of strengthening the implementation of a number of legal and operative mechanisms; ii) the “Multisectoral Plan to Promote the Dismantling of the Patriarchy and Women's Right to Live Well 2016–2020”, which led to the establishment of the “Plurinational Service for Women and for Dismantling the Patriarchy” as well as the “Special Office for Combatting Violence against Women” (SLIM).¹⁹ These offices are in charge of monitoring compliance with public policies to ensure the effective exercise of women's rights. A priority is the prevention, eradication and sanction of all types of violence and forms of discrimination against women; iii) during 2018-2019 the MAS government signed a pact with 21 media outlets to campaign against violence against women (“Let's make a deal, live without violence!”); and iv) on 8th March 2020, the interim government declared 2020 the year to fight femicide and infanticide in Bolivia. The Covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly slowed down the implementation of these initiatives, and as mentioned above, the quarantine has apparently increased the violence.

2.2 DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COUNTRY PORTFOLIO

The period leading up to the current 2016-2020 Strategy was a disruptive period in the collaboration between Bolivia and Sweden. The country strategy for the period 2009 to 2013 was not replaced with a new strategy until 2016 due to a decision by the Swedish Government to end the development cooperation with Bolivia in 2013 and a subsequent revision of that decision after the 2014 Swedish Parliament election to continue the development cooperation with Bolivia.

When the decision to close down the development cooperation was taken, the chargé d'affaires at the Embassy was tasked with the assignment of closing down the development programme. Several of the Contributions were wrapped up and national programme officers were asked to apply for employment elsewhere.

²² The example of Cochabamba, with comments regarding Sweden's support to IDEA International, is explained in Section 5 in this evaluation report.

When the 2016-2020 Strategy was approved (late 2016), a new Head of Development was recruited and initiated work in January 2017.

The development of a new portfolio was thus only initiated in the beginning of 2017, and by mid-2017 less than 5% of the budget had been disbursed.²³ A few long-term Contributions with different UN organisations such as United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) were ongoing, but apart from those the portfolio needed to be established more or less from scratch. On the one hand, this required substantial time investment, but on the other hand, it offered an opportunity to rethink the whole portfolio composition.

Up until Sweden's decision to close down development cooperation with Bolivia in 2013 was made, a majority of the Contributions were implemented through the Government of Bolivia. However, as bilateral collaboration had become increasingly challenging (e.g. with the Ministry of Education), and the insecurity of the future Swedish support, the Embassy decided to channel more Contributions through UN organisations such as UNICEF instead. It was, however, included as a requirement from the Embassy that UNICEF would channel around 15% of the funds through the Ministry and municipalities.

At the same time, the Embassy in La Paz received additional requests from Sida and the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). As mentioned above, the Embassy was requested by the MFA to include an increased focus on Broader Relations in the 2016-2020 Strategy period. Initially, it was a challenge for the Embassy to fully understand and operationalise this new concept, which intended to combine e.g. poverty orientation with Swedish-Bolivian trade relations within the same Contributions. However, the Embassy gradually introduced more systematic assessments of new Contributions with a view to combining these dual perspectives.

Sida also tasked the Embassy in La Paz to pilot use of the MDPA. The MDPA was developed as part of the Swedish Poverty Toolbox (launched in May 2017) as a response to the 2030 Agenda, and it identifies four dimensions of poverty: resources, opportunities and choice, power and voice and human security.²⁴ It aims to provide a deeper analysis of poverty to allow for better decision-making and to ensure that a Contribution portfolio becomes holistic and targets the most vulnerable and poor groups in a given context. Therefore, it is advisable to do a MDPA once during a strategy period and then revisit it on a regular basis to ensure continued relevance of the portfolio. In Bolivia, the partner organisation CEDLA²⁵ has been engaged to operationalise the MDPA toolbox, and several Contributions in the country portfolio have conducted MDPAs on their specific intervention areas and thereby tested the toolbox in practice. The MDPA is also in

²³ According to interviews; needs to be verified by internal Sida documents.

²⁴ Dimensions of Poverty, Sida Poverty Toolbox, 2019.

²⁵ Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo Laboral y Agrario.

line with Sida's ambition to approach development differently and apply more adaptive management based on ongoing analysis.²⁶

In addition, the Embassy's task of both testing the MDPA and including a stronger focus on supporting the development from aid to trade (through Broader Relations), has made the use of the Market System Development (MSD) approach highly relevant, not least for Strategic Area 3.²⁷

Finally, in the later part of the strategy period, a stronger focus on a circular economy approach has been introduced in several of the Contributions, with a particular view to combatting the negative effects of climate change and environmental degradation in different areas, such as solid waste management, water resource management and water and sanitation. This is also in line with Sida's increasing strategic focus on these issues.

²⁶ Evaluation of the Market Systems Development approach – Lessons for expanded use and adaptive management at Sida, Sida, 2018. Here the Contribution on Inclusive Rural Markets implemented by Swisscontact in Bolivia is mentioned as an example of a Contribution applying adaptive management.

²⁷ The MSD approach focuses on developing markets and value-chains and ongoing analyses of why a market is failing poor people and the reason for the status quo. The MSD built on the idea of testing hypotheses and learning from experience. Hence, an essential part of MSD is to test innovative ideas, learn from these by setting up real-time monitoring systems, and then adapt the approach according to what has been learned.

3 Methodology

3.1 EVALUATION MATRIX

The full range of OECD-DAC evaluation criteria will be applied in the evaluation (i.e. relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability and coherence). Ten Evaluation Questions (EQs) are structured around the OECD-DAC criteria and provide the overall framework for the evaluation assignment. Table 2 illustrates the overall EQs and how they relate to the OECD-DAC criteria. The complete Evaluation Matrix, including a number of sub-questions, together with data collection and data analysis strategies, is included in Annex 1.

Table 2. Overall evaluation questions and OECD-DAC criteria

#	Evaluation Question	OECD/DAC
1	What is the relevance of the Contributions in view of the overall situation and needs in the sectors, and in relation to what other donors are doing?	Relevance
2	What is the relevance of the Contribution portfolio in view of the Swedish Strategy Areas and priorities?	Relevance
3	How well is the Contribution portfolio contributing to achieving of the goals of the Strategy?	Efficiency
4	What have been the main challenges affecting the implementation of Contributions and achievement of the strategy results?	Effectiveness
5	How effectively have the Contributions been implemented/delivered in view of partner capacities and end-beneficiary expectations?	Effectiveness
6	Has the Contribution portfolio been developed and managed efficiently to achieve the goals in the Strategy?	Efficiency/ consistency
7	What is the trajectory towards impact of the Contributions (disaggregated by gender)?	Impact
8	Are the changes arising from the Contributions likely to be sustained?	Sustainability
9	Are the Contributions in the portfolio effectively integrating different Strategy Areas and not duplicating efforts?	Coherence
10	What are the lessons learned, good practices and difficulties during the execution of the Strategy?	Lessons learned/ recommendations

3.2 EVALUATION ANALYSIS RELATED TO OECD-DAC EVALUATION CRITERIA

The overall approach to data collection and analysis has been theory-based, using a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data analysis with qualitative methods. In this section the approach to the evaluation analysis is explained in more detail, structured around the OECD-DAC criteria.

Relevance analysis (meta-analysis)

A meta-analysis with focus on the relevance aspect of the entire Swedish Contribution portfolio for the strategy period 2016-2020 has been conducted and supplemented with in-depth assessment of 12 Contributions.

A total of 42 Contributions have been assessed as part of the meta-analysis. The purpose was dual: i) to make an initial mapping of the entire country portfolio from a relevance perspective; and ii) to provide a basis for selection of 12 representative Contributions from the different strategic areas for more in-depth assessment. An initial desk review of key documents such as decision and programme documents was conducted for the 42 country Contributions (see Annex 4) and assessed in accordance with the following criteria:

- Criteria 1: relationship with the three main strategic areas
- Criteria 2: category of partner
- Criteria 3: implementation in urban or rural areas or both
- Criteria 4: length of the cooperation
- Criteria 5: grant size
- Criteria 6: the use of innovative approaches and methods
- Criteria 7: cross-cutting perspectives

In addition to these seven criteria, it has been a priority to include Contributions in the sample with links to Broader Relations, use of integrated approaches, MDPA and MSD. Thematic areas and specific considerations are added in the comment column. Results from the meta-analysis on the entire portfolio is presented in Section 4.

Selected Contributions for in-depth assessment

Following the initial meta-analysis of the entire portfolio, 12 Contributions were selected for an in-depth review. The 12 Contributions were carefully selected to be “... *both representative of the programme in general and of innovative approaches in the same*”. Thus, the above-mentioned criteria were further considered to ensure representativity of the entire portfolio in the 12 Contributions selected for in-depth study.²⁸ Annex 5 includes an overview of how the 12 Contributions cover different strategic areas, project size, modality, innovation, etc. Table 3 provides an overview of the 12 Contributions selected for in-depth assessment, the implementing partner and the main objective.

²⁸ In particular: The relevance of the Contribution to the three strategic areas and the connected eight sub-areas in the Swedish strategy; category of type of partner in the specific cooperation contract; geographical coverage (e.g. if the contribution had a focus on rural and/or urban areas; highland vs. lowland, etc.); the length in time of the cooperation (e.g. if the cooperation partner had been granted previous contracts – normally three years – within a similar thematic area); the size of the grant; the presence of innovative approaches and methods; and the inclusion of cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA).

Table 3. Overview of selected contributions with implementing partner and main objectives

Contribution	Objectives	Impl. Partner
Women Leadership and Citizen Participation at the Local Level	i) Departmental governments increase capacities to formulate and implement public policies with citizen participation; ii) Strengthening the participation of women in departmental public management; iii) Operationalisation of the Political Agenda from the Youth; iv) Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body (OEP).	International IDEA
UNIR Conflict Managemnt	i) Increase awareness of context and conflicts among Sweden's development cooperation partners; ii) strengthening their capacity and tools for conflict management and conflict prevention; iii) follow-up and monitoring of conflict in the country.	Fundación UNIR
Support to civil society and gender	i) Men and women have greater access to public information in order to claim their civil and human rights; ii) Women and Mixed Organisations have been empowered; iii) The State's compliance with the recommendations of international human rights instruments have improved.	Diakonia
Country Strategy 2017-2020	i) Every child survives and thrives which focus on contributing to guaranteeing Integrated Early Childhood Development by ensuring basic social services; ii) Every child learns with the aim to support the government to guarantee that children and adolescents have the opportunity to education and complete secondary school; iii) Every child is protected from violence and exploitation; iv) every child has an equitable chance in life aiming to ensure that key child rights are positioned in the new national development agenda.	UNICEF
Masculinity and Gender in Bolivia	Adapt, carry out and disseminate the findings from the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) along with complementary qualitative research in Bolivia.	Promundo
Culture of Peace and Strengthening of Supreme Electoral Tribunal	Contribute to the strengthening the electoral and democratic process in Bolivia increasing the credibility of the electoral process and prevent and/or increase any potential of electoral violations.	UNDP
Bolivian Decentralised Sanitation Models Program	Promote decentralised sanitation models in intermediate cities to make them healthy and resilient, with universal access to sanitation services.	Aguatuya Foundation
Enhanced Knowledge for Action: MDPA and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	i) CSOs have been provided with sufficient information to analyse regulations/policies regarding sustainable management of natural resources; ii) a multidimensional poverty (MDPA) analysis for Bolivia has been concluded, including a MDPA index by ethnicity, gender and region; iii) research networks have been promoted and institutional platforms have been strengthened to democratise knowledge with active participation of actors at national, regional and local levels.	CEDLA
National Urban Policy Programme	Advise and guide the Bolivian Government in the formulation and implementation of a national urban policy for an integrated development of cities, within the framework of an urban agenda that contributes to the sustainable development of human settlements in Bolivia.	UN-Habitat
Inclusive rural markets	Contribute to the reduction of poverty by improving living conditions of small-scale farmers (with a special focus on women) in the Highlands (High-Plateau) and Inter-Andean	Swisscontact

	Valleys.	
Local Urban Development Programme	Strengthening articulation and citizen proposals, especially of the poor population (women, youth and migrant families from marginalised areas) for participatory formulation and implementation of national and municipal urban policies, better access to – and quality of – services (water, solid waste management, transport and energy).	WWF
Sustainable Women's Economic Empowerment at municipal level	Contribute to a sustainable socio-economic development for 3,600 women and men in 25 rural urban municipalities located in five departments	FAUTAPO

Apart from the criteria applied for the meta-analysis and the initial relevance analysis, the in-depth assessments were conducted with a view to assessing the following relevance criteria:

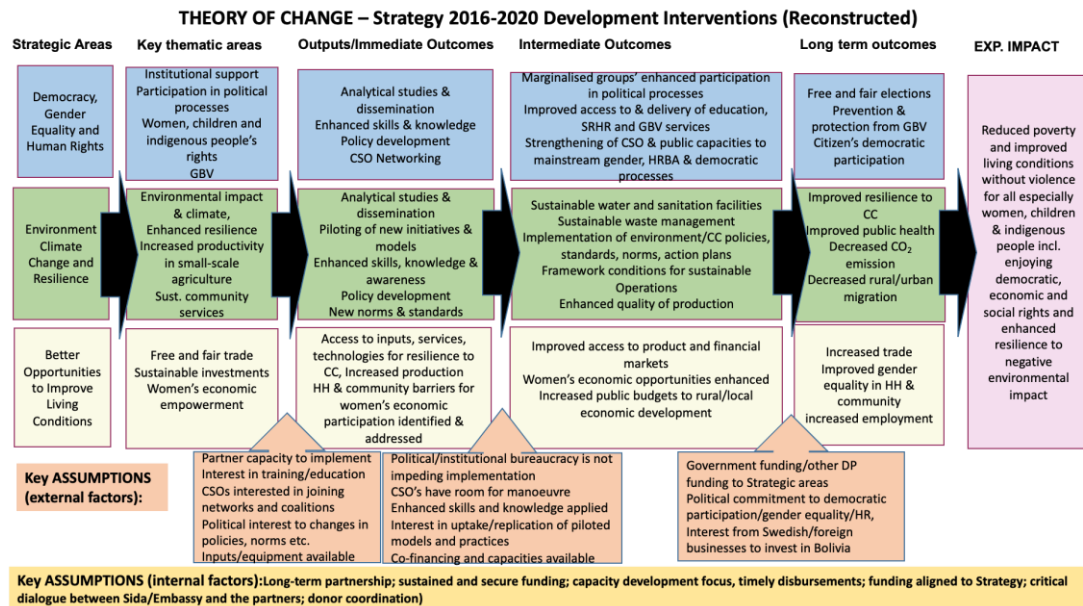
- Relevance of project design (use of context analysis, intervention logic)
- Use of local knowledge and available data in the design process
- Participation by local stakeholders, relevant public officials and service providers in the design process
- Alignment with national development plans and/or country's global commitments
- Alignment with general needs in the sector
- Alignment with and response to needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries
- Alignment with relevant Swedish/Sida strategies and priorities, including reflection of HRBA, gender equality and conflict issues
- Complementarity and absence of duplication with programmes of other donors

Effectiveness and efficiency analysis – focus on contribution analysis and Theory of Change (ToC) approach

In order to assess progress and results, in particular effectiveness and efficiency, within the different strategy areas, the evaluation team focused on the contribution made by the Swedish-funded Contributions. A light-touch contribution analysis was conducted to understand what difference Contributions funded under the Swedish 2016-2020 Strategy were making and how and why observed results have (or have not) occurred, and to understand the roles played by specific internal and external factors.

As the contribution analysis is closely linked to a ToC approach, an overall ToC was developed for the supported interventions within the three strategy areas and the Broader Relations focus. The ToC is based on the 2016-2020 Strategy and the results assessment frameworks related to the Contributions. It illustrates the main dimensions of the Contribution interventions, including key thematic areas, outputs / immediate outcomes, intermediate outcomes and long-term outcomes as well as expected impact. The ToC also includes key assumptions and risks as the drivers of and/or barriers to the change process.

Figure 1. Theory of Change developed based on the Strategy



Use of principles from a Problem-Driven Iterative Approach (PDIA) and the MSD approach

As a supplement to the contribution analysis, key principles from the PDIA and the MSD are applied to evaluate the level of innovation and adaptive management. Considering the nature of this evaluation – covering a five-year period, during which important changes have taken place in the political, institutional, social and economic environment – together with Sida's explicit wish to encourage adaptivity in its Contribution management, we find that such a framework provides an interesting and structured framework for analysing the flexibility and adaptability of the supported Contributions. The Covid-19 pandemic has created a particularly good opportunity to address this specific aspect.

Analysis of impact and sustainability

For the recently implemented Contributions, it is still too early to assess impact from the support, and for those Contributions with a longer period of implementation assessment may also be a challenge. Therefore, the analysis focuses on *trajectories towards impact and sustainability*. In addition, and in view of the importance given to transformative changes in the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, the evaluation applies a “higher-level” wider impact dimension to capture the significance, scope, and transformative nature of the analysed Contributions. This includes a particular focus on replication and upscaling potentials, both vertically and horizontally.

Coherence

The coherence criterion is used specifically to assess the level of synergies between the three different strategy areas as well as with other relevant Swedish strategies, such as those related to capacity development, institutions and research cooperation, which are also referred to in the 2016-2020 Strategy. In addition, the inclusion of the coherence criterion helps to understand the role of the selected Contributions within a wider system of support (institutions, sectors, donors, thematic areas, etc.), as opposed to taking an exclusively intervention- or institution-centric perspective.

Recommendations

From the evaluation analysis, the evaluation team draws conclusions, based on which recommendations are formulated to support the planning and implementation of the coming Swedish cooperation strategy with Bolivia.

3.3 METHODS FOR DATA COLLECTION

Desk review

A desk review of key documents such as decision and programme documents was conducted for the 42 country Contributions followed by a more thorough in-depth document review of additional key documents such as annual reports, results assessment frameworks, appraisals, evaluations, etc. for the 12 Contributions selected for in-depth assessments. In addition, other studies and evaluation reports from development cooperation in Bolivia have been essential to the analysis, in particular in view of the site visit limitations provided by Covid-19. In order to ensure triangulation, findings were substantiated with other sources of information.

Qualitative methods

Due to Covid-19, the evaluation team's qualitative methods focused on Key Informant Interviews. These interviews were extensive one-on-one exchanges with key individuals in a unique and strategic position in relation to the Sida-supported Contributions. All interviews were conducted virtually through Zoom, WhatsApp or Skype.

A few interviews with key resource persons in relation to the Swedish-Bolivian development cooperation – mainly management and staff from Sida Headquarters (HQ), the MFA and the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz – were conducted in the inception phase. These interviews were useful to expand the team's initial understanding of the Swedish-Bolivian development cooperation from a historic and contextual perspective, as well as to get a better sense of the current situation and development within the supported strategy areas.

Key informant interviews were conducted with representatives from the Bolivian Government and public institutions, implementing and project partners, other donors working within the same strategy areas, other CSOs/NGOs and academic/research institutions. In addition, a number of end-beneficiaries were interviewed over the phone to the extent possible, in order to reach representatives from this stakeholder group.

A total of 115 interviews have been conducted for this evaluation. The distribution according to stakeholder groups is shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Interview persons by stakeholder categories

Category of Stakeholders	Implementing organisation (staff+management)	Partner to implementing organisation	End-beneficiaries	Partner/beneficiaries	International stakeholder organisation	Current/former Swedish Embassy staff	Local/national authorities	Sum
-	32	26	9	7	8	8	25	115

All interviews were conducted by one to two team members guided by semi structured interview guides (checklists for interviews).

3.4 CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

The evaluation team was faced with a number of critical challenges and limitations related to planning and implementation of the evaluation assignment. This has required adjustments to the methods and approaches initially suggested by the team.

Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 development, the planned in-country mission to Bolivia was cancelled. Obviously, this created some challenges to the data collection process, since data and information had to be collected remotely through virtual interviews and consultations. Advantages related to face-to-face interaction with key stakeholders and project site visits were therefore missed. However, it is the opinion of the evaluation team that the adjustments made to the methods and approaches for data collection and analysis to a large extent compensate for the missed opportunities.

It must, however, be expected, that the limited possibility to meet in-person with key stakeholders could in some cases lower the quality and nuances of interview data, e.g. by not being able to build sufficient trust with the interviewees, explore sensitive topics, or “read the air”. The possibility of making unobtrusive observation of partners/institutions, conducting inductive analysis and snowballing sampling on-site was obviously also affected. Therefore, more responsibility was placed with the national consultants to help understand the current dynamics and context. A key advantage was that they had a good knowledge of the Contributions already and an overview of what is going on in the different sectors.

The political situation in Bolivia

As mentioned in the context section, Bolivia has gone through a period with high political fragility and change of governments. The substantial change of staff members in the governments limited the possibilities for engaging with government stakeholders, and in several Contributions implementing partners were not able to identify government actors for interviews. This limitation was to some extent, but not fully, mitigated by using the national consultants and their personal connections and relationships to arrange and conduct interviews with these critical groups of key stakeholders.

Time and coverage

Given the time and resources available for the evaluation, it was possible to cover nearly a third of the Contributions in-depth. This made it important for the evaluation team to ensure both that the selected Contributions for the in-depth assessment were representative of the portfolio and that they included Contributions of particular strategic interest for the formulation of the new Swedish strategy (e.g. in terms of innovation focus, integration, adaptivity and MDPA perspectives). Likewise, since some of the Contributions link back to previous phases/Contributions and since some partners are involved in more than one Contribution, it was possible for the evaluation team to indirectly include a larger number of Contributions in the assessment.

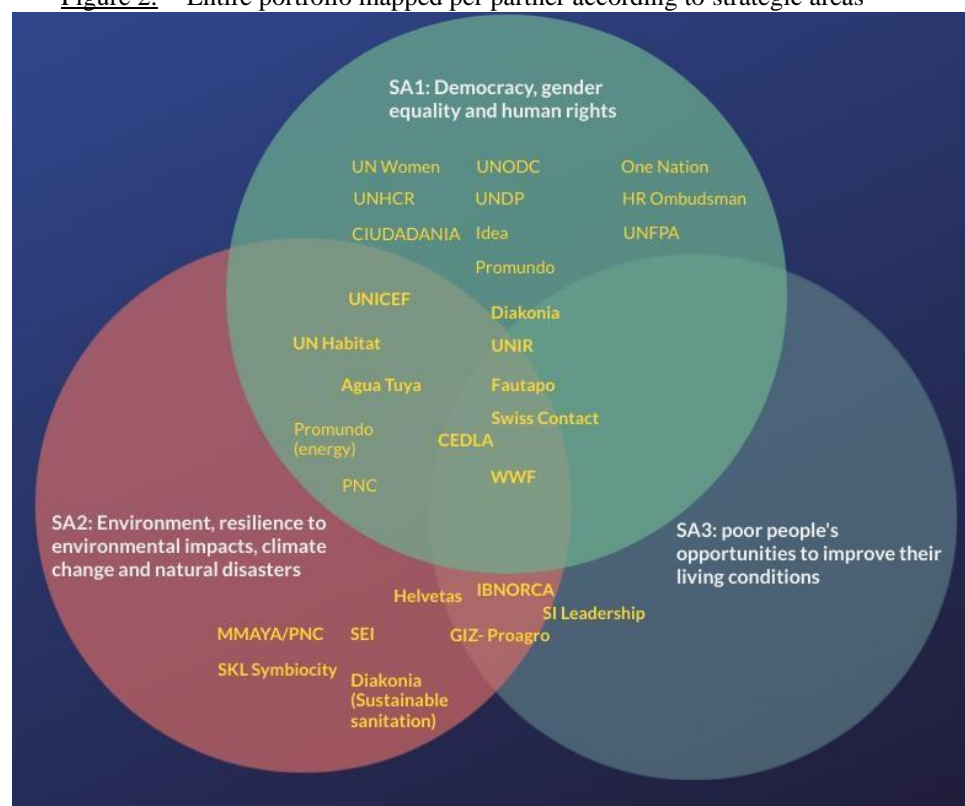
In addition, given that the development in Bolivia over the last few months has been seriously affected by the political turmoil and Covid-19, some of the initial progress achieved through implementation of the Swedish Contributions in the period between 2016 and 2020 has been lost or reduced over the past few months. It also meant that priorities and needs may have changed. This allowed for an assessment of partners flexibility and adaptation to the contextual changes, in line with the PDIA thinking.

4 Relevance Assessment

4.1 RELEVANCE AT PORTFOLIO LEVEL

The meta-analysis of the 42 projects illustrates that none of the Contributions implemented during the 2016-2020 Strategy fall outside the three overall strategic areas. There is clear evidence that the Embassy has based their strategy relevance assessment of potential Contributions on their thematic relevance in view of the 2016-2020 Strategy. Decision documents and appraisal reports include a systematic reflection on how Contributions respond to specific strategic area(s). Figure 2 provides an overview of how Contributions are divided per strategic area by partner (Contributions with two or more phases are only included once in the Figure and therefore the number of Contributions does not add up to 42. More details can be acquired in Annex 4 for specifications per Contribution).

Figure 2. Entire portfolio mapped per partner according to strategic areas



Contributions promoting and strengthening democracy, human rights and gender equality dominates the portfolio. Twenty of the Contributions fall under this strategic area (see Annex 4) with an equal distribution under the three sub-areas.

Ten of the Contributions solely respond to Strategic Area 1, and Contributions implemented through UN organisations such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women, but also IDEA International, especially represent more traditional projects within the sphere of combatting corruption, promoting citizens' participation and fair and free elections.

As reflected in Annex 4, these Contributions do not contain any innovative elements and do not feed into other strategic areas. On the other hand, they are relevant in the sense that corruption is a huge problem and Bolivia continues to be in the lower end of Transparency International's CPI. Although the official political representation of women is more than 50%, there are huge challenges in terms of ensuring women's qualitative participation. On this subject, the Embassy was hesitant to engage with UN Women as it was not considered to be a strong organisation in Bolivia in 2016. However, it was decided to support UN Women conducting of a small pilot project on women's political participation. The Embassy was not convinced by the implementation of the pilot project and did not prolong collaboration with UN Women.

The different Contributions implemented by UNICEF (country programme and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)/ Urban Sanitation Project in Montero) and UN-Habitat are interesting as they are examples of UN Contributions where an integrated approach has been applied. This means that they cut across more than one of the strategic areas, covering both Strategic Area 1 and 2. Interviews with current and previous Embassy staff explained that the process of new Contribution development had a particular focus on ensuring a holistic and integrated approach. This implied that new Contributions should aim at covering at least two strategic areas instead of only one, which had been the more traditional way of developing and working with Contributions at the Embassy (e.g. working more in "silos").

As part of the increasing focus on integration, Embassy staff members were rotated across the different strategic areas. This meant that an environment programme officer could be moved to work with governance to allow for new sets of eyes on these Contributions and to avoid programme staff working in "silos". The idea was to ensure a more holistic and integrated Contribution management, including proper reflecting of cross-cutting perspectives, such as environmental aspects in a human rights Contribution, and to spur potentially innovative initiatives and ways of working.

Under Strategic Area 1, research Contributions have been awarded to Promundo and CIUDADANIA with the purpose of filling knowledge gaps. The Contribution to be implemented by CIUDADANIA was designed in order to generate gender-disaggregated statistics on Bolivian citizen's trust of other citizens and state institutions. The main part of the Contribution to be implemented by Promundo was to roll out the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) in order to further understand the concept of masculinity and root causes of GBV in Bolivia.

Figure 2 illustrates that Contributions under Strategic Area 2 on environment, resilience to environmental impacts and climate change constitute the second largest portfolio after Strategic Area 1. It is obvious from the Figure that a more integrated approach has been applied and most of these Contributions also contribute to Strategic Areas 1 and 3. A focus on water and sanitation linked to environment and climate change stands out under Strategic Area 2. Sweden has a long track record of support to this sector and, as reflected in the context analysis, the issues related to water and sanitation are becoming more critical in view of Bolivia's high vulnerability to climate change and the rapidly increasing urbanisation in the country. An interesting, and innovative, aspect of these interventions is the integration of a circular economy perspective, by trying to close the "cycle" between water, nutrition and waste. The "Zero-Waste" Contribution (signed in late 2019 and implemented by Helvetas) particularly focuses on generating models for integrated solid waste management by emphasising the use of waste under a circular economy approach. This Contribution has strong complementarity to the Contributions implemented by Aguaturya and Swisscontact.

Stakeholder interviews indicated that the long-term Swedish collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Water has offered a fruitful platform for bilateral cooperation with the Bolivian Government on the one hand (e.g. the National River Basin Plan (PNC) I and II) and substantial collaboration with national CSOs on the other (e.g. Aguaturya). The support to UNICEF's WASH programme/ Urban Sanitation Project in Montero is a third partner implementation modality applied in the water and sanitation sector.

Urban planning has been introduced as a highly relevant topic in the Contribution portfolio, although not explicitly reflected in the 2016-2020 Strategy. As mentioned in the context section, the rural-urban migration in Bolivia is growing at a high speed but is still at a lower level compared to the neighbouring countries. Thus, proactive urban policy planning and development is seen as an opportunity to control and plan for the urbanisation instead of dealing with negative development and environmental impacts afterwards. Urban planning also provided an interesting opportunity to integrate different sectors and further deepen the Swedish collaboration with the Ministries for Environment and Water and Urban Development to support the urban policy planning within the Bolivian Government. New Contributions with a focus on urban development were therefore developed and included in the portfolio with a particular view to applying an integrated approach and by employing different partner modalities (e.g. UN-Habitat and WWF).

There are few Contributions that solely fall under Strategic Area 3 "poor people's opportunity to improve their living conditions". This strategic sub-area emphasises improved conditions for free and fair trade and is closely related to the topic of Broader Relations. The Contribution "building a network of strong leaders and exchanging ideas between Swedish and Bolivian leaders on sustainable businesses" to be implemented by the Swedish Institute (SI) is one of the few examples focusing on trade relations. The technical support to IBNORCA is another good example of how Sweden has supported a national standards

institution in promoting private companies' use and appliance of the certification procedures promoted by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO). This support is highly relevant to supporting sustainable development of the private/public sector and the process of transitioning the Swedish cooperation with Bolivia from aid to trade.

On the other hand, the most essential Contributions under Strategic Area 3 are those that reflect an integrated approach. As mentioned above, market development is a thematic focus area of Sida's HQ, but is also an approach. The MSD promotes adaptiveness, testing and learning. Here the Swisscontact Contribution has been essential as it combines a market approach with a substantial focus on GBV, which is a rather innovative approach. It also combines Swisscontact's substantial experience with private sector engagement and Swedish gender equality priorities, including masculinities. Fautapo is another example of this, as it combines women's economic empowerment with market development and sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Both the Swisscontact and the Fautapo Contributions have strong linkages to Strategy Area 2.

Apart from integrating more strategic areas in one Contribution, the Embassy has decided on several cross-cutting Contributions to support partners in enhancing a specific thematic issue in their programming. Partners are supported by the national CSO UNIR Foundation, specialised in conflict management, to ensure that the partners fully consider the conflict perspective. The UNIR Contribution does not relate to one specific strategic area, but supports integration of one of Sida's cross-cutting perspectives – which Sida partners in Bolivia have been struggling to address – across the entire portfolio. In this sense it has been an innovative Contribution and a relevant one, as it is based on an assessment of specific needs.

A similar cross-cutting project is the CEDLA Contribution, which aims to generate evidence to support the entire country portfolio with reliable analyses and data. As illustrated in Figure 2, the CEDLA Contribution emphasises Strategic Area 2 on environment, resilience and climate change. Although Promundo falls under Strategic Area 1, it is also considered a cross-cutting Contribution, in the sense that it promotes methodologies to include masculinities into gender equality. This support is provided to all partners, not only partners working with democracy, gender equality and human rights.

There is a high correlation between Contributions considered to be innovative and application of an integrated approach. Sixteen Contributions have been assessed as being innovative, and of these, 12 cut across more than one strategic area or are more cross-cutting Contributions (e.g. UNIR). Another interesting observation is that nine of the innovative Contributions are implemented by either INGOs or national CSOs. There is a balanced mix of small, medium and large Contributions considered innovative and most of them are primarily within Strategic Areas 2 and 3. Lastly, seven out of the 16 innovative Contributions have been based on a MDPA analysis, indicating that innovation and substantial analyses go hand-in-hand in order to define the target groups as well as how to approach and reach them.

4.2 RELEVANCE AT CONTRIBUTION LEVEL

After this overall assessment of relevance at the portfolio level, the more in-depth assessment of the relevance of the 12 selected Contributions is provided here (some reference to other Contributions is included as well).

Concerning *relevance of project design*, it is noted that 11 of the Contributions have applied a MDPA as a point of departure for their project design (however to a varying degree). This implies a substantial context analysis and due consideration of target groups in this process. It is closely related to a human rights-based approach (HRBA) where consideration should be had for the most marginalised and discriminated groups (although these groups should not necessarily be targeted). Examples of contributions applying a MDPA includes the “Enhanced Knowledge for Action: MDPA and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources” (CEDLA), SEI’s “Water Programme Bolivia 2018-2021”, the “WASH Programme” (UNICEF), the “National Urban Policy Programme (UN-Habitat), WWF’s “Local Urban Development Programme” and the “Inclusive Rural Markets Project” (Swisscontact). New Contributions seem to largely reflect the MDPA as the foundation for their design, and the Embassy has been successful in promoting the tool and generating innovative new approaches.

Most of the 12 Contributions also outline a ToC, or at least refer to the concept behind it, including key assumptions and risks related to it. Ideally, outlining a ToC provides a better opportunity for adjustment of the supported interventions if and/or when assumptions prove not to hold. However, the depth of these analyses varies quite a lot, and whereas some provide detailed explanations of assumptions making the ToC more operational, others merely provide an overview of how components correlate. For instance, whereas the UNICEF country programme clearly explains the change processes at the component level (although lacks an overall ToC explaining how the components affect each other), the Diakonia ToC fails to specify how the change process is envisioned. Instead, the latter is based on a number of generalised assumptions such as “if citizens know their rights, they will automatically claim their rights”.

Use of local knowledge and available data in the design process is interesting in the sense that several of the programme designs make use of data provided by the national partner CEDLA. As mentioned, CEDLA has been tasked with the assignment of operationalising the country MDPA for Sida, and references to CEDLA’s studies have been observed in partners’ applications. It should be noted, however, that CEDLA’s MDPA has been criticised by several stakeholders who question the usefulness of the methodology applied, as it is not comparable to other similar assessments in Bolivia (e.g. those conducted by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC), UNDP and Oxfam). In addition, the limited consultation process on the methodology development with key stakeholder, including with INE, has further limited the ownership and acceptance of the study and the willingness by other stakeholders (except those

linked to Swedish Embassy Contributions) to make use of the data. CEDLA is also well-known in Bolivia for its opposition to MAS; thus the intense debate that followed the publication of the MDPA study also had a strong political flavour. Altogether, this indicates that the decision to involve only CEDLA in the conducting of the MDPA has diminished the relevance of this study. A broader collaboration involving more strategic partners and consultations in the methodology development would have been more appropriate.

Participation by local stakeholders, relevant public officials and service providers in the Contribution design process is explicitly reflected in some of the Contributions, but the majority do not explain how the design process has been done. Out of the 12 in-depth assessments, seven were assessed to involve some kind of participation by public officials. The level of engagement, however, varies quite substantially from Contributions being implemented directly through municipalities such as Swisscontact and Aquatuya (e.g. the municipality of Cliza has been fully involved from the outset and agreed to contribute 50% of expenditures) to Contributions where the government engagement takes place through participation via e.g. Technical Advisory Groups (e.g. the Promundo Contribution).

It is noted that although the 2016-2020 Strategy emphasises the need to strengthen government bodies, bilateral collaboration with central governmental institutions has been limited during the period. There are a few examples of substantial bilateral collaboration with the national government, such as with the Ministry of Environment and Water and the Ministry of Urban Development, however desk review and interviews indicate that governmental collaboration has become considerably constrained and a conscious decision by the Embassy has been to collaborate mainly indirectly with government institutions through the UN system. Thus, and in view of the difficult political context during the period, direct collaboration with the national government has been constrained at best, and in various cases non-existent. At the local level, the collaboration has been less affected, and engagement has largely been continued although budgets have been affected by the pandemic.

The vast majority of the Contributions are directly *aligned to national development policies* and the Contribution documents explicitly mention how they link to national priority areas. The Bolivian “Economic and Social Development Plan 2016-2020, within the Framework of Integrated Development for Living Well” constitutes the strategic framework for development and living well. It is based on the “Patriotic Agenda 2025” and the “Programme of the Government 2015-2020”. Thirteen pillars for integrated development constitute the core and a specific emphasis is placed on the sovereignty of Bolivia to decide for themselves and not allow any external powers influence the country’s priorities. Pillars explicitly reflected by the Sida 2016-2020 Strategy include: i) eradication of extreme poverty including social poverty in all forms, including exploitation, discrimination and racism; ii) universalisation of basic services including water, sewage and sanitation, transportation, electricity and housing; iii) health, education and sports; iv) scientific and technological sovereignty; v) community and financial sovereignty; vi) productive sovereignty with

diversification; vii) sovereignty over natural resources; viii) food sovereignty; ix) environmental sovereignty and integral development; and xi) sovereignty and transparency of the public administration.

Table 5 illustrates how the Contributions reflect the different pillars of the Bolivian development plan. It is noted that while Strategic Area 2 correlates with more pillars in the development plan, Strategic Area 3 mainly reflects the overall aim of poverty reduction by enhancing productivity and food security. Trade is to a lesser extent reflected in the national plan.

Table 5. Sida's strategic areas' correlation to Bolivia's development plan and the SDGs

Strategic Area	Bolivia Dev. Plan	SDGs	Contributions
Strategic Area 1	Pillar 1, 3 and 11	1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 16	Diakonia, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, Promundo, UNODC, HR Ombudsman, UN Women, UNHCR
Strategic Area 2	Pillar 2, 6, 7, 8, 9	2, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16	Aquatuya, WWF, Swisscontact, CEDLA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, PNC, SEI
Strategic Area 3	Pillar 1, 6, 8	1, 8, 17	Swisscontact, FAUTAPO, IBNORCA, SI

The full portfolio contributes to a large number of SDGs. The majority refer to SDG 1 (poverty) and SDG 5 (gender equality). While the Diakonia support to CSOs primarily focuses on SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 10 (reduced inequality), Swisscontact relates to many SDGs, including SDG 1 (poverty), SDG 2 (hunger), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 9 (innovation and infrastructure), SDG 13 (climate change) and to some extent SDG 16 (solid institutions) and SDG 17 (partnerships). The urbanisation interventions such as WWF also cut across several areas and relate to nine out of the total 17 goals, and in particular to SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), SDG 1 (poverty), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 15 (life of terrestrial ecosystems) and SDG 17 (partnerships).

In terms of *alignment with Swedish/Sida strategies and priorities*, and as discussed above, almost all contributions fall directly under one or more of the strategic areas. In terms of the cross-cutting areas, it is noted that while gender equality is reflected in most Contributions, only some of them have mainstreamed gender in their results framework and in establishing targets for both men and women. An interesting attempt to streamline gender equality across the UN organisations has been made through the “One United Nation” Contribution, which introduces a gender perspective with a focus on masculinities and working with men and boys on addressing gender inequality. While UNICEF, UN Women, UNDP and UNFPA all have gender strategies, there has not been a coordinated approach across the UN family working in Bolivia.

The environment perspective is often not included in human rights and governance Contributions, whereas in Contributions concerning Strategic Areas 2 and 3 a more elaborated analysis of environment is provided. For instance, the “Solid Waste Management: Bolivia Zero Waste 2019-2022” (Helvetas) has had programme documents screened by the Sida environment helpdesk, and their

advice was taken into account in the final programme document. Sida partners are supported by the national CSO UNIR, to ensure that the partners fully consider the conflict perspective.

Alignment to general needs in the sector / to the strategy objective is relatively clearly reflected in the majority of the Contribution documents and proposals. National sectoral development policies as well as the SDGs and the Economic and Social Development Plan 2016-2020 are often referred to in the context analyses to argue the relevance of the specific sectoral interventions. As mentioned above, the lack of a policy for urban planning is being addressed by the “National Urban Policy Programme” Contribution based on an observed gap by multiple stakeholders including governmental partners. Another example of the Embassy’s response to specific sectoral needs during the period has been the decision to support a pre-investment study (conducted by SWECO in order for the government to obtain a World Bank investment loan) for a wastewater treatment plant in La Paz. The plant was observed by governmental authorities and donors to be a key priority in view of La Paz’s serious waste management problems which lead to substantial negative environmental impacts. This was also the case in the collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) where Sida funded a pre-study on street lighting that allowed for IADB to provide the government with a loan for a more large-scale intervention.

Alignment with – and response to – needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries are often not very well reflected in the Contribution documents, and it is unclear to which extent beneficiaries are involved in design processes. While documents and applications mostly reflect the sector gaps and needs that will be addressed during implementation, it is less clear whether this correlates with beneficiaries’ needs and wishes. However, according to interviewed beneficiaries’ there has been a good correlation with their needs. The UNIR Contribution was decided upon based on an assessment made by the Embassy, who identified a gap in understanding and implementing the conflict perspective, which has proven highly relevant in the Bolivian context. The UN agencies have been sceptical towards this project and claim to have their own methods and protocols to work with the conflict perspective. This was confirmed by UNDP, who have applied a conflict-sensitive approach in their support of the election in October 2020. However, few conflict reflections were identified in programme documents for other UN organisations. Interviews with stakeholders show that several Sida partners have benefitted from this capacity strengthening and have been able to use these competences in practice. IDEA International has been able to play a substantial role in gathering stakeholders in a local conflict (Tarija) through dialogue and mediation. While not resolving the conflict, methods have been put forward to keep parties engaged in a constructive dialogue.

UNICEF conducted substantial preparatory work before deciding to undertake the Montero Urban Sanitation Project and the support to Venezuelan migrants. A diagnostic study was conducted before deciding to target migrants and provide psycho-social and legal support responding to their needs. This was confirmed by beneficiaries themselves and other key stakeholders. Migrants are under

substantial pressure and often suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression or other mental diseases. Mental health is a greatly underprioritised area in Bolivia and there is a huge need to address mental health, not least with migrants who do not have access to services in general.²⁸

The assessment of *complementarity and absence of duplication with programmes of other donors* has confirmed that Sida is one of few bilateral donors left in Bolivia, which could allow for easier coordination of interventions across UN organisations and with other donors. The joint process of developing the “One United Nation” gender strategy is an example of how Sida has used this position to insist on a joint and coordinated interaction to avoid duplication of programmes within the UN family. Sida participates in different donor coordination groups, often with the same donors represented, and the limited number of donors eases the coordination. No examples of duplication of interventions have been identified. To the contrary, there are some good examples of complementarity, e.g. in cases where Sida has financed pre-studies for larger investments that have subsequently allowed World Bank and IADB to provide loans for larger infrastructure projects, such as wastewater plants and street lighting. However, in some sectors there seems to be potential for improved coordination among the key international organisations. This is the case, for instance, within agriculture and rural development, where IFAD and FAO were not particularly aware of the Swedish support in this sector and had limited knowledge about the Swisscontact Contribution.

Urban planning is a good example of an area where Sweden has been almost solely engaged. Sweden was instrumental in bringing UN-Habitat to Bolivia and putting the topic on the agenda. Similarly, within the human rights area there are few donors, and the Swedish prioritisation of sensitive areas such as abortion and rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT+) community have also been highlighted as a specific Swedish added value.

5 Implementation and immediate results

5.1 STRENGTHENED DEMOCRACY, GENDER EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Strategic Area 1: Strengthened democracy and gender equality and greater respect for human rights.

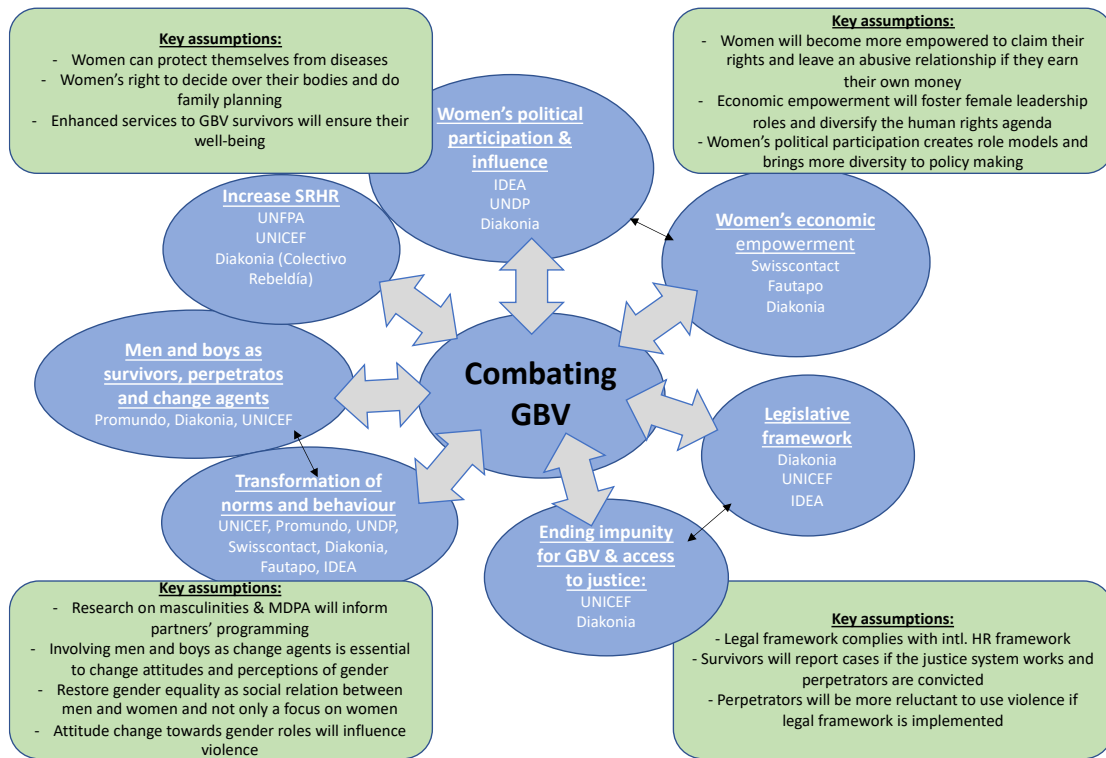
1) Strengthened democratic institutions, greater capacity and due process in public administration and increased participation in political processes; 2) Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to promote respect for human rights, with a focus on women, children and indigenous people; 3) Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to promote gender equality, with particular focus on combatting gender-based violence.

5.1.1 Gender-based violence as a core area in the Swedish portfolio

GBV has been identified as a core area in the Swedish portfolio. It is the core objective of several Contributions and has also been mainstreamed throughout the majority of the portfolio. Several Contributions address GBV as their main objective (such as Promundo, Diakonia and UNICEF) or as a secondary but rather dominating area (e.g. Swisscontact and Fautapo). As mentioned in Section 2, GBV has increased in Bolivia during the pandemic and is therefore of even more concern now. The GBV “portfolio” includes support to international NGOs (Diakonia and IDEA), national CSOs (such as Fautapo), UN organisations (UNICEF and UNFPA), governmental institutions (channelled through UN organisations) and research initiatives (such as Promundo). In this way all types of modalities are applied to combat GBV. Bilateral interventions with the government have been implemented through support to ombudsman institutions such as the municipal ombudsman offices for children (Defensoría de Niñez y Adolescencia).

Figure 3 illustrates a ToC diagram of GBV as reflected in the Sida gender toolbox. It illustrates the impact pathways to combat GBV. GBV is closely related to women’s political participation, women’s economic empowerment and SRHR. It addresses legislative barriers, ensuring justice by ending impunity, accepting men and boys as not only perpetrators but also survivors of violence and potential change agents, as well as by focusing on transformation of norms and behaviour. All of these aspects are impact pathways to combatting GBV and mutually reinforcing.

Figure 3. ToC diagram and impact pathways to GBV²⁹



Access to justice and ending impunity has not been a key priority area and is primarily covered through the Contribution to UNICEF. The Embassy analysed Sida's possibility of engaging in the justice sector, but it was decided not to enter this highly complex sector and instead prioritise funds elsewhere. Therefore, only few Contributions focus on access to justice. While there is indeed a need to support GBV survivors in accessing justice, other donors have also found the justice sector to be too complex to enter with limited funds.³⁰ It requires substantial and long-term support to this sector and since Sida was unsure of its future engagement in Bolivia, it was decided not to enter the sector.

UNICEF is playing a key role in supporting survivors of GBV to access justice and has been flexible and fast in adapting to the Covid-19 situation. During the Covid-19 pandemic UNICEF has responded quickly and already in April 2020 the "Safe Family Free Helpline" was established to "prevent violence and safeguard the mental health of Bolivian children". As of July, the helpline had received 13,222 calls and the numbers of calls has continued to increase throughout the period. Of the cases supported by UNICEF, 11% concerned response to cases of violence, whereas 10% concerned referral to a protection

²⁹ Gender Toolbox: Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence: Expressions and Strategies, 2015.

³⁰ Evaluation of Danish-Bolivian cooperation 1994-2016, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2018.

system. Key stakeholders interviewed assess that the increase in calls is an expression of increased needs but also shows that awareness of the helpline has increased.

For UNICEF, access to justice not only relates to GBV cases but also as a general protection mechanism for vulnerable groups and children. Here the work targeting Venezuelan migrants is worth mentioning. Venezuelan migrants have been entering the country since 2017, and although the majority leave the country again, a large number have settled in Bolivia.³¹ As described in the context section, they suffer from lack of basic needs and access to services. A key reason for their vulnerability is caused by lack of identity documents.³² UNICEF worked with the state authorities to develop a format that could work around this ID requirement and thereby ensure that services are provided to children without official identity cards. UNICEF lawyers have provided juridical support on a case-by-case basis to migrants and through concrete case management have been able to address legal barriers affecting migrants' legal position in the country and access to services.³³

To prevent violence against children and adolescents, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Interior in developing a “National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence against Children, Adolescents and Women” which was enacted with a supreme decree by the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Jeanine Añez in December 2019.³⁴ According to stakeholders, this has established UNICEF as a strong children's rights organisation and more funds have been attracted as a result.

Diakonia and partners have mainly been working on the legislative framework on GBV, ensuring that it complies with an international human rights framework. One key result of Diakonia highlighted by interviewees and reflected in the Sida appraisal³⁵ has been the acceptance of 23 recommendations out of 28 proposed by CSOs in Bolivia in the UPR process. Another key result is the shadow reporting on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).³⁶ Hence, Diakonia has used the international human rights framework to advocate for improving minorities' position in Bolivia. These include in particular afro-descendants, LGBT+ people, indigenous people,

³¹ Diagnóstico Rápido Sobre Requisitos de Regularización Migratoria Exigidos a Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes Venezolanos que son Acompañados/as por la Casa del Migrante y la Fundación Scalabriniana de Bolivia, 2019.

³² In Venezuela, children are only provided an identity card when they turn nine years old, so many children enter Bolivia without any documentation. Without documents people do not have access to services. This is also an issue for a large number of Bolivian children, including children who live in the streets, and, as mentioned in the context section, around 22% of children were not registered at birth (INE, Censo Nacional, 2012).

³³ According to UNICEF's own monitoring data, from May to September 2020 UNICEF has supported 38 families, consisting of 121 family members, in La Paz and Cochabamba with legal support.

³⁴ Visibility report, Cooperation of Embassy of Sweden with UNICEF Bolivia, 2019.

³⁵ Appraisal of intervention: Support to Civil Society – Diakonia HR and Gender, August 2020.

³⁶ Diakonia Mid-term Report 2016-2018, Agreement with Sida/CIVSAM, 2019.

trafficked persons, etc. and thus some of the traditionally most vulnerable groups in a society.

Sweden has a strong brand as promotor of human rights and gender equality, also when it comes to more vulnerable population groups such as the LGBT+ community and sensitive topics such as abortion and SRHR. In terms of SRHR, UNFPA is the main partner, targeting adolescents between 14-24 years with SRHR services and recognising the close link between SRHR and GBV. A key focus of UNFPA is the inclusion of vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, indigenous people and LGBT+ persons. Sweden is well-recognised for its work promoting gender and sexual minorities' rights and this is also reflected in the Contribution portfolio.

There are several interventions addressing LGBT+ rights and Diakonia is one of the key partners in this respect. Whereas Diakonia has an established group of partners they have collaborated with for a long time (also before the current Swedish funded Diakonia programme), a new initiative was recently launched to reach less established CSO partners. Diakonia is managing a fund targeting youth organisations to implement small-scale projects. Although this initiative has only recently been initiated, results so far have been satisfactory and point towards an interesting way forward. The proposal process shows a high interest and Diakonia received quite a number of qualified proposals.

Diversa is a young LGBT+ organisation which had its research project on LGBT+ people migrating to Argentina accepted. Diversa was recently separated from the more established ADESPROC in order to better serve the more marginalised sub-groups of the LGBT+ population such as lesbians and transgender persons. Therefore, the organisation would not formally qualify for Sida support due to its lack of proper registration, but can access funds for small projects through Diakonia and in this sense the fund is rather innovative. This is essential in a sensitive area (LGBT+) where few donors provide funds and also necessary to allow less established CSOs to access funds.

The Diakonia partner Colectivo Rebeldía's strong position on the pro-abortion campaign "Campaña 28 de Septiembre", which is the most important Latin American pro-abortion campaign, initiated in the 1990s, has been highlighted by several stakeholders. Sweden's official position is that access to safe and legal abortion falls within the framework of human rights.³⁷ However, few organisations work with this sensitive subject matter in the Bolivian context. The topic is especially difficult in the conservative Santa Cruz, where Colectivo Rebeldía is located. Yet Colectivo Rebeldía has coordinated it

³⁷ Health brief, safe abortions, Sida, 2016.

from the Bolivian side for the past 10 years and is recognised by several stakeholders, including the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education RFSU,³⁸ who has entered into a core agreement with Colectivo Rebeldía. In 2014, the requirement to obtain judicial authorisation in order to undergo a legal abortion when the pregnancy is a consequence of rape, statutory rape, incest, kidnapping or when the pregnancy endangers the life or health of the woman was abolished.³⁹ The legal framework has thereby been considerably improved, but implementation is still considered an issue, especially in contexts where religious and conservative voices are gaining strength (as discussed in the context section).

Sweden has advocated for inclusion of men and boys as central change agents in programming and for recognition of them as survivors of violence, with the result that several partners have embraced masculinity as part of their approach to gender equality. The assumption behind involving men and boys in programming is that they need to be acknowledged as potential victims/survivors of violence and not only as perpetrators as they are more commonly considered to be. If they are actively involved in programming they can play a central role as change agents and role models. This assumption is also reflected in Promundo's approach, where both men's and women's attitudes to gender roles are seen as key to involving men in the fight against GBV. Therefore, Promundo's initial step when entering a new country is to conduct research on the topic. Promundo's quantitative research on IMAGES is intended to lay the foundation for working with masculinities and changing attitudes towards gender equality. The IMAGES survey is the first attempt to collect representative national data on masculinity and attitudes towards gender roles and is therefore very relevant to further developing preventive mechanisms. The main assumption behind the Promundo Contribution is that by conducting research, partners will use the results to inform their programming. While this is likely to be true, it is problematic that the results of the survey still have not been launched and that the involved organisations, including the one which conducted the survey, are not fully updated on progress. In order to make sure that partners will actually use the data in their programming it is essential that communication concerning this aspect is improved.

Capacity development of CSOs has supported new organisations working with masculinity in a more systematic way in GBV prevention programmes. There are many strong women's organisations in Bolivia who have worked to enhance women's rights and feminism. Although working with masculinity is not a new concept in Bolivia, few programmes have systematically included men and boys in preventive programmes. This is slowly changing and according to interviewed stakeholders, Promundo's intervention has supported several organisations in broadening their scope to also include men and boys in programming and accepting them as survivors of violence as well.

³⁸ Riksförbundet för Sexuell Upplysning (the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education).

³⁹ The National Universal Periodic Review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, November 2019.

Partners have demonstrated willingness to integrate masculinities into their programmes and scale up existing interventions in Bolivia, and it has been highlighted how awareness of masculinities as part of gender equality has changed their interventions. One immediate result of the support by Promundo was the collaboration between UN organisations in Bolivia: *“As a result of the first meeting of the United Nations agencies UNFPA, ILO, UNODC and UNICEF prepared a Gender Equitable Men Scale (GEM) survey of equitable gender and masculinities attitudes, which was applied to the personnel of the United Nations agencies.”* Thus, the training session allowed for the UN organisations to explore the UN family’s attitude towards gender and masculinities as well as to collaborate, which has not always been an easy task in Bolivia. UNICEF shared that they had integrated masculinities in their communication during the pandemic based on a training with Promundo. Other partners such as Swisscontact, Diakonia, We Effect and Fautapo have also conducted small “assignments” as part of the training session and thereby initiated a process of integrating masculinities into their programming.

According to several stakeholders, women’s economic empowerment is an area that needs to be further enhanced as a mechanism to improve gender equality and change attitude towards gender roles. So far it is primarily the Fautapo and Swisscontact Contributions which address women’s economic empowerment. Both projects have been fairly successful and delivered a number of results and managed to set up substantial mechanisms for measuring results.⁴⁰ Interviews with beneficiaries confirm the project’s contribution to what one interviewee referred to as a more stable business. *“Fautapo supported us to in installing drip irrigation in our flower plantation; (with) this production increased”* as one interviewee in a rural community expressed. Improved leadership capacities, especially among women, is another stated outcome. This is however a difficult aspect to verify.

The Swisscontact Contribution aims to contribute to the reduction of poverty by improving living conditions of small-scale farmers (with a special focus on women) in the Highlands (High-Plateau) and Inter-Andean Valleys. The baseline study for the project has been completed and three indices have been developed to measure effects from project implementation in relation to two fundamental themes: climate change resilience and women’s empowerment, as well as an index to measure multidimensional poverty. Although only the baseline index has been established, the annual report 2019 does indicate achievement of desired results. More than 5,600 women have accessed information, technology, technical support and financial services. In priority municipalities almost 1,000 women have been attended to by SLIM due to cases of violence, indicating that the link to

⁴⁰ According to Fautapo’s results report (2017-2019), the intervention has led to higher incomes as a direct result of participation of the project, with positive side effects of increased percentages of women’s housing ownership, from 36% before the project to 47% afterwards.

SLIM has been useful. A large number of men have also been sensitised on violence against women. However, the longer-term results of these outputs are difficult to measure at the time being.

Closely related to the masculinity theme is the transformation of norms and behaviour. Several partners work with this area, acknowledging that this is needed to fight structural discrimination and stereotypic attitude towards gender. However, the level of this work varies considerably and, whereas some partners work at policy level (e.g. Diakonia), others work directly with communities. The best example of a concrete intervention addressing behaviour change is Promundo's work with fathers and their involvement with childcare. This is currently being tested in the energy sector in collaboration with IADB with the intention to scale up the approach. However, the Covid-19 seriously delayed the process and the project carried out only one of two planned scoping visits before travel became impossible. Hence, no concrete results have yet materialised except for a great interest in working with masculinity from municipalities.

Swisscontact has conducted a diagnostic study of cultural perceptions of gender and masculine constructions in indigenous communities, which has informed awareness-raising material for sensitisation of men and women.⁴¹ This is interesting as it shows that Promundo's training has actually spurred concrete initiatives on how to work with masculinities. Fautapo has also worked with changing behaviour, and according to Fautapo's own monitoring data, beneficiaries have improved their family relationships and gained knowledge on how to seek help if personal and/or family problems occur. In both projects, linkages are made to SLIM. This seems to have increased the level of reporting of violence, which is an important first step to changing behaviour. However, in order to be effective and to continue to encourage women to report cases, it is essential that impunity is ended and that survivors are supported in accessing justice. Only if the justice system delivers a fair and impartial treatment where justice is enforced will it be possible to change behaviour.

5.1.2 Children's rights

Until 2016 Sweden was the most important donor in the education sector, and the purpose of the support provided to UNICEF was to continuously support the Ministry of Education, albeit indirectly. The combination of substantial analytical work and the institutional support has contributed to UNICEF sustaining its position as the key promotor of children's rights in Bolivia. The UNICEF Urban Sanitation Project in Montero is recognised for its integrated and innovative approach by several key stakeholders. As part of the design process, a MDPA was conducted. This approach laid the foundation for

⁴¹ Swisscontact, annual report 2019.

integrating child protection mechanisms to prevent violence with service provision in the form of dry ecological toilets. This is reflected in e.g. the preparation of service providers, such as Cooperativo de Servicios Públicos Montero Limitada (COSMOL),⁴² on how to detect cases of violence when they enter households where the ecological toilets are installed. Hence, the project integrates services and behaviour change from the perspective of the child. The Urban Sanitation Project in Montero is considered a pilot and a learning process that can inform future interventions with the potential for scaling up the current intervention. However, there have been challenges with the cooperation between service providers and the Municipality of Montero, since the municipality has proven unwilling to collaborate with the entities that operate water services as they see them as competitors. At the same time, service providers are challenged by poor financial performance that in the worst cases can lead to bankruptcy. Apart from that, at the national level there have been issues with governmental partners feeling less involved in the intervention, which might affect the potential for upscaling.

The support to Venezuelan migrant children and families has increased awareness of the need for mental health care and development of a psycho-social mental health protocol to support staff members' assessments of migrants' mental health has been an important result. The focus on mental health is of key importance and according to stakeholders a clearly underserved area in Bolivia. There are very few options for survivors of violence to get psychological support to help them fully recover. Mental health issues are considered a taboo and very little has been done politically to improve mental health care. Realising that the implementing NGOs' competences were not sufficient in terms of dealing with mental health, UNICEF decided to hire a psychologist with experience working with migrants. The initial intention was for her to support migrants directly. However, migrants only stayed for short time in the different shelters and then moved on, which hampered the possibility to follow up with them. Therefore, it proved better to support staff members at the shelters to identify mental health issues and develop their capacities to support the migrants. Thus, the role of psychologist was changed to supervision and supporting implementing NGO staff instead of doing the actual counselling. This has been essential to ensure that NGO staff could continue the very demanding work without burning out.⁴³

⁴² Cooperativo de Servicios Públicos Montero Limitada

⁴³ According to UNICEF's monitoring data, a total of 216 Venezuelan families consisting of 484 family members were supported from May to September 2020.

A very ill Venezuelan woman with symptoms of PTSD and schizophrenia came to La Paz accompanied by a man she met in Honduras. She was unable to move or talk. Staff members tried to help her here but were not fully capable of doing so. She moved to Cochabamba where she created chaos at the shelter. She then left for Santa Cruz, and the staff members managed to reach out to the shelter and were able to prepare them in advance of her arrival. In her very vulnerable state of mind it was essential to approach her in an appropriate way, and the preparation ensured that staff members at the shelter knew what to do. The preparation allowed them to stand ready and treat her, and she improved but was still not well. She decided to leave for Brazil together with the man from Honduras. The police caught the couple and thought she was a victim of trafficking. However, UNICEF's lawyer was able to sort out the situation quickly with the police. The shelter in Brazil, where the couple was heading to, was warned in order to prepare them for her arrival, in order to prevent chaos and to provide her with the best possible care. This network was not in place before the Covid-19 helpline was established, and the focus on establishing better internet connections and linking shelters with NGOs, etc. has allowed for this information-sharing. UNICEF was flexible in terms of allowing NGOs to reallocate resources for establishing better internet connections, which became an immediate need during the pandemic.

This led to the development of a protocol as well as tools to guide the practical use. It is a basic protocol – mixing psychology with social work – on how to assess a client, what to be aware of and how to provide mental first aid. Beneficiaries of the supervision express high needs for this kind of support. Staff members at shelters constantly have to face and handle groups of people with high risk of mental illness, higher rates of violence, more abuse of alcohol, trafficked populations, etc. Migrants are often in very vulnerable situations leading to frustration, which can be projected onto staff members at the shelters. In the context of the pandemic they also face considerable risks of being infected with Covid-19. Not all staff members have the skills to handle these situations and even if they are properly trained, there is high risk of them burning out.

A risk of burning out also exists within the municipal ombudsman offices for children, which are poorly resourced and under high pressure. This has been very evident under the Covid-19 pandemic, where cases of violence are perceived to have increased. The ombudsman office for children in Santa Cruz found UNICEF's support very relevant and much needed, and the link between the Urban Sanitation Project and the protection against violence is especially emphasised.

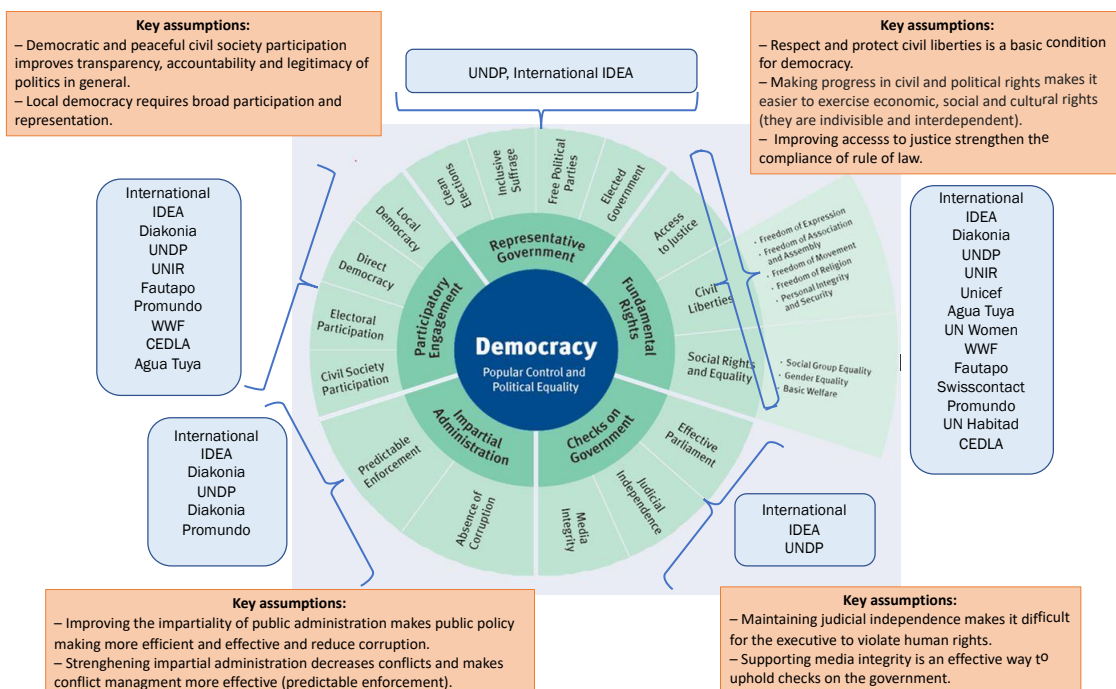
A clear challenge under Covid-19 and the quarantine has been how to reach marginalised children in terms of education. All schools have been locked down for more than six months, and not all children have had access to internet to follow online tutoring. The internet solutions have allowed some children to continue online education, but in rural areas this has been a challenge (despite UNICEF’s flexibility), and it is expected that these children will suffer from this setback. For instance, government stakeholders have indicated increasing issues related to teenage pregnancies and school drop-outs due to the pandemic. These will become important issues to deal with in the aftermath of the pandemic.

5.1.3 Democracy, election and citizen’s participation

A significant number of partners have been devoted to regional and local levels of governance, promoting civil and political rights indirectly in combination with more direct support of social and economic rights. Fautapo, IDEA International, UNICEF and Swisscontact are examples of partners linking capacity-building for broad political participation of CSOs, especially women and young people, with regional and local democratic governance.

Figure 4 is based on IDEA’s definition of democracy and provides a ToC diagram and impact pathways to promoting democracy, as well as a mapping of Swedish Contributions to the different pathways.

Figure 4. ToC diagram and impact pathways to promote democracy



An implementation pattern is that not only CSOs, which constitute a majority of partner categories, but also UN-organisations (for example UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP) are cooperating with local authorities. Often, their staff and elected officials are perceived as being both target groups and beneficiaries. Bringing citizens and decision-makers together serves the purpose of holding duty bearers accountable for their actions. More concretely, many projects have contributed both to maintaining a peaceful and constructive dialogue in contexts affected by arbitrary actions by the central government and to creating awareness among CSO stakeholders of financial and other realities of regional and local governments. A few interviewees stated that redistribution of tax resources from the national to the local government had been halted by state officials in La Paz as a way of punishing disloyalty to the ruling MAS and disrespect of established rules on local administrations' autonomy and impartiality.

Many projects address gender equality as a crosscutting issue, linking women's participation in politics to women's economic empowerment and the urgent need to combat GBV. This integrated approach is perhaps the clearest example of projects aimed at strengthening women's collective and individual leadership contributing to democratic capacities in many institutions. It is evident that Sweden's cooperation in Bolivia is addressing issues that only relatively recently have been given priority by international organisations, such as analysing the average time that women and men spent on paid and unpaid work and women's participation in the work force.

As illustrated in Figure 4, **the integrated approach applied in many of the Contributions, has fostered involvement in many of the areas and sub-areas of democracy and human rights.** Unsurprisingly, a high number of projects have been actively involved with civil society participation in local governance and local democracy. This has been done through different activities, democratic dialogues in towns and communities, workshops on public policies, trainings and diploma courses with participation by CSO activists, members of political parties, decision-makers and administrative and local technical public officials.

Elections

The most important Contributions in terms of elections are the support to UNDP and IDEA International. The realisation of a free and fair election without any subsequent conflict is an important result. UNDP sought to rebuild Bolivia's electoral system and hold new general elections one year after the crisis in 2019. The independence of the election authority OEP was seriously questioned after the crisis in 2019, where Evo Morales tried to secure a fourth period. At an early stage during the post-electoral crisis in November and December 2019, Sweden offered to support the preparation for new elections as a determining factor to reduce the levels of violence, polarisation and citizens' loss of trust in democratic institutions and processes. The crisis affected both the outgoing and incoming governments. For a period, the big debate both in and outside Bolivia was whether the regime change should be considered a coup d'état or not. The only reasonable way forward was to quickly commit to and begin preparing new elections. Sweden decided to support UNDP for the preparation of the elections.

The UNDP Contribution was part of a major support effort by the international community⁴⁴ to strengthen and rehabilitate the OEP authority and its key institutions, the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE and the regional bodies Departmental Tribunal Courts (TEDs)). The overall objective was to arrange elections free of violence, leading to results that could be recognised by all parties. One source consulted by the evaluators before the elections of the 18th October described the project as part of a wider democratic purpose, in the following words: *“Supporting the new OEP and its operative institutions TSE and TED has a wider purpose than the capacity to organise clean elections. OEP’s role is also to foster democratic values and standards beyond elections. It has an educational and monitoring role regarding the behaviour of political parties, not least on the issue of complying with the constitutional and regulatory gender parity requisite.”*

Before the crisis in late 2019, the “Women’s Leadership and Strengthening the Management of Departmental Public Policies” Contribution (IDEA International) worked to strengthen OEP. The objective was to modernise the management of the election authorities. **New norms and rules were established, defining competencies and responsibilities of the electoral courts, the elected juries and the electoral notaries, including mechanisms to guarantee transparency and accountability.** As mentioned in the context section, a Gender Equality Observatory was established with support from IDEA International in 2016 to monitor political harassment in politics. Although the OEP’s independence was clearly questioned during the crisis of 2019, the principles for transparency and accountability are considered to have provided building blocks for the current UNDP Contribution.

The objectives of the UNDP Contribution were clearly achieved, given the peaceful outcome of the elections (with the MAS presidential candidate Luis Arce winning in the first round with 55% of the votes⁴⁵) and because the results were recognised by the entire Bolivian society, including Arce’s competitors. The initiative by the Embassy was risky but turned out successful, at least in the short term. It now has to be seen whether the new incoming MAS government will respect OEPs newly recovered autonomy and effectiveness, achieved partly thanks to Sweden’s and other donors’ contributions. It would be an important sustainable impact result. The project is also a good example of a swift response by Sweden to the changes in needs and opportunities in the Bolivian context.

⁴⁴ Among the international organisations and bilateral donor countries supporting OEP in line with Sweden’s project were the European Union, The Special Peace Fund of the UN Secretary General, United States, United Kingdom and Spain.

⁴⁵ Source: <https://www.paginasiete.bo/nacional/2020/10/24/conteo-oficial-arce-gana-con-55-le-da-al-mas-la-cuarta-victoria-consecutiva-272663.html>.

Citizens' Participation

Citizens participation in democratic governance in the broad sense has been prominent in the portfolio and has been a central aspect of several contributions. These include several established funds targeting citizens with a priority on youth, women and vulnerable groups. Funds have been established under WWF and, as mentioned above, Diakonia has established a fund for smaller youth CSOs applying for grants. There was great interest and 18 projects were accepted by the selection committee and are currently being implemented. The Citizen Initiatives Fund (FIC) under the WWF Contribution, administered by the UNITAS Network, supported proposals from young people and women: seven in the first round (2018-2019) and 11 in a second round (February 2020). Only two projects have not yet been realised compared to the planned goal of at least 20 projects. **Young people agree that the projects allow them to realise their aspirations, consolidate and make visible their proposals, and forge alliances with different actors.** However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the projects approved in February 2020 face difficulties in their implementation.

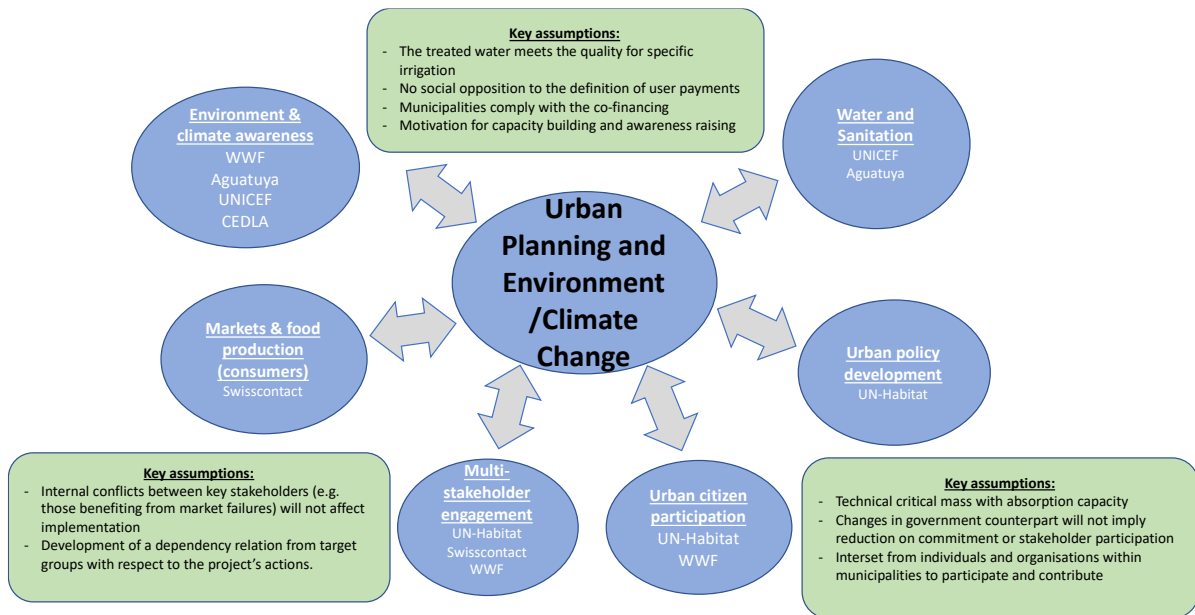
5.2 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENHANCED RESILIENCE

Strategic Area 2: A better environment, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience to environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters. 1) Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to manage the effects of negative environmental impacts and climate change; 2) Enhanced resilience to environmental impacts and climate change in rural areas; 3) Increased productivity in primarily small-scale agriculture, including sustainable use and management of natural resources and ecosystem services, with a focus on women and indigenous people; 4) Greater access to environmentally sustainable community services.

The original focus within this strategy area was on environmentally sustainable community services and strengthening of capacities among public institutions and CSOs to manage the negative effects of climate change and other environmental impacts. While these elements have formed part of most Contributions supported within this strategic area, the strategic focus has during the period been expanded to more explicitly include also urban planning processes. This has been a response to the evolving priorities, needs and demands of the Bolivian Government. Thus, there has been an increasing interconnectivity over the period between urban planning and challenges and opportunities related to urban environmental issues and climate change, with a particular view to benefitting the growing poor and underdeveloped outskirts of intermediate cities and peri-urban areas.

Figure 5 illustrates how “urban planning and environment/climate change” have been the central axis for the Contributions supported within this strategic area. The figure illustrates how different pathways and Contribution subjects are linked to the axis.

Figure 5. ToC diagram and impact pathways to urban planning and environment/climate change



The key Contributions assessed under this strategic area are, on the one hand, the UN-Habitat “Urban Policy Development” and the WWF Contribution “Urban solutions with citizen action” and, on the other hand, the water- and sanitation-focused Contributions implemented by Aguatuya and UNICEF, both with a focus on intermediate cities and closely linked to the urban planning agenda. In addition to this, the WATCH⁴⁶ Contribution (implemented by the SEI) and the river basin (PNC) Contribution supported through the Ministry of Planning in Bolivia are important.

5.2.1 Urban policy development

The Embassy’s increasing attention to urban planning over the strategy period, and its linkages to key environmental and climate change aspects, have been extremely timely and relevant in the Bolivian context, given the rapid urbanisation, lack of coherent planning and a complicated political situation.

Currently, the urban policy theme is one of the most pertinent support schemes for the Bolivian state. While Bolivia’s current urbanisation level (around 67%) is still below the average urban population in the Latin American region (around 80%), the current level gives an opportunity for Bolivia to plan and foster urban development and create conditions for better lives for the Bolivian population. Current scenarios indicate that by 2030, 80% of the Bolivian population will be living in cities. Thus, a coherent planning process to support the rural-urban transition and integration is strongly needed.

⁴⁶ A combination of WASH and water resource management.

The “National Urban Policy Programme” implemented by UN-Habitat has contributed significantly to increasing the awareness of the continuum and interdependence between urban and rural development in Bolivia and of the need to articulate the development of cities and territories. As a result of these efforts, new relationships between urban and rural are now being proposed.

The urban policy development process has benefitted from participation and inputs from several other Contribution partners, with concrete experiences and engagements directly related to the urban development agenda. These partners have attended and contributed through organised multi-stakeholder events. This includes WWF’s field experiences from the “Urban solutions with citizen action” Contribution, experiences from UNICEF’s Urban Sanitation Project and WASH interventions at municipal level in Montero, as well as specific experiences from IDEA International’s cooperation on metropolitan governance with the three metropolitan areas of La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz.

In addition, in the urban policy development process, UN-Habitat has utilised existing data collected by other stakeholders in the Bolivian context. There has been a close cooperation with CEDLA and UNDP on how to incorporate data and aspects from the MDPA into urban policy development planning. Although these data did not have an explicit focus on the urban dimension, additional information from CEDLA and the Ministry of Development Planning were used to apply the MDPA approach to the extent possible on the urban scale, including some of the indicators such as the one related to socio-spatial inequalities. The UN-Habitat methodologies and concepts have been used in this technical cooperation to support policy development.

A major achievement – in view of the Bolivian political context – has been to develop and transfer the urban policy document from one government (the MAS government) to another (the interim government). The urban policy document was developed through a long and inclusive stakeholder process, validated by the interim government but reflecting also what was agreed with the previous MAS government. A vast and diverse participatory process was conducted to develop the policy, including two national urban forums in 2018 and 2019. The process stretched over more than two years, involving three different Vice Ministers.

In addition, the policy document was developed through consensus and agreement with various actors and key stakeholders. This has implied development of a conceptual base of information and an institutional assembly. This has led to a systematisation of the large existing information base on cities in the country. In addition, the urban policy development process has also catalysed other parallel policy development processes, for instance drafting of a housing policy as a complementary but necessary element in this process.

Both the “National Urban Policy Programme” (UN-Habitat) and the “Urban solutions with citizen action” project (WWF) have been rooted in multi-stakeholder engagements. While this approach has been both cumbersome and time-consuming, and quite innovative in the Bolivian context, the establishment of multi-stakeholder platforms is emphasised by several key stakeholders as perhaps the most important single achievement, which has since also facilitated more efficient responses to Covid-19 emergencies. The networking and communication channels established and supported through the projects have been fundamental to developing relationships between individuals and institutions and

widening networks of public-private and private-private relationships. While this strategy of building alliances has taken time in the search for agreements and consensuses, it has been key to achieving more consolidated project results and providing a more solid foundation for continuation and expanding of the activities.

The urban policy development has not been the exclusive mandate of UN-Habitat. Instead, it has been a UN System agenda, where the UN agencies have been required to demonstrate their coordination and alignment as a practical process and concomitant with the UN reform. This has added both value and complexity to the policy development process. The fact that the process leading to consensus on the formulation of the urban policy took almost two and a half years is a clear indication of how complex the process has been involving highly complex political factors in Bolivia and UN Systems coordination.

With the aim of supporting an integrated urban development planning process, strong and positive synergies can be identified between the “National Urban Policy Programme” (UN-Habitat) and the “Urban solutions with citizen action” project (WWF). While the former provides the overall platform and framework for interacting with cities and urban settings, the latter has had a particular focus on mobilising institutions and CSOs, to improve their capacity and to generate results in relation to a new urban agenda, with a particular focus on environmental issues and climate change. The WWF design also explicitly addresses the vulnerability of women and youth as key actors and target groups for the urban development interventions.

In a forward-looking perspective, instead of concentrating the implementation of the urban policy on a single implementer, more alternatives may need to be considered and the support diversified, given the magnitude of the task and the ambition of the urban policy. The broad participatory policy formulation process has generated an extensive network of actors in different areas of urban development, including development partners, CSOs, private companies and universities. These could very well contribute to the implementation process through the platforms already established. Likewise, through the collaboration that has already been established with some of the urban municipal governments, it would be possible to diversify the support beyond a centralised approach from the Ministry of Planning. An alliance through the urban subgroup of the GruS⁴⁷ (the group of development partners in Bolivia) – in which UN-Habitat coordinates the technical secretariat – could also provide an interesting way ahead.

In addition, the implementation process will result in alterations to political scheduling and manoeuvring, thus the required agency competencies and experiences may change. This will include a perspective of political alliances and pacts of territorial agents. While UN-Habitat could potentially still have an important

⁴⁷ Grupo de Socios para el Desarrollo de Bolivia

technical support function (e.g. under the concept of a public policy innovation laboratory and urban co-creation), other agencies (e.g. UNDP) may be better positioned for implementation support. Thus, policy implementation could be through a platform with co-piloting between UNDP (which carries out territorial governance), the Ministry of Planning and Development (Ministerio de Planificación del Desarrollo (MPD)) within the framework of the General Plan for Economic and Social Development, and UN-Habitat in a technical support function. This may represent a natural continuation of the Embassy support to the policy formulation process.

5.2.2 Environment and Climate Change

During the strategy period, the Swedish Embassy has supported water and sanitation through different interventions, with a particular focus on the environment and climate change and enhanced resilience. The Contributions implemented by Aguatuya (Decentralised Sanitation Models) and UNICEF (WASH/Urban Sanitation Project) have been of particular importance in this respect, and the PNC Contribution and the SEI Contribution have also complemented these efforts. The WWF Contribution has helped to build a bridge between the urban planning and the environment and climate change focus.

More decentralised and local development of basic water and sanitation services has proven to be a potentially strong and viable alternative to the otherwise heavily centralised interventions in this sector. It has implied a close and trusted cooperation with the municipalities involved. The Contribution supporting Aguatuya provides a particularly interesting intervention model. The project approach is based on promotion of models to achieve scalability and replicability, accompanied by the development of local capacities of service providers to generate sustainable management models, supporting the implementation of local regulations. Thus, the project works through three strategic axes: scalability, replicability and capacity development. The focus is on both engineering and management, with simple but sustainable working technologies and infrastructure, and an implementation approach based on a co-financing model between Aguatuya and the municipalities. Thus, a particularly important dimension of the Aguatuya Contribution is a very close cooperation between Aguatuya and the municipalities involved. As an example, in the case of the Municipality of Cliza, the relationship with Aguatuya has existed since 2011 and it has been extensive and very open-minded. Aguatuya has invited people from Cliza to participate in various workshops and visits to learn from other experiences, including experiences from other countries.

At a time when the accelerated urbanisation processes in Bolivia seriously threaten the water security of the population living in the main cities, the decentralised water and sanitation model introduced by Aguatuya within intermediate cities provides useful solutions in relation to wastewater, faecal sludge treatment and reuse of treated water and nutrient. This model also implies that in order to ensure basic services and universal and inclusive access to water and sanitation, it may be more effective to focus on *different solutions and basic wastewater standards* than trying to achieve very high standards in conventional sanitation projects. The decentralised water and sanitation model benefits in particular

poor families living in the growing parts of urban and peri-urban areas. These families are particularly exposed to the environmental and health problems generated by untreated wastewater and the lack of basic sanitation services in their sector. Likewise, the reuse of wastewater is essential given the water scarcity and the decentralised models imperative to protecting the natural environment is implicit, given that, in many cases, health, livelihoods and protection against natural disasters depend on the preservation of the natural environment.

There is a need to better document and consolidate the impacts of Aguatuya's decentralised water and sanitation model. This would include a systematisation and summary of the institutional impacts, to promote an alternative to more conventional models. The decentralised model is environmentally friendly as it closes the water and nutrient cycles. Experiences from Cochabamba, where fertiliser and water treatment are used for irrigation for fruit trees and crops, thereby reducing costs and improving production, provides an interesting example of this. Currently, reducing costs and enhancing productivity is a challenge for all EPSAS (Entidades Prestadoras Servicios de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado Sanitario), for example with the issue of sludge treatment. According to interviews conducted during the evaluation, there is interest from EPSAS to learn more from Aguatuya's experiences and potentially to replicate these experiences in La Paz.

At the same time, more attention needs to be given to sustainability aspects of the installed toilets and sludge management, as experiences from Cliza show. Ideally, the sustainability of the services should be ensured by the payment and sale of the final product and through provision of efficient services. Whether this will be feasible is to be documented through an ongoing market study which will provide guidelines on how and where to sell the products.

The UNICEF WASH/ Urban Sanitation Project has followed a stable and rather streamlined implementation process, however there seems to be need for further exploration of how governments at different levels could become more actively engaged and whether sufficient capacities are available locally to ensure a sustainable use of the installed dry ecological toilets. Through the UNICEF WASH/ Urban Sanitation Project, more than 250 dry ecological toilet modules for families have been installed and made functional. The set-up relies on users paying for the water, allowing COSMOL to collect and transport final disposal (burial) of organic waste from the dry ecological toilets. This set-up is sustainable as long as the users will pay, since no financial support is envisaged from the municipality. All costs are covered solely by the user payments and the beneficiaries interviewed confirmed that payments are very reasonable. At the same time, beneficiaries benefit from the water for irrigation, which can enhance their production. The waste can also be used as fertiliser for fields, which again enhances production.

There are, however, indications that cooperation has proven difficult at the municipal level in Montero, and links to the Ministry of Environment and Water also needs to be further strengthened. In addition, some key stakeholders interviewed suggested that a technical assessment of the dry ecological toilets' impact on the environment should be conducted. This should also take into consideration the institutional sustainability of service providers, who are key actors, to ensure that the system is

working. Such an assessment could ideally be used as an opportunity to involve the Ministry in order to ensure their ongoing involvement and also to build a case for further up-scaling, in case results are as positive, as progress reports from UNICEF indicate.

The decentralised environmental service introduced through the Contributions, has improved the ability to interact both with other implementing partners, the municipalities, where the services are being provided, and at the central policy level. This contributes to more efficient transfer of experiences and learning across different institutional levels and stakeholder groups. As an example, in addition to Aguatuya's direct engagement at municipality level, the institution has managed to obtain a degree of policy influence through the linkages to the Ministry of Environment and Water, e.g. in relation to the national diagnosis of wastewater, developing of guides for wastewater treatment and input to the national wastewater strategy. In addition, Aguatuya has continuous interaction and coordination of interventions with other institutions supported by the Swedish Embassy (such as WWF, where there has been cooperation on advising the Municipal Competitive Fund in the cities of Tarija, La Paz and Trinidad, with UNICEF on interventions in Montero and with UN-Habitat through the various city policy workshops where specific suggestions have been provided on water and sanitation issues).

The specific Funds initiatives that have been implemented through the WWF Contribution are demonstrating an interesting mechanism to strengthen participatory formulation and implementation of citizen proposals, especially among some of the poorest and most vulnerable parts of the population (women and youth), and to visualise solutions on how to improve environmental issues and resilience on the effects of climate change. This includes the Municipal Competitive Fund, which targets municipal governments, NGOs and neighbourhood organisations and prioritises the participation of women and youth. The Fund is based on a public-private partnership between Gobierno Autónomo Municipal (GAM), WWF and an NGO responsible for the design and implementation. Additionally, the Citizen Initiatives Fund, implemented by the national UNITAS network, presents an innovative mechanism in the Bolivian context with potential for scaling and replication. As mentioned in Section 5.1 (Citizen Participation), there has been high interest in the Funds and the implementation experiences so far have been mainly positive. The aim of the funds is to contribute to environmental education and communication, promote participation and mobilisation of CSOs, academia, etc., and encourage local governance and political dialogue to influence the construction of public policies to strengthen the municipal role in the fight against climate change.

The Swedish Embassy, together with its water and sanitation Contribution partners, was able to respond quickly to the Covid-19 emergency, building on the institutional infrastructure and communication channels already established through these Contributions. During the Covid-19 pandemic, both UNICEF and Aguatuya were able to adapt their interventions quickly and support with safety measures for their partners and activate them to distribute disinfection kits and take measures to prevent further contamination. Montero was one of the worst Covid-19 affected cities and COSMOL played a leading role in supporting families with infected family members, providing disinfection kits and arranging to have their

homes disinfected. Likewise, within the framework of Covid-19, Aguatuya, together with the Swedish Embassy, provided supplies and biosafety equipment to the municipalities of Valle Alto de Cochabamba and Tarija, in order to give continuity to the basic services provided by these municipalities.

The Embassy's long-term support to the national river basin plan (PNC) has provided an important fundament for transferring of responsibilities from the central level to municipalities and for further promoting territorial planning in the management of river basins. This support has included development and institutionalisation of mechanisms for water management planning, involving stakeholders from different sectors and institutions. Particular attention has been given to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and water quality management.

The SEI WATCH Contribution is providing a useful supplement to the decentralised interventions in the water and sanitation sector through a more direct policy engagement. The SEI WATCH Contribution specifically aims at strengthening institutional capacities to connect water, sanitation and watershed planning, which currently are separate. This initiative may be particularly useful and necessary with a view to the future replication and upscaling potential of the piloted decentralised water and sanitation models.

5.3 BETTER OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS

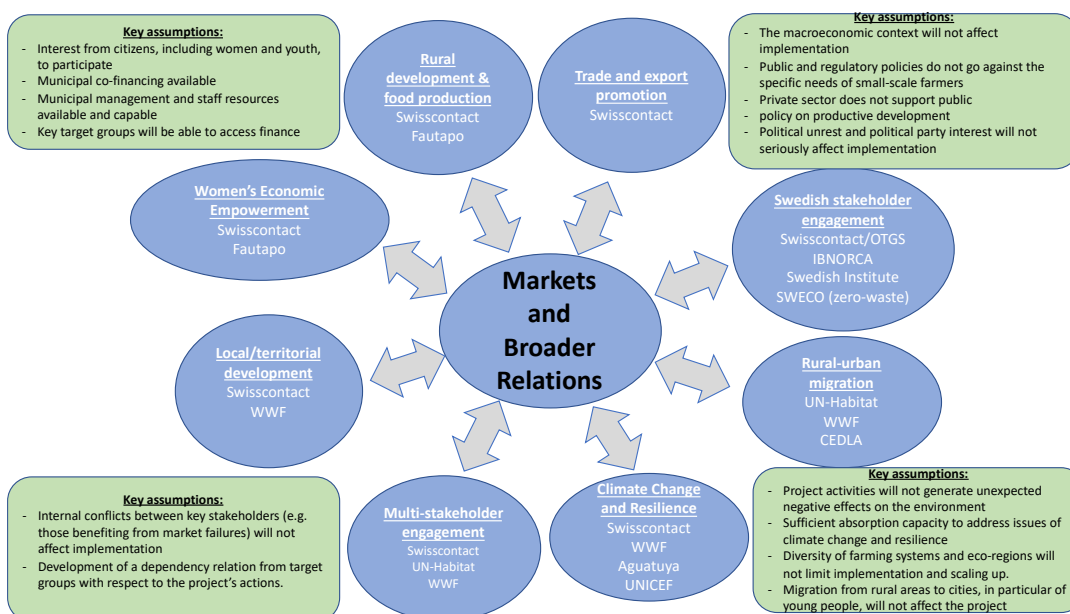
Strategic Area 3: Better opportunities and tools to enable poor people to improve their living conditions. 1) Enhanced conditions for free and fair trade and sustainable investments that will benefit sustainable development, with particular focus on a better environment, reduced climate impact and greater resilience to environmental impacts and natural disasters.

The Contributions supported within this strategic area aim at addressing challenges related to low productivity, low yields, low competitiveness and limited innovation in agricultural production, not least in relation to smallholder production and technologies. These issues have led to a situation where small agricultural producers are highly vulnerable, and where the country itself has become increasingly dependent on imported agricultural products, affecting not only the national economy but also the aspect of food security. When a high vulnerability to climate change is

added to this equation, overall vulnerability becomes even higher, affecting the national level of food security and key food products.⁴⁸

Despite the efforts that Bolivia has made through private, public and international cooperation to provide financial and non-financial services to resolve various systemic bottlenecks, serious challenges persist in the agricultural production system, in particular with regards to smallholders’ production. So far, it has not been possible to provide comprehensive systemic solutions that can respond to the complexity of these challenges. In view of this critical situation, Sweden’s support within Strategy Area 3 aims at providing targeted, innovative and opportunity-driven support for sustainable increases in smallholders’ production and export, including through a stronger focus on trade relations between Bolivia and Sweden. Figure 6 illustrates the ToC for the area of Markets and Broader Relations. It also maps the impact pathways addressed by the Swedish Contributions.

Figure 6. ToC diagram and impact pathways for Markets and Broader Relations



5.3.1 Markets and Development

The “flagship” Contribution within Strategic Area 3 is the “Inclusive Markets Project” (IMP) implemented by Swisscontact and co-financed by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). Through a combination of the MDPA and the MSD approaches, the IMP aims “to contribute to the reduction of poverty by improving living conditions of small-scale farmers (with a special focus on women)

⁴⁸ Bolivia is a country highly vulnerable to climate change. An evaluation carried out through the “Climate Change Vulnerability Index” qualifies Paraguay and Bolivia as the most exposed and vulnerable economies in agricultural terms. Bolivia is located in position 127 of 181 countries evaluated according to level of vulnerability and willingness to improve resilience. https://cambioclimatico-bolivia.org/index-cc.php?cod_aporte=233.

in the Highlands (High-Plateau) and Inter-Andean Valleys”. Fautapo is also contributing within this area as well as some of the environmental- and climate change-focused interventions under Strategic Area 2, such as Aguatuya, UNICEF WASH/ Urban Sanitation Project and WWF, where in particular the “water” aspects are of common concern (see above).

Key partners and stakeholders interviewed highlight the importance of a very constructive and participatory IMP design process leading to inclusion of new strategic and innovative focus areas, highly driven by Swedish priorities, as well as improved efficiency from the development of one joint project with one budget and one monitoring and administrative system. Despite the fact that SDC/Swisscontact had experience from implementing the first project phase, the Swedish Embassy was strongly involved in the discussions of the IMP. This thorough design working process made it possible to analyse the Contribution from various strategic perspectives. Thus, as a result, the IMP includes very specific inputs that respond to Swedish policy and priorities such as i) Gender equity/GBV/masculinity (see discussions above), ii) economic empowerment, productivity, plural economy, financial education; and iii) piloting of the MDPA. Thus, compared to the first phase of the project, the engagement of the Swedish Embassy has resulted in a significant re-direction of the project focus, with a particular view to responding to the Swedish Cooperation Strategy. Joint programming at this scale among bilateral development partners is quite unusual in the Bolivian context, as it has not been particularly encouraged by the government.

The IMP is offering innovative *systemic solutions*, responding to the complexity of rural areas in the Bolivian context, with a particularly strong practical attention to gender issues. The project is unique in its combining of the MSD approach with the MDPA and the articulation between non-financial services and actors, technology, suppliers and more inclusive financing. Compared to “traditional” rural intervention programmes, the IMP is based on a rigorous analysis of the factors that make a market system complex and on how dynamics are generated within and outside such systems. This is generating systemic changes through identified local agents of change (public and private) who contribute to the development of skills and institutional capacity and encourage a growing use of the resources already existing in market systems (financial, human and information), thereby gradually decreasing the use of project resources. Thus, the IMP has a much broader scope than just economic growth: it focuses on solutions that are identified with local agents of change, who are prepared to face new and different challenges on their own after the project has withdrawn.

However, while the combined use of MSD and MDPA in the project is highly innovative and relevant as it combines a system approach with differentiated poverty and vulnerability parameters, it is also an ambitious and complex task. It has been a time-consuming process to roll out first the diagnostic processes, then to plan and prepare for integrated interventions with a focus on both internal and external markets while also carefully reflecting social, gender and environmental concerns. At the same time, the project has intended to combine a vertical and horizontal focus. Thus, while the broader and wider results from the project are still to be seen, the approach has so far shown to be useful for identification of both vulnerability and promising

production potential. A further analysis of these issues could become instrumental to designing other projects in the next strategy period. SDC is currently undertaking a global evaluation of their MSD-supported projects with Bolivia as one of the country cases. Learning from this study should be used for defining future interventions in this area.

Another innovative, and so far successful, feature of the IMP has been its strong focus on *facilitation* of coordinated actions among groups of different market system actors, through establishing multi-stakeholder platforms for engagement (horizontal as well as vertical integration). The intervention strategy has been based on engaging with public and private actors at different levels: micro (municipal), meso (departmental) and macro (national and international) levels. This includes various market actors, with the aim of generating networks that allow for catalysing innovations in economic and social areas. At local level, the IMP has worked closely with municipalities and organisations with relevant experience within the intervention areas (such as PROFIN and Fautapo).

The IMP and UNICEF (as mentioned above) have demonstrated a strong ability to adapt in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, trying to alleviate the worst negative effects on the producers as well as in proving support in emergency situations in both the health and food sector. The combination of both UNICEF and IMP's strong efforts to establish functional multi-stakeholder platforms (horizontally but also vertically) for swift communication and coordination, and the flexibility incorporated in the project design, have been critical factors in enabling the partners to adapt interventions in view of the opportunities and needs generated by the pandemic. During the months of sanitary emergency in Bolivia, the IMP generated a component called "Covid-19". Within this framework, provision of biosecurity equipment and supplies has been supported, including providing mechanical ambulatory ventilators (manufactured in Bolivia) to rural municipalities. In addition, a portfolio of activities has been incorporated to support the economic reactivation of Small-Medium enterprises (SMEs) in the food and tourism sectors as well as food supply at the national level (a platform to support food supply with the MDRyT) and at the local level (solutions for mobile markets, connecting producers with markets, businesses and producers' associations and linking up with municipal governments).

In the Bolivian context, multi-stakeholder platforms with the participation of private and public partners have traditionally been difficult to establish and maintain post-project implementation. However, in this case, these linkages have been strengthened by the emergency needs. Currently, there are more than 60 actors involved with the project, including different public institutions (e.g. GAMs, universities, state projects and programmes), private sector actors (e.g. technology providers, input suppliers, research institutes, exporters' chambers, universities, financing institutions and insurance companies) and producer associations. In this situation, the personal and institutional relationships and market linkages that have been established through the project at regional and local levels have become of critical importance to ensure that food products are still produced and delivered to the market. In particular, the project's ability to ensure continued and strengthened operation of local production and market networks has been of importance in this period.

The IMP has encouraged and contributed to the development of *short food supply chains* which have been important for linking rural producers to urban consumers. The particular importance of *short food supply chains* as a means of improving food security has been demonstrated during the Covid-19 pandemic. The IMP has shown that short food supply chains are important trade channels for producers and consumers in Bolivia and as a means of supporting rural development. Thus, short food supply chains constitute a tool both for promoting the local economy as well as for meeting consumers' quality requirements.

The gender elements introduced through this project are considered by stakeholders to be some of the most innovative work in the area of gender that exists in Bolivia. Most other projects that work on the economic empowerment of women in Bolivia does not include this integrated perspective, although the link between economic empowerment and prevention of GBV is already a well-known lesson from gender work in the country. Only the issue of the care economy is still weakly represented in the project, although promoted by the focus on equity in the use of time with women entrepreneurs. The mechanism for strengthening the SLIMs, implemented through a collaboration between universities (La Paz pilot with UMSA and Oruro with UTO) and autonomous municipal governments has generated significant demand, both from other universities as well as departmental governments (e.g. Tarija) and other municipal governments. The acceptance within the communities is high and indications (from interviews and reports) are that the capacities to care for women have increased.

Gender was included in the project as a specific target due to Sida's strong prioritisation of this area and, combined with the use of the MDPA, gender concerns have a very prominent role in the project. In addition, the cooperation between UMSA-UTO and municipalities, and the linkage to family production, has been a successful innovative element in the project. Now, as there are strong indications that GBV has increased in Bolivia during the Covid-19 pandemic – probably due in part to increasing insecurity in family income and production – it would be very useful to provide a better understanding of how the strong focus on GBV in this project has translated into concrete results and how effective the approach has been in responding to those dynamics. A further analysis of these issues could become instrumental in determining how to address these particular gender issues in the projects in the next strategy period.

While institutional results may still be considered limited in the work with the central government, it is important to note that a constructive dialogue with key government ministries has been established through the IMP and the multi-stakeholder platform. Some concrete steps and achievements have been made: the MDRyT has incorporated the methodology developed for identification of territories in which the programmes of the public sector policies are being implemented. An agreement is also being negotiated with the National Service of Farming and Food Safety (SENASAG) for upscaling of the interventions in the area of pest control and management in relation to important strategic crops. Similarly, the project has inspired the design of two national programmes (fruits and Andean crops) and SDC has been requested to support their implementation. From a broader, more forward-

looking perspective, there is a need for stronger signals and more comprehensive mechanisms from the Bolivian Government to support a more diversified export strategy, which to a larger extent should include and take advantage of smallholder production.

Fautapo has established significant relationships with municipalities who are involved in around 70% of all activities, but they have not managed to establish sound cooperation with grassroots organisations. Fautapo has one-year long agreements with 25 municipalities, and 22 of these contribute financially to support small businesses, business' associations and outreach activities. The mid-term report (2018) concluded that Fautapo contributed to 17 municipal and departmental plans and projects. Most of these were focused on strengthening production of small businesses, but there were also 12 plans with an integrated perspective, crosscutting business development with gender equality and personal development.

A weak point of Fautapo has been the collaboration with local CSOs and grassroots organisations. They have been pioneering in terms of establishing small-scale businesses, but they have primarily been working alone in this area. In order to be fully effective in their work they need to learn from other positive multi-stakeholder engagements and make sure to establish better partnerships with grassroots organisations.

5.3.2 Focus on Broader Relations

The Swedish government has selected Bolivia as one of the five so called “pilot (or bridge) countries”, together with Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Bangladesh, meaning that Sweden's engagement in these countries should move its position beyond development cooperation to more business-focused relations. In the process of transforming the relationship between Sweden and Bolivia from aid to trade, it is considered important to reach out to new networks, particularly in the business community.

In view of this, the IMP Amendment signed with the Open Trade Gate Sweden (OTGS)⁴⁹ in April 2020 to further stimulate export and trade through the project seems very opportune.⁵⁰ Even though the IMP already included some export promotion activities in relation to Sweden,⁵¹ the amendment signed with OTGS has

⁴⁹ The joint pilot has a duration of 21 months, from April 2020 to December 2021.

⁵⁰ OTGS is part of the Swedish MFA “Toolbox” and aims to facilitate export from developing countries to Sweden. OTGS has recently secured a broader mandate (and more resources) from the MFA to work with a longer-term perspective (compared to previously, where the support mainly consisted of a couple of workshops). Bolivia was selected by the OTGS as one of three pilot countries, based on an assessment of the potential for developing of export relations from ongoing Contributions. The IMP was by OTGS considered to provide particularly good opportunities in this respect.

⁵¹ The positive results obtained by these activities have encouraged OTGS to join a common pilot effort in the context of its recently received mandate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate exports from developing countries to Sweden and the EU.

provided another boost to this end. In particular, the OTGS helps to explore export opportunities from the highlands of Bolivia and Inter-Andean valleys to Sweden, focusing on organically processed food and natural ingredients. The OTGS's support focuses on capacity-building of SMEs and Business Support Organisations in Bolivia through networking which constitutes an improvement of the Bolivian export ecosystem as well as the trade relations between Sweden and Bolivia in particular.

The IMP Amendment with OTGS has introduced an innovative aspect in the Bolivian development context as well as a very concrete opportunity to pilot the Swedish strategic focus on “Broader Relations”. OTGS aims at promoting the potential of small-scale Bolivian “super food” producers to access the export market (primarily Sweden) by focusing on various quality aspects (healthy and organic products with an “exotic” product history). This type of niche production is deemed to be of particular interest for the Nordic/Swedish consumer market, which is relatively small and therefore also a good fit for Bolivian smallholder production.

The timing of the planned OTGS interventions has been seriously hampered by the Covid-19 pandemic, and there is a considerable risk that this may negatively affect the expected results. In particular, the fact that most trainings now need to be conducted online and that planned visits of potentially interested Swedish companies to Bolivia need to be postponed or cancelled is a serious threat to the results of these efforts. Likewise, the language barrier may become an issue (the online courses and materials require that the Bolivian partners have proficiency in English).

A more timely and coordinated involvement of OTGS in the project planning and implementation could create efficiency gains. Although OTGS was present already at the design stage of the IMP, it was only at a time when export promotion activities had already been well-defined. Thus, while these initially planned export promotion activities have been useful for OTGS's later involvement, it would have been more efficient if OTGS had been onboard even earlier in the process. This could also have helped to ensure more coordinated and synergetic actions to other Swedish partners (such as the Swedish Institute) involved in the IMP on related topics.

Through the two water and sanitation Contributions (UNICEF and Aguatuya) important linkages have been established to private companies in Sweden, Brazil and Spain for the development and provision of technologies appropriate to the Bolivian context. This has facilitated the relationship with a Brazilian company, which won the open tender for equipment for the treatment of sludge to promote South-South cooperation. Something very important, in addition to incorporating the water cooperatives, has been the inclusion of private companies in the treatment of sludge and the obtaining of urine from dry ecological toilets. This has created the opportunity to link the experience with Swedish companies. In addition to this, SEI, SIWI and RISE have been involved with the development of criteria for sustainable sanitation assessment.

The Swedish Standards Institute Contribution provides complementary support to the OTGS interventions as it has a focus on strengthening IBNORCA to influence and make use of the ISO system. IBNORCA, as a national standards institution in Bolivia, plays a vital role in representing Bolivia in international and regional

standardisation processes, as well as nationally, in supporting the private/public sector to practically use standards and thus benefit trade and sustainable development.

As an additional complementary element to the efforts of the Embassy to move the Swedish-Bolivian relations beyond aid, support is provided through the Swedish Institute Management Programme (SIMP). The SIMP provides support to the strengthening of Bolivian trade-related institutions and opportunities for Bolivian companies and products to meet international standards. Based on the assessment made by the SI, Bolivia is seen as a window of opportunity to address sustainable business practice and thereby to further the development of the country and work towards both long-term sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction. This assessment aligns well with the other Contributions supported within this strategic area.

5.4 TRAJECTORIES OF IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

A general observation from the evaluation is that several of the Contributions include innovation and pilots with potential for outscaling/upscaling. However, while scaling in many cases may seem a possible continuation of the supported project interventions, little explanation and thoughts are offered on how the scaling processes are supposed to take place and what might be the critical factors/drivers. To this it should be added that a number of these Contributions with potential for scaling are quite complex in terms of structure and take time to get up and running. Thus, implementation experiences are in many cases still limited, and additional time will be required to effectively prepare them for scaling.

There is a general consensus on the need to scale up GBV prevention programmes targeting men and fathers. Promundo, funded by Sida and in collaboration with IADB, is testing the approach on the energy sector in Cobija and Oruro. This testing is to inform the adaptation for scaling-up of the programme intervention from El Alto to a larger scale. During this pilot project, IADB has been discussing with the government the possibility of providing loans for scaling the programme through either the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Health.

In terms of children's rights and combatting GBV, the experiences with psycho-social support of NGO staff members dealing with migrants have been very positive and could be further institutionalised and involve more staff members. Consideration could also be given to offering such support to staff members in the ombudsman offices for children and SLIMs, as they are under high pressure and at risk of burning out. They lack resources and capacity to deal with the violence cases and often have to turn people away.

Financial and institutional sustainability of service providers in the water sector is a serious threat to the sustainability of both UNICEF's WASH/ Urban Sanitation Project as well as to the decentralised sanitation model implemented by Aguatuya. Both of these models rely heavily on counterpart and user payments. While this system seemed to work reasonably well before Covid-19, the situation is now quite different

due to the current economic and financial crisis. This may threaten the survival of some of these projects in the short to medium term.

The urban policy has been developed with a focus on decentralisation, in order to recognise the roles and responsibilities of cities. This has provided a broad “ownership” of the strategies and tools as well as of the policy itself. Thus, the development of financial and legal strategies for the policy implementation will become critical to ensure its future implementation. In view of the urban policy development and subsequent implementation, there may be a need to establish of specific city funds to support the implementation process. Such funds would be needed to finance projects with a focus on quality infrastructure, urban parks, garbage issues, etc. to overcome dependence on national transfers and other dependency mechanisms. This would also include exploring possibilities for participation of the private sector e.g. through public-private partnerships.

5.5 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND MODALITIES

The 2016-2020 Strategy has been implemented through a mix of implementation modalities (INGOs, CSOs, UN agencies, Government). In several cases, the supported Contributions are continuations of partnerships from previous strategy periods. Overall, the evaluation finds that the capacities of the majority of the individually supported implementing partners are quite strong within their area of expertise. In addition, the vast majority of the implementing partners also demonstrate capability and willingness to interact and share experiences with other key stakeholders.

The Embassy has, with a few exceptions, deliberately chosen not to cooperate with national authorities in Bolivia. As mentioned in Section 2.2, before the decision to close down the development cooperation in 2013, a major share of the Contributions were implemented through the Government of Bolivia. However, due to less positive experiences from direct cooperation with the Government during this period, opportunities with other modalities for aid delivery were more extensively explored. This included what is often referred to as pure technical cooperation and capacity-building of expert authorities in cooperation countries within areas such as surveying, statistics, taxes, employment services, etc. However, as expressed by one interviewee, “*Bolivian authorities are not ready for this kind of cooperation – they are too weak*”.

This position by the Embassy has been maintained over a number of years and may be interpreted as a perception of the deterioration of democratic governance and the related risk of legitimising this trend through technical cooperation projects. However, the decision by the Embassy not to approach Swedish expert authorities

like Lantmäteriet, the Tax Agency and others differs from the approach taken by other Swedish embassies in similar or even worse backsliding contexts.⁵²

The vast majority of the resources has been channelled through UN agencies, which in most cases has presented a rather effective and “safe” way of achieving results within the strategic areas (mainly Strategic Areas 1 and 2). In most cases, however, the UN agencies also present a rather traditional way of working, including with partners, and national/local ownership and participation is not always so obvious.

A number of the Contributions are implemented through different CSO arrangements, which provides an opportunity to strengthen national/local capacities and ownership more directly. However, in some cases the added value of umbrella functions is not fully obvious, and the value of the capacity-building provided by the supported organisations is questionable.

Multi-stakeholder involvement has been more prominent in this strategy period as compared to previous periods, and this approach has been useful in mitigating risks as well as responding effectively to emergencies related to the Covid-19 pandemic. In general, the combination of the Covid-19 pandemic and the political crisis in Bolivia is providing both new opportunities and challenges that will need to be considered carefully when choosing implementing partners.

There are some good examples of preparatory studies being used to bridge ideas, design and attract money to implementation of large-scale programmes (e.g. from IADB in the energy sector and lighting projects).

⁵² Examples can be provided concerning technical cooperation with Cambodia, Rwanda, Tanzania and Guatemala.

6 Conclusions

Conclusion 1: Overall, the relevance of the Contribution portfolio has been high in terms of alignment with Bolivian development and sector plans, Swedish strategies and priorities, inclusion of local knowledge and data (e.g. from CEDLA) and participation of local stakeholders in the design process. However, it is often unclear to what extent the main target groups/beneficiaries have been involved in the design process and thus to what extent their particular needs and priorities are being addressed. Likewise, while a large number of SDGs are directly or indirectly reflected across the Contribution portfolio, the SDGs are not used as a strategic entry point for the portfolio composition, nor are the interlinkages between the SDGs being clearly mapped.

Conclusion 2: The Contribution portfolio has contributed satisfactorily to the achievement of the Strategy goals, although the progress on expected results has slowed down over the last year, as a consequence of the political crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic. In most cases the Contributions have managed to adapt a large part of their interventions to the crisis, and in some cases even adjust their interventions and contribute to emergency needs. The Contributions that have been implemented through multi-stakeholder platforms (e.g. Swisscontact, WWF, UN-Habitat) have to a large extent benefitted from the established networks and communication channels. UNICEF has also demonstrated substantial flexibility to adapt to the changing context and quickly established a helpline as a response to the perceived increased violence deriving from the strict quarantine. The institutional support to UNICEF is considered key to support adaptability in programming.

Conclusion 3: The Embassy has managed to adapt its Contribution portfolio focus over the period, as well as the content of some Contributions, to reflect changes in needs and opportunities in the Bolivian context. This is particularly reflected by an increasing and more explicit focus on urban planning (including circular economy), GBV, democracy/elections and export potentials, as well as the ability to adapt ongoing interventions to emergency needs caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The adaptive approach is also reflected by the Embassy's support to pre-studies that has allowed for larger investments/loans from IADB (for street lighting) and World Bank (for a wastewater treatment plant in La Paz). Additionally, the cross-cutting Contributions, such as on support to partners working with a conflict perspective, reflect the Embassy's adaptive response to concrete needs and opportunities.

Conclusion 4: UN agencies have been by far the largest receiver of Swedish funding in the 2016-2020 strategy period and have continued to be strong allies to the Swedish Embassy. UNICEF in particular has been a valuable strategic partner in influencing the rest of the UN System in Bolivia (e.g. on MDPA, gender equality, masculinity) and in facilitating entry points into the government system. However, the UN agencies' rather traditional working approaches tend

to limit participation and ownership of national and local stakeholders. There is a need to put pressure on the UN System to further align reporting and data systems, in order to avoid CSOs having to register the same data in three different formats (as is currently the case with registration of migrants). Similarly, the UN agencies' affiliation to the government in some cases tends to challenge cooperation modalities with other partners and the choice of partners (e.g. CSOs are perceived more as short-term service providers than genuine partners, limiting their possibility of being critical). In other cases, the sector agendas tend to be driven too strongly by the UN agencies, limiting the ownership and involvement by the respective sector ministries (e.g. UNICEF's WASH and UN-Habitat's Urban Policy Development).

Conclusion 5: The efforts to strengthen capacities and participation of the Bolivian civil society through different modalities and mechanisms introduced in the various Contributions have led to mixed results. In some Contributions, there have been clear comparative advantages of having a strong national NGO/CSO as the implementing partner instead of an INGO, due to better knowledge of the context, being physically present and a better opportunity to build trust and equal partnerships with other local partners (e.g. demonstrated by Aguatuya's cooperation with municipalities). In other cases, support to larger national NGOs/CSOs seems to limit participation of smaller, informal CSOs and social movements. In this sense, experiences from piloting of different fund mechanisms in some Contributions (e.g. WWF, CEDLA, Diakonia) – with a view to strengthening participation and capacities of smaller, informal CSOs, social movements and researchers – have been encouraging. These funds provide an alternative to supporting only larger and more settled national NGOs/CSOs, which in some cases tend to become too dominant and controlling within their thematic area of expertise.

Conclusion 6: The Contribution portfolio is well-integrated across different strategic areas and priorities and is coherent with interventions supported by other major development partners present in Bolivia. The majority of the Contributions – and in particular the newer ones – integrate more than one of the three strategic areas. The inclusion of a focus on MDPA, circular economy and Broader Relations further strengthens the linkages between poverty and environment and climate change and commerce/trade with Sweden. However, operational linkages to, and coherence with, other relevant Swedish strategies (such as research, CIVSAM and capacity development) are not well-documented or evidenced.

Conclusion 7: While a number of large, ambitious initiatives have been launched during the 2016-2020 strategy period (e.g. UN-Habitat, WWF, Swisscontact, Aguatuya, Fautapo), it has required major efforts to get these initiatives up and running, and in most cases the trajectories towards impact and sustainability are not yet clearly established. It remains to be seen how and to what extent different pilot initiatives may lead to outscaling (horizontally, e.g. across municipalities and territories) and/or upscaling (vertically, through government policies and legal framework). Moreover, the political crisis in Bolivia and the Covid-19 pandemic have further challenged the sustainability aspects of the implemented activities, not least from a financial perspective. On a positive note, the introduction of the MDPA in various Contributions have sharpened the focus on the poor and vulnerable and on gender aspects, with potentials for improved impact.

Conclusion 8: The most important lesson from the 2016-2020 Strategy has been the Embassy's flexibility and adaptiveness in order to respond rapidly to changes in contexts and demands. The Embassy has been supportive towards partners in accommodating their requests, which has spurred partners' ability to adjust programmes and continue to be relevant. In addition, being one of few donors left in Bolivia, Sweden has become a very important influencer, with the potential to challenge traditional ways of organising and planning interventions within and across sectors through introduction of new and innovative approaches. The Embassy has a central role to play in this regard and has managed to influence cooperation partners, e.g. in terms of considering the conflict perspective in programming and introducing masculinity in partners' understanding of gender equality.

7 Recommendations

Recommendation 1: The Agenda 2030 should be used as an overall framework for the formulation of the 2021-2025 Strategy, with a clear reference to how Contributions within and across defined strategy areas will complement Bolivia's efforts to address and progress on the SDGs. This should include more explicit consideration of the interconnectivity between the SDGs that are addressed through the Contributions. In particular, in the new strategy it would be useful to link the Embassy's support for combatting GBV with mitigation of climate risks (which are already being addressed in many Contributions, not only as cross-cutting issues but as specific focus areas) more clearly to Bolivia's SDG roadmap, in view of the importance of these issues in the Bolivian context.

Recommendation 2: Given the experience from the current emergency and crisis situation in Bolivia – and considering the contextual situation and continued risk of political, economic, social and environmental fragility in the country – new Contributions should include an explicit focus on adaptive management, multi-stakeholder involvement and citizen participation. In particular, the support provided to integrated development and planning processes at municipality and community level, with the focus on MDPA and territorial approaches related to poverty, gender and environment and climate change adaptation, are useful to learn from (e.g. the Contributions implemented by WWF, Swisscontact, Fautapo and from the decentralised interventions in the water and sanitation sector).

Recommendation 3: In view of the evolving context, needs, priorities and opportunities during the 2016-2020 strategy period, the Embassy should consider focusing the strategy for the period 2021-2025 on the following four strategic axes: i) Democracy (including support to media); ii) Gender-Based Violence; iii) Urban Planning and Environment / Climate Change (focus on circular economy, service delivery, social protection and territorial approaches); iv) Markets and Broader Relations. As discussed in this evaluation report, these four areas are being identified as priorities and the driving axes for the Contribution portfolio, in view of the evolving context and adaptive process over the period. In addition, they weave together a number of the Contributions that are already being implemented.

Recommendation 4: While the UN agencies may continue to be important partners to the Swedish Embassy, the Embassy will need to take a more critical look at what kinds of limitations the cooperation with UN agencies may imply. This includes in particular aspects related to sustainability, national/local ownership and stakeholder and civil society engagement and participation, which should be more critically assessed for these Contributions.

Recommendation 5: There is a need for the Embassy to rethink the more traditional way of supporting the CSO environment in Bolivia (e.g. in the human rights area) with a particular view to facilitating and encouraging more space for and participation of smaller, informal networks and social movements. The pilot experiences from the inclusion of special funds for this purpose into some Contributions could be expanded and transferred into other Contribution areas. This may require a stronger and more direct engagement of the Embassy in the Contribution design process, in order to ensure that implementation will benefit a wider range of civil society actors than just those formally registered and network members. This is particularly important in a context where registration of CSOs is difficult. However, such an approach needs to be balanced with the high risk of political infiltration of the CSOs, which is a reality in Bolivia. This is even more difficult to control if support is channelled to movements instead of formally registered CSOs.

Recommendation 6: In a forward-looking perspective, the Embassy should consider extending the “Broader Relations” package to include additional elements of commercial cooperation (such as cultural cooperation) and develop more operational linkages with other Sida strategies (e.g. research, CIVSAM and capacity development). In terms of the research area, better connectivity between Swedish-supported research activities could lead to more applied research and a closer connection of Swedish universities and research institutions to the development agenda in Bolivia. At the same time this could lead to improved collaboration across universities in Bolivia, which is currently a huge challenge.

Recommendation 7: The 2021-2025 Strategy should include a strong focus on consolidation and outscaling/upscaling of the various innovative and pilot interventions implemented in the period 2016-2020, and the MDPA should be further operationalised in the new Contribution portfolio. A clearer differentiation between outscaling and upscaling potentials of piloted interventions should be made. In addition, more thorough consideration should be made on the added value from implementation of pilot projects as compared/contrasted with linking up to specific government demands and tendencies/trends from social movements. In addition, in view of the negative effects from the Covid-19 pandemic on the financial situation in the country, the need to introduce alternative financing instruments (e.g. making use of Sida’s Guarantees instruments) should be explored. The continued MDPA process should involve a broader platform of Bolivian thinktanks/universities with key expertise within specific MDPA areas, with a view to de-politicising the results using the analysis and encouraging increased evidence-based policy making.

Recommendation 8: In view of the highly interesting innovative interventions that are currently being implemented in the Bolivian context through different Contributions (such as MDPA/MSD, circular economy, funds for CSOs, Broader Relations, etc.), the Embassy should develop a basic system for frequent learning and feedback loops for these particular experiences, with a view to their potential use in other Contributions as well as more widely within Sida. This would be in line with the conceptual thinking behind adaptive management (for instance, the PDIA and MSD). The World Bank’s Global Delivery Initiative, the

USAID Learning Lab (Adaptive Management) and the PDIA Toolkit (developed by Howard University) provide useful inspiration on how such a basic learning system could be constructed.

Annex 1 – Evaluation Matrix

RELEVANCE			
Key Evaluation Questions	Specific evaluation questions	Data collection methods/sources	Data processing strategy and possible products in the report
What is the relevance of the Contributions in view of the overall situation and needs in the sectors, and in relation to what other donors are doing?	Are the Contributions and partner selection based on thorough analyses of context/capacities? Are the Contributions aligned to sector development plans? Are the Contributions coordinated and aligned with other donor interventions in the supported sectors? Does the design of the Contributions reflect proper stakeholder involvement and the needs of beneficiaries? Have the Contributions been adapted to contextual changes over the period (in line with the thinking behind the PDIA concept)?	Study of Contribution design documents and amendments National strategy and sector plan documents Interviews with Embassy and MFA staff and senior partner officials Interviews with ministry representatives and other donors Interviews with end-beneficiaries	Relevance analysis based on defined criteria PDIA analysis
	What is the relevance of the Contribution portfolio in view of the Swedish Strategy Areas and priorities?		
EFFECTIVENESS			
How well is the Contribution portfolio contributing to achieving the goals of the Strategy?	What is the degree of progress in achieving the expected results within and across the strategic areas? Is there a clear connectivity between the overall Theory of Change (ToC) for the Contribution sample and the goals of the Strategy? If not, what failed and/or was insufficient or inappropriate in terms of compatibility between the support delivered through the Contributions and the Strategy Areas? Is progress/achievement of Contribution results in accordance with expectations and linked to the Strategy goals? Has a broad set of actors (state and non-state) been identified to build synergies and connections and create momentum?	Contribution design documents, including results frameworks Progress and monitoring reports Interviews with Embassy staff members and operative partner officials	Analysis of the ToC framework Results assessment PDIA analysis
What have been the main challenges affecting the implementation of Contributions and achievement of the strategy results?	What are the main causes of the identified implementation challenges affecting results (internal, external and contextual factors)? How have these issues been dealt with? Have adjustments been made?	Progress and monitoring reports Interviews with Embassy staff members and senior/operational partner officials Interviews with external stakeholders Review of other relevant evaluation reports	Analysis of the ToC framework PDIA analysis

ANNEX 1 – EVALUATION MATRIX

How effectively have the Contributions been implemented/delivered in view of partner capacities and end-beneficiary expectations?	<p>Have the choice of approaches and/or modality of support been appropriate in view of the selected counterparts?</p> <p>How do end-beneficiaries evaluate the technical assistance and training activities delivered?</p>	Interviews with counterparts and end-beneficiaries	Assessment of capacities and deliveries
EFFICIENCY/CONSISTENCY			
Has the Contribution portfolio been developed and managed efficiently in order to achieve the goals in the Strategy?	<p>Have criteria to choose partners and target groups/beneficiaries for the Contributions been consistent with the Embassy's analysis of the development context and sector needs and the monitoring of political and economic changes?</p> <p>Have the Contributions been implemented without major delays or deviations from agreed plans?</p>	<p>Contribution overview</p> <p>Progress/monitoring reports</p> <p>Interviews with Embassy staff</p>	Assessment of management and administrative performance
IMPACT			
What is the trajectory towards impact from the Contributions (disaggregated by gender)?	<p>How have the key drivers and barriers for achievement of impact evolved over time?</p> <p>What is the evidence/indication of orientation towards poor populations and reflection of cross-cutting perspectives in obtained and expected results? To what extent has MDPA been included?</p>	<p>National statistics</p> <p>Progress/monitoring reports</p> <p>Interviews with Embassy staff and key partners</p> <p>Interviews with end-beneficiaries</p>	Impact pathway assessment
SUSTAINABILITY			
Are the changes arising from the Contributions likely to be sustained?	<p>Have relevant policies, legislation, budget allocations and capacities been developed?</p> <p>Are piloted models/initiatives being replicated/upscaled (e.g. across ministries, from local to regional/national level, etc.)?</p> <p>Is funding/budget/staffing being allocated from other sources (central/local government, other donors) to supported strategic areas?</p> <p>Has the development cooperation led to other types of cooperation (Broader Relations)?</p>	<p>Interviews with representatives from ministries, regional and local authorities</p> <p>Interviews with partners and other donors</p> <p>Interviews with Embassy staff and Swedish commercial partners</p>	Sustainability assessment (technical, institutional and financial sustainability)
COHERENCE			
Are the Contributions in the portfolio effectively integrating different Strategy Areas and not duplicating efforts?	<p>Do the Contributions address more than one Strategy Area?</p> <p>Does the Contribution portfolio complement other Swedish strategies (e.g. research and capacity development)</p> <p>Are the Contributions well-coordinated with other development interventions in the same strategic areas?</p>	<p>Interviews with Embassy and partner staff</p> <p>Interview with external stakeholders (e.g. other donors in the sectors)</p> <p>Review of other Swedish strategy documents</p>	Contribution and donor mapping
LESSONS LEARNED			
What are the lessons learned, good practices and difficulties during the execution of the Strategy?	<p>What are the main experiences to learn from when formulating a new Strategy?</p> <p>What are the experiences in terms of capacities of and/or cooperation with different Contribution partners? Has it been the right mix of partners?</p> <p>What is the learning from piloting initiatives and models in terms of upscaling/replication?</p> <p>Has strategy implementation encouraged building experimental learning into regular management, allowing for adaptation?</p>	Forward-looking perspective of the evaluation analysis	Recommendations for new Strategy formulation

Annex 2 – List of people met

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
15/9/2020	Frans Miralles	Component Manager	Swisscontact	Swisscontact
15/9/2020	Ariel Miranda	Component Manager	Swisscontact	Swisscontact
22/9/2020	Edwin Vargas	Director	PROFIN	Swisscontact
22/9/2020	Antonio Silvestre	Project Coordinator	PROFIN	Swisscontact
14/9/2020	Jose Luis Pereyra	Programme Manager	COSUDE/ SDC	Swisscontact
15/10/2020	Arnold Hameleers	Country Manager	IFAD	Swisscontact
30/10/2020	Rose Nodda	Assistant Representative	FAO	Swisscontact
16/9/2020	Marcelo Arroyo	Secretario de Planificación	Gobierno Autónomo Municipal de La Paz,	UN Habitat
17/9/2020	Rocio Molina	President	Asociacion de Municipalidades de Bolivia	UN Habitat
17/9/2020	Marcelo Delgado	Coordinador	Región Metropolitana Kanata	UN Habitat
Several consultations	Fredrik Ugglá	Head of Development Cooperation	Embassy of Sweden in Bolivia	
22/9/2020	Wilfredo Leonett and Mary Carmen Ceballos	Venezuelan migrants		UNICEF
22/9/2002	Sara Stocco	Manager	Albergue Para Migrantes	UNICEF
15/6/2020	Carla de Santis	Contracted by UNICEF	Mental health and migration consultant	UNICEF
11/8/2020	Carolina Wennerholm	Previous Head of Cooperation	Swedish Embassy La Paz, Bolivia Sida	Sida HQ

ANNEX 2 – LIST OF PEOPLE MET

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
13/8/2020	Elsa Håstad	Previous Director of LA Department, Sida	Currently Embassy of Albania	Sweden's Ambassador to Albania
13/8/2020	Pontus Rosenberg	Previous Charge d'Affairs	Swedish Embassy La Paz, Bolivia Sida	Broader Relations
28/8/2020, 7/9/2020	Arturo Beltran	Programme Officer	Embassy of Sweden in Bolivia	UNIR/IDEA/FA UTAPO, CEDLA
28/8/2020	Guido Meruvia Schween	Programme Officer	Embassy of Sweden in Bolivia	
28/8/2020	Frida Rohde	Programme Officer	Embassy of Sweden in Bolivia	
02/9/2020	Sandra Nisttahusz	Project Director	Swisscontact	Swisscontact
02/9/2020	Sara Pauli	Representante	Swisscontact	Swisscontact
2/9/2020	Gustavo Heredia	President of the Directoria	Fundación Agua Tuya	Agua Tuya
2/9/2020	Renato Montoya	Executive Director of Agua Tuya	Fundación Agua Tuya	Agua Tuya
3/9/2020	Javier Fernández	Director of ADH	Acción por los Derechos Humanos (ADH)	Promundo / Diakonia
26/8/2020, 2/9/2020, 3/9/2020	Rebeca Borda	Programme Officer	Embassy of Sweden in Bolivia	Diakonia /UNPD/UNICEF
4/9/2020	Jorge Velázquez	Country Director	Diakonia	Diakonia
4/9/2020	Aapta Garg	Senior Programme Officer	Promundo	Promundo
4/9/2020	Sergio Blanco	Responsible for the National Policy of Cities	Ministerio de Orbas Públicas	UN Habitat
7/9/2020	Antonio Aramayo	Member of the constituent assembly – Former Director of UNIR	UNIR	UNIR

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
7/9/2020	Vladimir Medina	Manager	COSMOL/Cooperativa de Montero	Agua Tuya
7/9/2020	Roberto Bueno	Head of Sanitation	COSMOL/Cooperativa de Montero	Agua Tuya
7/9/2020	Andrés Mallo	Director of Communication	DIVERSA	Diakonia
7/09/2020	Samuel Sanguenza	Director WWF	WWF	WWF
7/09/2020	Gonzalo Calderón de la Barca	Project Manager	WWF	WWF
08/9/2020	Raquel Cabrera	Responsible in Santa Cruz	Implementing/responsible in Santa Cruz y Tarija	WWF
08/9/2020	Samuel La Madrid	Responsible proyecto en Tarija	Implementing/responsible in Santa Cruz y Tarija	WWF
8/9/2020	Maria Soledad Quiroga and Gabriela Ugarte	Executive Director	UNIR	UNIR
8/9/2020	Gabriela Ugarte	Project Coordinator	UNIR	UNIR
8/9/2020	Lupe Pérez	Previous Executive Director	Colectivo Rebeldia	Promundo/Diakonia
8/9/2020	Teresa Alarcón Rodríguez	Executive Director	Colectivo Rebeldia	Promundo/Diakonia
8/9/2020	Sandra Bustamente	Country Representative	We Effect	Diakonia
9/9/2020	Mónica Novillo	Director CM	Coordinadora de la Mujer	IDEA/Diakonia
9/9/2020	Maria Angela Sotelo	MEL Responsible	Coordinadora de la Mujer	IDEA/Diakonia
9/9/2020	Walker Illanes	Municipal Mayor	GAM de Cliza	Agua Tuya
9/9/2020	Edwim Terceros	Head of Planning	GAM de Cliza	Agua Tuya
9/9/2020	Gloria Manchego	Responsible for ecological toilets, in coordination with Fundación	EPSAS	Agua Tuya

ANNEX 2 – LIST OF PEOPLE MET

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
		Agua Tuya (FAT)		
9/9/2020	Misael Escobar	Secretary of Public Works	GAM Uriondo	Agua Tuya
9/9/2020	Ricardo Salazar	Responsible for basic services system	Municipality of Cliza	Agua Tuya
9/9/2020	Lucio Arias	Secretary of the Treasury of the Huasacalle Union	Municipality of Cliza	Agua Tuya
10/9/2020	Giovanna Lauro	Vice President of Programs and Research	Promundo	Promundo
10/9/2020	Javier Gómez	Director	CEDLA	CEDLA
10/9/2020	Patricia Tellería	Programme Officer	Diakonia	Diakonia, UNIR
10/9/2020	Marcelo Arandia Alarcon	Responsible of GRENA Programm	Oxfam	Diakonia
10/9/2020	Ivan Prudencio	International Programme Manager	RFSU	Diakonia
11/9/2020	Rene Rivera	Consultant		UN Habitat
11/9/2020	Luis Pereira	Overall responsible for WASH	UNICEF	UNICEF
11/9/2020	Peky Rubin	Director of ECAM	ECAM	Promundo
11/9/2020	Guillermo Dávalos		Fundación SEPA	UNICEF
14/9/2020	Susana Eróstegui	Director	UNITAS	Diakonia
14/9/2020	Verónica Tejerina	Representative of Technical Advisory Group	Inter-American Development Bank	Promundo
14/9/2020	Omar Huici	Director	PLAGBOL	Swisscontact
14/9/2020	Rolando Oros	Director	PROINPA	Swisscontact
14/9/2020	Vladimir Ameller	Vice Ministry of Urbanism and Housing	Ministerio de Orbas Públicas	UN Habitat
15/9/2020	Alfonso Ferrufino	Senior Counselor	IDEA INT	IDEA
15/9/2020	Carolina Florú	Programme Officer	IDEA INT	IDEA

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
15/9/2020	Julian Sievers	Trade Advisor	Open Trade Gate Sweden	Broader Relations/Swiss contact
15/9/2020	Mónica Yaksic Prudencio	National Programme Officer	UNFPA	Promundo, provided feedback by e-mail
7/9/2020, 15/9/2020	Victor Hugo Ortuño	President	COSMOL/Cooperativa de Montero	Agua Tuya, UNICEF
16/9/2020	Andreas Preising	National Director	Fautapo	Fautapo
16/9/2020	Fabián Yacsic	Autonomies Office Director GAD-La Paz	GAD-La Paz	IDEA
16/9/2020	Ernesto Prado	Representante Plataforma Juvenil y colectivo TLGB Tarija	GAD-Tarija	IDEA
16/9/2020	Luciana Mermet	Resident Representative, UNDP	UNDP	UNDP
16/9/2020	Benita Cruz Ortega	Small business owner		Fautapo
16/9/2020	Beatriz Flores	Small business owner		Fautapo
16/9/2020	Galy Upa Dorado	Small business owner		Fautapo
16/9/2020	Graciela Gonzalez	Small business owner		Fautapo
16/9/2020	Benita Cruz Ortega	Small business owner	Fautapo	Direct beneficiaries
16/9/2020	Sara Luccheta		Fundación Munasim Kullakita (FMK)	UNICEF
17/9/2020	Teresa Ledezma	Directora UNODC Bolivia (coparte beneficiaria)	UNODC	UNIR
17/09/2020	Jhonny Delgado	Former director	EMPODERAR Program. MDRyT – Banco Mundial	Swisscontact

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
17/09/2020	Teresa Quintanilla SLIM 17092020	Law Career Coordinator. SLIM strengthening	UTO	Swisscontact
18/9/2020	José Luis Castro	Responsable técnico Pando	Fautapo	Fautapo
18/9/2020	Richard Arando	Responsable técnico Cintis Chuquisaca	Fautapo	Fautapo
18/9/2020	Sarela Sejas	Técnica en igualdad de género (Pando)	Fautapo	Fautapo
18/9/2020	Eric Landívar	Ex Director de Desarrollo Económico y actual asesor de la Gobernación Santa Cruz	GAD-Santa Cruz	IDEA
18/9/2020	Yolanda Peña Moreno	Defensoría Niñez y Adolescencia, MONTERO	Abogada	UNICEF
18/9/2020	Richard Arando	Technical coordinator for Cintis, Chuquisaca	Fautapo	Fautapo
18/9/2020	Katia Uriona	Former President of the TSE	TSE-OEP	IDEA
18/9/2020	Dante Saal	Project Manager	Federación de Asociaciones Municipales (FAM)	Swisscontact
18/9/2020	José Antonio Terán	MMAyA Minister Advisor	MMAyA	UN Habitat
19/9/2020	Jaqueline Pozo	Asambleísta Departamental Cochabamba (MAS)	GAD-cochabamba	IDEA
21/9/2020	Bernarda Saure	Directora ACOBOL (aliada a Proyecto)	Asociación de Consejalas de Bolivia (ACOBOL)	UNDP

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
21/09/2020	Moisés Tapia Flores	Seed producer	ASPRAJO. Asociación de Productores Agropecuarios de Jopocampa	Swisscontact
21/09/2020	Adrian Vera	Drone technician	PROINPA drone technician Fumigation Services	Swisscontact
21/9/2020	Freddy Huaraz	Lawyer / Consultant		UNICEF
21/09/2020	Sra. María Eugenia Salazar	Leader of solid waste recyclers	Asociación MARMAT Tarija	WWF
22/9/2020	Marco Monasterio	Secretario de Cámara	TED Santa Cruz	UNDP
22/09/2020	Jaime Baldiviezo	Director de planificación y medio ambiente del municipio de Tarija	Dirección de Planificación y medio ambiente del GAM de Tarija	WWF
22/9/2020	María René Gallardo	Director IBNORCA	IBNORCA	Sida partner & beneficiary of UNIR
22/9/2020	Raúl España	Director	Instituto de Investigaciones Sociológicas (IDIS)	CEDLA
22/9/2020	Victor Hugo Inchausti		Universidad Amazónica de Pando	CEDLA
23/9/2020	Nathaly Vargas	Presidenta	TED Tarija	UNDP
23/09/2020	José Chuvé	Technician for the Chiquitano people	Asociación de Pueblos Indígenas de Santa Cruz de la Sierra APISACS	WWF
23/9/2020	Solimar Choque	Youth leader and founder of the association	“Nos Gusta la Ciencia”. Santa Cruz de la Sierra	WWF
24/9/2020	Iván Esquiva	Asesor técnico	TED Santa Cruz	UNDP
24/9/2020	Mauricio Chumacero	Researcher	UPB	Promundo
24/09/2020	Pablo A. Vommaro	Director of research CLACSO	CLACSO	CEDLA

ANNEX 2 – LIST OF PEOPLE MET

Date/time	Name	Title	Organisation	Comment
25/9/2020	Mauro Calvo	Asesor técnico	TED Cochabamba y Tarija	UNDP
25/9/2020	Lidia Antyy	Director	OMAC	CEDLA
27/9/2020	Paola	Researcher	UPB	Promundo
28/9/2020	Roberto Mendoza	Beneficiary WASH		UNICEF
28/9/2020	Enrique Salazar	Beneficiary WASH		UNICEF
28/9/2020	Máximo Flores	Beneficiary WASH		UNICEF
30/9/2020	Wilson Poma Calle	Graduated from Sociology	Fellow - IDIS/ UMSA	CEDLA
30/9/2020	Tania Jiménez	Junior Investigator	IDIS-UMSA	Beneficiary of CEDLA
15/10/2020	Ernesto Perez		UN Coordination Resident	CEDLA
15/10/2020	Verónica Paz Arauco		OXFAM	CEDLA
16/9/2020, 20/10/2020	Fernando Aramayo	Coordinador Nacional de Proyecto	UNDP	UNDP

Annex 3 – List of documents

Contributions:

Aguatuya Foundation: Decentralised Sanitation Models Program

- Final report, 2018
- Project document, 2018
- Decision document, 2018
- Decision document first amendment, 2018
- Decision document second amendment, 2018
- Decision document third amendment, 2019
- Informe Annual 2019
- Informe I Semestre 2020

Bolivia Sustainable Sanitation Models

- Decision document, 2016
- Project document, 2016
- Annual report, 2017
- Agreement document first amendment, 2017
- Agreement document second amendment, 2018
- Phase-out strategy document, 2018 (completed)
- Phase-out strategy document, 2018

CEDLA: Enhanced Knowledge for Action: MDPA and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

- Project document, 2017
- Grant agreement document, 2018
- Decision document, 2018
- CEDLA en los medios: Índice de Pobreza Miltidimensional”, July to August 2019.
- Annual report, 2020
- Evaluación de Medio Término, Proyecto “Enlazando: desigualdad, pobreza y agendas ciudadanas. 2018-2019”, June 2020

CIUDADANIA: 20 years of political culture and democracy in Bolivia

- Decision on contribution document, 2018
- Project document, 2018

Culture of Peace and Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body

- Decision document, 2020
- Project document Annex 1, 2020

Diakonia: Support to civil society and gender

- Annual report, 2017
- Decision document, 2017

- Decision document first amendment, 2017
- Proposal document amendment, 2017
- Decision document second amendment, 2018
- Narrative report, 2018-2020
- Appraisal of intervention: Support to Civil Society – Diakonia HR and Gender, August 2020.
- Diakonia Mid-term Report 2016-2018, Agreement with Sida/Civsam, 2019

FAUTAPO:

2020-23 Women’s Economic Empowerment & market access

- Agreement document, 2011
- Decision document, 2011
- Decision on contribution document amendment, 2013
- Agreement document amendment, 2014
- Agreement document amendment, 2015
- Final report, 2016

Sustainable Women's Economic Empowerment at municipal level

- Decision document, 2016
- Sistematización de impactos sociales
- Resultados finales Suecia 2017-2019 el Alto-Cochabamba
- Solicitud ASDI ultima_version_26_nov
- Informe-final-Fautapo-2016
- Fautapo-evaluación-medio-termino-informe-final-1-2
- Fautapo-51070080-project-document
- Fautapo-51070080-decision-2
- 51070045-decision-on-amendment.pdf

GIZ: ProAgro

- Programme document/application, 2014
- Programme document/application, 2015
- Decision document, 2016
- Agreement document, 2016
- Annual report, 2016
- Annual report, 2017
- Amendment to arrangement, 2017
- Agreement document amendment, 2017

Helvetas-Solid Waste-WASH COVID-19 emergency response in Bolivia

- Contribution document, 2020
- Risk document, 2020

HR Ombudsman 2017-2018

- Decision document, 2017
- Agreement document, 2018
- Project document, 2016-2020

IBNORCA: TA to Bolivian IBNORCA

- Grant agreement document, 2017
- Decision document, 2017
- Programme document/application, 2017

IDEA:Democracy, gender, and youth

- Appraisal document, 2018
- Decision document, 2018
- Final report, 2018
- Planning document, 2018

Women Leadership and Citizen Participation at the Local Level

- Decision document, 2016
- Decision document amendment, 2017
- Narrative report, 2018
- 55180029-grant-agreement.pdf
- Informe Final. Periodo Abril 2017 a Octubre 2018.

Masculinity in Energy sector

- Programme document/application, 2019

National River Basin Plan II 2013-2020

- Decision document, 2013
- Agreement document, 2013
- Annual report, 2013
- Programme document/application 2013-2017
- Annual report, 2015
- Annual report, 2016
- Programme document/application, 2016
- Agreement document, first amendment, 2015
- Agreement document second amendment, 2017
- Narrative report, 2017
- Evaluation report, 2017
- No cost extension document, 2017
- Joint coordination agreement document first amendment, 2018
- No cost extension document, 2018
- Financial report, 2019
- No cost extension document, 2019

One United Nation- Bolivia

- Budget
- Budget, 2017-2020
- Programme document/application, 2017-2020

Promundo: Masculinity and Gender in Bolivia

- Grant agreement document, 2017
- Decision document, 2017
- Programme document/application, 2017
- Decision document first amendment, 2018
- Agreement document first amendment, 2018
- Annual report 2019, 2020

SEI Water Programme Bolivia 2018-2021

- Decision document, 2018
- Annual report, 2018

SI Leadership for sustainable business

- Inception report, 2018
- Programme document/application, 2018
- Decision document, 2018
- Interim report, 2019

Solid waste management Bolivia-zero waste 2019-2022

- Decision document, 2019
- Programme document/application, 2019

Swisscontact: Inclusive rural markets

- Project document proposal, June 2017
- Decision on Contribution, October 2017
- Project document, 2018
- Agreement document amendment, 2018
- Informe Anual, enero-diciembre 2019 (2020)
- Informe Annual narrativo 2018 (2019)
- Análisis situacional de las UPF en tiempos de COVID 19 (2020)
- Informe semestral 2020 (2020)
- Final Proposal on Trade Promo (2020)
- Decision on Amendment of Contribution (OTGS)

SymbioCity SKL Inception Phase Climate Resilient Cities

- Decision on contribution document, 2016
- Project document, 2016
- Final report, 2017
- Agreement document first amendment, 2017

UNDP:Indigenous People 2016-2020

- Project document, 2015
- Decision document, 2016
- Decision document, 2016
- Final budget, 2016-2017
- Final report, 2016-2017
- Annual report, 2017
- Final report, 2017
- Project document, 2017-2019

Culture of Peace and Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body

- Decision on contribution OEP
- Annex 1: Culture of Peace and Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body Project

UNFPA:SRHR (CI 2015)

- Decision document, 2011
- Programme document/application, 2011
- PPT Presentation, 2013
- Agreement document second amendment, 2014
- Agreement document amendment, 2015
- Programme document, 2015
- Programme document amendment, 2015

SRHR (CI 2016)

- Decision document, 2016
- Final report, 2018
- Programme document/application, 2015
- Project document

SRHR 2017-2020

- Results matrix
- Detailed programme budget
- Programme budget
- Programme document/application, 2017
- Decision document, 2017

SRHR among indigenous people

- Project document, 2016
- Annual report, 2016
- Decision document, 2016
- Agreement document, 2016
- Agreement document first amendment, 2016
- Agreement document second amendment, 2017
- Agreement document third amendment, 2017
- Final report, 2017

- Financial statement, 2018

UN Habitat: National Urban Policy Programme

- Decision document, 2017
- Project document, 2017
- Agreement document, 2017
- Annual report, 2019
- Agreement document amendment, 2019
- Decision document first amendment, 2019
- Decision document second amendment, 2019

UNICEF:

Country Programme 2013-2017

- Decision document, 2013
- Country programme document, 2013-2017
- Decision document amendment, 2014
- Decision document amendment, 2016
- Final report, 2017
- Final report, 2017 (VIH/Sida)
- Final report, 2017 (WASH)

Country Programme 2018-2020

- Decision document, 2017
- Programme document/application, 2017
- Appraisal of intervention, 2018
- Global Evaluation of UNICEF's Drinking Water Supply Programming in Rural Areas and Small Towns
- Decision document, 2013
- Amendment of decision, 2014
- Amendment of decision, 2016
- Estrategia Coordinada de Género ONE-UN en Bolivia 2017-2020
- Diagnóstico Rápido Sobre Requisitos de Regularización Migratoria Exigidos a Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes Venezolanos que son Acompañados/as por la Casa del Migrante y la Fundación Scalabriniana de Bolivia, 2019

Country Strategy 2017-2020

- Decision document, 2017
- Programme document/application, 2017

WASH Programme

- Decision document, 2017
- Agreement document amendment, 2018
- Project document, 2018
- Annual report, 2019

UNIR: conflict management

- Grant agreement document, 2016
- Decision document, 2016
- Project document, 2016
- Semi-annual report, 2017
- Informe final evaluación medio termino (EMT) proy GPSC 201218

UNODC:Institutional Transparency and Citizen Participation at municipal levels

- Decision document, 2017
- Project document, 2017
- Narrative report, 2018

Transparency

- Final budget report, 2016
- Final report, 2016
- First report, 2016
- Project document, 2016

UN Women Bolivia

- Decision document, 2017
- Annual report, 2017
- Narrative report, 2017 (2016)

Water & Sanitation Periurban PASAP Climate Change

- Project document, 2010
- Decision document, 2010
- Agreement document, 2011
- Agreement document, 2014
- Decision on amendment of agreement, 2015
- Agreement document amendment, 2015
- Agreement document amendment, 2015
- Final report, 2016

WWF Local Urban Development Programme

- Final report, 2018
- Agreement document amendment, 2018
- Narrative report, 2018
- Grant agreement, 2018
- Midterm Evaluation, 2020

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Dimensions of Poverty, Sida Poverty Toolbox, 2019

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Gender Toolbox: Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence: Expressions and Strategies, 2015
 Global Competitiveness Report, 2019
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 INE, Censo Nacional, 2012
 Informe de Situación. Condiciones del entorno en el que las organizaciones de la sociedad civil desarrollan sus acciones en Bolivia”, UNIR, Febrero 2020
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 The National Universal Periodic Review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, November 2019
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<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G09/109/15/PDF/G0910915.pdf?OpenElement>
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<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2019/results/bol>
<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/americas/luis-arce-wins-landslide-in-bolivian-elections/2017297#>
 1 https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDP_RPCH@WEO/ISR/BOL
<https://freedomhouse.org/issues/democracies-decline>
<https://www.v-dem.net/en/>

Annex 4 – Meta-analysis of portfolio

#	Contributions	Criteria 1: Included in one or several of the following strategic areas and sub-areas in Sweden's strategy							Other 5 selection criteria (C2,C3,C4,C5, C6, C7, C8)					Comment		
		Strategic Area 1			Strategic Area 2				SA 3	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria 5		Criteria 6	Criteria 7
		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size		Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming,
1	SI Leadership for sustainable business				1				1	PC	National	ST	Medium		Not convincingly	Support building a network of strong leaders exchanging ideas between Swedish and Bolivian leaders on sustainable businesses. SDG 17 on global partnership, 8 and 12. Pilot in Bolivia, Kenya, Bangladesh, Tanzania to transit the partnership from development cooperation to more business focused relationship (from aid to trade). Exchange of knowledge and best practices are key areas. Middle- or top leaders are selected to participate in training programme with one specific assignment to be conducted for the company. Statement of gender and HRBA however not mainstreamed in analysis of context nor results framework/targets defined.
2	UNIR conflict management		1			1				CSO	Unclear	ST	Small	1	Conflict	Does not fall under a specific SA but support Sida partners' capacity to consider conflict perspective. Four interrelated aims are mentioned. The project will i) "increase awareness of context and conflicts; ii) contribute to a deepening understanding of context and projects; iii) [strengthen] the organisations' capacities and tools for conflict management and conflict prevention and finally iv) contribute to advisory services and tools on how conflicts may be managed."
3	Enhanced Knowledge for Action: MDPA and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – CEDLA				1	1		1	1	CSO	U & R, highland and lowland (Amazon, La Paz, Santa Cruz)	ST	Medium	1	MDPA, some gender, environment	Institution that conducts investigative analyses, originally mainly concerning the labour market, but also migration and capitalism in agriculture. Economic, social and environmental rights. Exchange of knowledge with CSOs, conduct of analyses concerning food security, poverty reduction, public policies on commercialisation, rural-urban migration, extractive industries, private sector, water sector, urban areas, child labour. Strengthening of CSO platforms and networks, promotion of innovative analyses methodologies and ways of engaging citizens in the public debate, focus on digitalisation (ICT). MDPA analysis is a core component of the Contribution
4	CIUDADANIA: 20 years of political culture and democracy in Bolivia	1	1							CSO	National level	ST	Small		Conflict – Statistics on trust disaggregated by gender	The relevance for the strategic area 1: This short term contribution was to collect reliable data (through surveys) about, on the one hand, citizens level of trust in state institutions and, on the other, the interpersonal trust (= trust between citizens). It contributed to a better understanding among donors of the importance of promoting democratic values in Bolivia, while also confirming the Swedish commitment to continue strengthening democracy in Bolivia. No explicit reference to ToC. MDPA: Yes, in the following terms: The analysis will emphasize the factors of political culture that are influenced by socioeconomic inequality emphasizing poverty from a multidimensional perspective, which combines the dimension of resources with opportunities, political empowerment and human security. The perspective of poverty will be incorporated in a transversal way in the study, trying to understand the way in which its different dimensions are related to the attitudes and political values of the most vulnerable social sectors, generating mechanisms of exclusion for this population.

#	Contributions	Criteria 1: Included in one or several of the following strategic areas and sub-areas in Sweden's strategy							Other 5 selection criteria (C2,C3,C4,C5, C6, C7, C8)							
		Strategic Area 1			Strategic Area 2				SA 3	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria 5	Criteria 6	Criteria 7	Comment
		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming,	
5	IDEA: Democracy, gender and youth	1	1	1					INGO	U+R, highland and lowland (La Paz, El Alto, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Tarija, Beni)	LT	Medium		GM, conflict, (environment)	Continuation of previous phase on involvement of women and young in political processes. Support to enhance public administration, women's organisations to enhance women's participation, youth involvement, capacity development of election unit. Very relevant since 2020 is election year. IDEA has collaborated with Sida during 9 years. Claim to apply a MDPA analysis but context analysis not updated but previous more or less repeated so difficult to actually see how it has been conducted. Conflict perspective developed with UNIR, a joint plan to prevent conflict. Appraisal states that concrete environment initiatives will be initiated by youth organisations. High risk for social unrest due to election. 59% of budget is focused on TA and short term consultancies	
6	FAUTAPO 2020-23 Women's Economic Empowerment & market access			1	1	1	1	1	CSO	U+R	LT	Large	1	MDPA (poverty) + environment, gender	See below	
7	FAUTAPO: Sustainable Women's Economic Empowerment at municipal level, 2016-2018			1	1	1	1	1	CSO	U+R	LT	Large	1	MDPA (poverty) + environment, gender	Fautapo received 38 MSEK to carry out the "Sustainable women's economic empowerment at municipal level" in 25 selected Bolivian municipalities, during the period October 2016 - March 2020. The idea behind the project was to train vulnerable women, formerly living in poverty conditions, involved in small family businesses with the aim to economically empower them and their families through personalized training and technical assistance. Municipal administrations participated in the activities with the purpose to improve public policies to benefit family businesses. The conservation of the environment and mitigate risks related to climate change was an important aspect as well as gender equality, including the promotion of SRHR.	
8	Women Leadership and Citizen Participation at the Local Level - IDEA	1	1	1					INGO	U	ST	Medium		Conflict (social conflict), GM (but not fully in results framework)	Support to female leaders qualitative participation in 9 regional governments in order to participate in democratic processes on equal terms as men. Elaboration of youth policy to enhance youth participation. Support to electoral unit to restore their credibility and citizens trust. Four years of collaboration with Swedish Embassy. Meetings with the nine regional departments have been conducted. 19 MSEK over three years	
9	UNODC Institutional Transparency and Citizen Participation at municipal levels, phase 2 (Aug 2016-May 2017)	1	1	1					UN	U+R	LT	Medium		Anticorruption is part of HRBA as it focuses on accountability and transparency. Some gender.	The project is highly relevant for strategic Area 1 because it deals with efforts to reduce and prevent the levels of corruption in the municipal administrations. UNODC, the UN agency specialised to combat drugs and crime, presented data from the State Controller General's Office with high number of corruption announcements/claims from local citizens. It was recognised that the problem is related to the country's decentralization process that began in 1994, when the executive started to transfer of funds from the national treasury to municipal governments. A challenge to carry out good management in accordance with current regulations is the lack of trained public servants in the Autonomous Municipal Governments. In September 2015, the State Controller General's Office indicated that 60% of acts of corruption in municipalities are due to ignorance of regulations and lack of experience in the management of public resources. No explicit reference to ToC, only logical framework and a text justifying the project. No references to MDPA, nor to poverty in the application document. The project analyses how corruption affects men and women differently.	

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		Strategic Area 1			Strategic Area 2				SA 3	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria 5	Criteria 6	Criteria 7	Comment
		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA)	
10	UNDP Indigenous People 2016-2020	1	1						UN	Lowland mainly Charagua but also Sucre, Oruro and Cochabamba	LT	Medium		GM, HRBA, conflict	Target areas are recognized indigeneous territories and main beneficiaries are indigenous people with a specific emphasis on women and young people in selected areas and their participation in rural native autonomies. Indigeneous peoples organisations are strengthened and women and young people are involved in decision-making and governance. ToC is applied. Risk assessment is conducted including considering political conflicts. Duty-bearers and rights-holders targeted	
11	UNODC Transparency, August 2017-January 2020 - extension	1	1	1					UN	U+R	LT	Medium		Anticorruption is part of HRBA as it focuses on accountability and transparency. Some gender.	See above UNODC: Continuation (new agreement) of project: UNODC Institutional Transparency and Citizen Participation at municipal levels, phase 2 (Aug 2016-May 2017). No explicit ToC or MDPA (application + final report)	
12	Water & Sanitation Periurban PASAP Climate Change														Old project, implemented up to 2015, not part of 2016-2020 portfolio.	
13	Local Urban Development Programme - WWF	1			1	1			CSO	U	ST	Medium	1	MDPA, GM, vulnerability, environment youth	The project seeks on the one hand to make challenges of climate change and environmental issues visible as factors that reproduce urban poverty and to include these aspects actively into public policies while, on the other hand, it seeks to involve civil society and organisations of young people and poor women in the identification and implementation of actions and solutions.	
14	Inclusive rural markets - Swisscontact			1				1	1	INGO	U+R	MT	Large	1	MDPA, GM, environment, conflict	Through the combination of the MDPA and the Market System Development (MSD) approach, the IMP aims "to contribute to the reduction of poverty by improving living conditions of small-scale farmers (with a special focus on women) in the Highlands (High-Plateau) and Inter-Andean Valleys". This is supposed to happen through: i) increasing of small farmers income; ii) increasing the resilience of small farmers production to the effects of climate change; iii) improving the working conditions of men and women and reducing their social vulnerability; iv) enhancing the empowerment
15	National River Basin Plan (PNC) Bolivia 2018 - 2020													Thematic focus on environment and conflict (for water) issues. Some focus on gender mainstreaming.	Continuation of previous phase	

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		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA)	
16	SEI Water Programme Bolivia 2018-2021				1					INGO	U, highland (La Paz, El Alto)	ST	Large		MDPA, some gender, environment	Programme combining two traditionally separated areas namely WASH and water resource management in agriculture, energy production, eco systems also considering climate changes impacting the populations in three selected areas (Tupiza, Choqueyapu, Pampa Huari). Includes three components 1) watershed conditions 2) alternative water management options, 3) sustainable sanitation solutions. More technical support compared to e.g. Unicef & Agua Tuya. Poverty and gender analysis based on Sida's MDPA. Mentioning of gender but difficult to define the extent w/o results framework
17	National River Basin Plan II 2013-2020	1			1	1		1		Bilateral (Govt)	U (+ R)	MT	Medium		Thematic focus on environment and conflict (for water issues). Some focus on gender mainstreaming.	Support to implementation and consolidation of 5-year national river basin plan (Plan Nacional de Cuenca (PNC II)). The main objective of PNC II is institution building and transfer of responsibilities from the Ministry of Water and Environment to municipalities, promotion of territorial planning in the management of river basins, especially with a view to disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and quality management of water resources. Sweden also contributed to PNC I. Multiple donor support, Swedens contribution was 20 MSEK out of a total budget of 760 MSEK.
18	PROAGRO - GIZ	1			1	1	1	1		Bilateral	R	LT	Medium/Large	1	environment, conflict	Promoting of climate-adapted agriculture, contributing to food production and improved living conditions in dry areas of Bolivia. Focus on better services for production and IWRM. Closely linked to the PNC.
19	TA to Bolivian IBNORCA				1				1	Bilateral (Govt)	U (+R)	ST	Medium			The project aims at strengthening Bolivia to influence and make use of the ISO system. IBNORCA as a national standards institution plays a vital role in representing Bolivia in international and regional standardisation processes; and nationally towards supporting private/public sector to practically use standards and thus benefit trade and sustainable development. Budget: MSEK 20
20	Bolivia Sustainable Sanitation Models				1				1	INGO	U, Highland, Amazon, lowland (Chuquisaca, Beini, Pando, Tarija, Santa Cruz)	MT	Large	(x)	(GM), environment, conflict	Sanitation solutions, dry toilets, reuse of waste as fertilizer, public private partnerships to implement and maintain new sanitation systems. Local authorities are committed to pay up to 50% of services indicating high ownership. Risks include corruption and sustainability. Collaboration with Diakonia, Agua Tuya & Sumaj Huasi. Sanitation products are to be used for fertilizer (compost) & sludge. There are five models, model 4 implemented in Cliza claims to be innovative in terms of implementation in collaboration with Swedish organisations. Data collected by government only states rural/urban criteria but not men/women so available data does not allow for sex-disaggregated data but data on women's involvement in maintenance are included and GM is reflected in the application
21	SKL Inception Phase Climate Resilient Cities (SymbioCity)				1						U	ST	Small	1		Sida supports the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SKL) to prepare a proposal for implementation of the SymbioCity programme in Bolivia. The aim is to develop innovative approaches for increased climate resilience and sustainability in urban planning. The interventions focus on capacity building at municipal level.

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		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA)	
22	National Urban Policy Programme – UNHABITAT	1	1		1				UN	U	ST	Large	1	Env+conflict	The project aims at advising and guiding the Bolivian Government in the formulation and implementation of a national urban policy for an integrated development of cities, within the framework of an urban agenda that contributes to the sustainable development of human settlements in Bolivia. In this process, the project applies methodologies and expertise developed by UN-Habitat and the UN System. MDPA applied and explicit mention of ToC	
23	Decentralized Sanitation Models Program – Agua Tuya Foundation				1	1		1	CSO	U (Cliza, Tolata, Tarija, Santiago, Montero)	LT	Large	1	env+GM+conflict	The project intervention model is a response to a situation in Bolivia where planning and project implementation in the water and sanitation sector have become very centralized. In view of this, Aguatuya's overall intervention model is based on the opposite, namely a strong believe in a more decentralized and local development of basic service issues. Focus is on both engineering and management, with simple, but sustainable working technologies and infrastructure. The implementation approach is based on a co-financing model between Aguatuya and the municipalities. Include perspectives related to Broader relations. MDPA applied	
24	WASH Programme - UNICEF	0	1		1	1	(1)	1	UN	U+R, mainly lowland (pilot in Montero) but also highland (La Paz)	MT	Large	1	GM, HRBA, environment, no conflict	Thorough context analysis using a multidimensional poverty analysis method to define target group and approach. Aligned to national dev policies and SDGs. ToC approach. Brackets under strategic areas indicate that UNICEF mentions contributing to these areas whereas these are not mentioned in Sida's decision docs. GM is applied but not in targets which are not disaggregated. Targets both rights-holders and duty-bearers. Risk assessment. MDPA applied	
25	Solid waste management Bolivia-zero waste 2019-2022							1	1	INGO + CSO	U+R, Low- and highland (La paz, Tarija, El Alto, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz)	ST	Large		environment, som gender & HRBA	4-years waste management contribution with Helvetas, Aqua Tuya & Swiss contact. 49 MSEK. Sida's environment help desk reviewed the proposal. Objective is to enhance the population's health by reducing environmental pollution. The project will improve solid waste especially on collection and transportation of waste, 2. Reuse of waste by establishin reuse systems; 3) strengthening institutional capacity at national and local level; 4) raising awareness among institutions and population through disseminating lessons learned. Statements to ensure GM and HRBA incl. different communication strategies to different groups but not fully reflected in results framework
26	Culture of Peace and Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body	1							UN		LT	Medium		Conflict	The objectives and the rationale are built around the urgent need to avoid violence, fraud, and widespread distrust during the upcoming general election on the 18th October 2020. If the Bolivian state is not successful with this task, there is a significant risk of a further breakdown of the democracy that could lead to the same type of tragic post-electoral violent protests as experienced in late 2019	
27	Helvetas-Solid Waste-WASH COVID-19 emergency response in Bolivia	1							INGO	U, lowland and highland (La Paz, El Alto & Montero)	ST	Small	1	environment	Just initiated, 3 MSEK for one year to support Bolivia ensuring clean water, sanitation and waste management (incl. Medical waste) during COVID 19 crisis. Support to public servants to ensure proper handling, Helvetas Aqua Tuya & Swiss contact have joined forces, they are all long term partners and currently implementing the zero waste project, additional support. 67% of the budget is for procurement of materials for cleaning, medical treatment. Geographic areas are relevant due to the outbreak of the virus was highest in Montero, La paz and El Alto with most cases.	

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28	Country Strategy 2017-2020 – UNICEF	1	1	1					UN	U+R, lowland	LT	Large	1	GM, HRBA, some environment	Amazon as target area. Gender is mainstreamed and reflected upon in the thorough context analysis but not sufficiently in the results framework where targets are not sex-disaggregated. A ToC approach is applied to all components. Risk assessment	
29	Support to civil society and gender – Diakonia		1	1					CSO	U+R	LT	Medium		GM, HRBA, conflict	Support through CIVSAM since 90ies but direct support since 2017 (19 MSEK + 5 MSEK extension). Target group: women (UNITAS, ACOBOL), indigeneous people and black bolivians (CADIC) incl. LGBT, disabled, trafficking, abortion (Human Rights Community). Specified but unclear how many are to be reached from the different groups and strategies for reaching them. Large group of women's and human rights organisations, participating in developing the proposal and are involved in implementation. Explicit ToC, risk assessment incl. on conflict. Some context analysis but not substantial considering challenges by all target groups. E.g. not fully clear how human trafficking is to be addressed	
30	Masculinity and Gender in Bolivia – Promundo			1					INGO	R+U, highland (pilot in El Alto to be further scaled)	ST	Medium	1	GM	Research approach implemented in 30 countries, representative HH survey to understand men's attitude and understanding of gender. Based on the research, a training programme is developed with CSO participants who will pilot new perceptions of gender in their CSOs. Intervention of men's positive parenthood will be introduced after research. Innovative in a Bolivian context. Research should have been conducted, evaluation of a pilot of program P in El Alto, pre-study for program P	
31	One United Nation- Bolivia			1					UN	Not geographically specified, nationally	ST	Small	1	GM, HRBA	Gender strategy developed with UN organisations receiving support from Sweden to enhance coordination and avoid overlapping interventions. The documents consider it to be innovative since it is an attempt to streamline interventions and share data and best practices more systematically. Small grant but with potential good effect.	
32	HR Ombudsman 2017-2020	1	1	1					Bilateral (national government)	National	MT	Small		HRBA	A relevant project due to its focus on indigenous and other minority groups' human rights. The project is a core support to the HR Ombudsman's strategic plan 2016-2020. No explicit reference to ToC or MDPA. But the project aims to strengthening indigenous people's awareness, knowledge and tools to claim their legal human rights.	
33	Masculinity in Energy sector				1				INGO	Cobija and Oruro	ST	Small?	1	GM	Promundo, in collaboration with IADB, is testing the masculinity approach on the energy sector in Cobija and Oruro. This testing is to inform the adaptation for scaling up of the Program P intervention from El Alto to a larger scale.	
34	UNDP: New support to the Bolivia's electoral authority OEP 2020	1	1	1					UN	National	ST	Large		Conflict + HRBA	Very relevant for strategic area 1. Given the dramatic and negative events October-November 2019 for Bolivia's democracy, the project is/was part of large effort by the international community to partly rebuild the national electoral authority OEP, for the preparation and realisation of new elections on 18 October 2019. No explicit reference to ToC or MDPA.	

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		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA)	
35	Support to Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR)	1	1	1						UN	National	ST	Small		HRBA	New project 2020 (420 000 USD): This project aims at contributing to strengthening the respect and protection for human rights in the context of the on-going political and social crisis in Bolivia, to help prevent and halt human rights violations. It will ensure a sustained UN Human Rights presence in Bolivia, by giving continuity to the current deployment (November and December 2019) and strengthen its capacities to meet current needs in the coming months (January to March 2020 initially). This will pave the way for a longer engagement strategy in the United Nations Human Rights country, which will include a component of technical assistance, capacity assistance, capacity building and strengthening of key institutions according to the High Commissioner's mandate. The relevance of the project is based on a need for Bolivia to improve the protection and respect of human rights evidenced by falling down in several ranking indexes on political and civil human rights Bolivia. Sweden also supports the National Human Rights Institution (The Ombudsman for HR) and national CSOs (through Diakonia and direct support to CEDLA) working in the same field. It is a well-structured approach to support human rights in the country. Good possibilities for synergies and cooperation between the partners, although they have different mandates. No explicit reference to ToC or MDPA.
36	UNFPA SRHR (CI 2015)	1	1	1						UN						Too old.
37	UNICEF Country Program 2013-2017	1	1	1				1		UN	Low- and highland (Potosi, Beni, Cochabamba, Oruro)	LT	Large		GM, HR, no environment, conflict	Consultations with stakeholders and programme aligned with national dev. Plans. 3 components: services, protection and monitoring for advocacy. Clear focus on indigenous & excluded children. No explicit ToC
38	Ombudsman II, PHASE OUT CONTRACT	1	1	1						Bilateral (government)	National	MT	Small		HRBA	See HR Ombudsman 2017-2020. Same project but divided into to contracts. No change of content.
39	SRHR/UNFPA 2017-2020	1	1	1						UN	Mainly R; Highland & lowland (Potosi, Pando, Cochabamba)	LT	Large		GM, some environment (medical equipment), HRBA	Project support on SRHR and GBV mainly focusing on policies but also awareness raising, services and CSO collaboration. Focus on duty-bearers and empowerment of rights-holders. Substantial context analysis incl. On vulnerable groups such as indigenous people, LGBT and Disabled. ToC
40	UN Women Bolivia	1								UN		ST	Small			Pilot project (1,2 MSEK from 2016 strategy, 4 MSEK in total) one women's political participation with the intention to be prolonged. This was however not realized as it fell outside the new Swedish strategic plan. Not relevant for in-depth study

#	Contributions	Criteria 1: Included in one or several of the following strategic areas and sub-areas in Sweden's strategy								Other 5 selection criteria (C2,C3,C4,C5, C6, C7, C8)						
		Strategic Area 1			Strategic Area 2				SA 3	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria 5	Criteria 6	Criteria 7	Comment
		Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, gender mainstreaming, HRBA)	
41	UNFPA SRHR (CI 2016)	1	1	1						UN	High- and lowland, 5 areas (La Paz, Cochabamba, Potosí, Pando, Chuquisaca)	LT	Small			Extension of project, 4,8 MSEK. SRHR for adolescents (14-24) and prevention of sexual violence. Support to CSOs and advocacy work towards duty-bearers. Inclusion of men to prevent GBV
42	SRHR among indigenous people UNFPA	1	1	1						UN	R, Lowland (Amazonas)	LT	Small	GM, HRBA, some environment		Project support (3 MSEK) with the intention to do a 3 year project after. Targets five indigenous groups in Amazon. Out of 37 different groups these are among the most vulnerable groups with a high (61%) percentages of under 19 years population. Poor health services and little school and high migration rate. High teenage pregnancy rate and sexual abuse. Difficult to reach in the Amazon. Well elaborated context analysis applying a HRBA with high level of participation and empowerment.
		23	20	20	13	9	3	12	10							

Annex 5 – Contributions selected for in-depth assessment

Contribution	Criteria 1: Included in one or several of the following Strategic areas (SA) and sub-areas in Sweden's strategy								Other 5 selection criteria (C2,C3,C4,C5, C6, C7, C8)						
	SAa 1			SA 2				SA 3	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria 5	Criteria 6	Criteria 7	Comments
	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 1	Sub-area 2	Sub-area 3	Sub-area 4	Sub-area 1	Type of partner	Geographical coverage (Urban, rural, both; highland, lowland)	Cooperation time	Grant size	Innovative methods	Cross-cutting perspectives (environment, conflict, GM, HRBA)	
Women Leadership and Citizen Participation at the Local Level - IDEA International	1	1	1						INGO	U	ST	Medium		Conflict (social conflict), GM (but not fully in results framework)	Women's political empowerment, election
UNIR conflict management		1			1				CSO	Unclear	ST	Small		Conflict	Does not fall under a specific SA but support Sida partners' capacity to consider conflict perspective
Support to civil society and gender - Diakonia		1	1						INGO	U+R	LT	Medium		GM, HRBA, conflict	GBV, human rights, masculinities
Country Strategy 2017-2020 - UNICEF	1	1	1				1		UN	U+R, lowland	LT	Large		GM, HRBA, some environment	GBV
Masculinity and Gender in Bolivia - Promundo			1						INGO	R+U, highland (pilot in El Alto to be further scaled)	ST	Medium	x	GM	GBV, Masculinity
Culture of Peace and Strengthening of the Plurinational Electoral Body - UNDP	1								UN		LT	Medium		Conflict	Election, public participation
Decentralized Sanitation Models Program - Agua Tuya Foundation				1	1		1	1	CSO	U (Cliza, Tolata, Tarija, Santiago, Montero)	LT	Large		Environment	Broader relations
Enhanced Knowledge for Action: MDPA and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources - CEDLA				1	1		1	1	CSO	U & R, highland and lowland (Amazon, La Paz, Santa Cruz)	ST	Medium	x	Environment, GM, HRBA, Conflict	MDPA, cross-sectoral
National Urban Policy Programme - UN-Habitat	1	1		1					UN	U	ST	Large		Environment	Integrated approach
Inclusive rural markets - Swisscontact							1	1	INGO	U+R	MT	Large	x	Environment, GM, HRBA, Conflict	Integrated approach
Local Urban Development Programme - WWF	1			1	1				INGO	U	ST	Medium		Environment, GM	Integrated approach
Sustainable Women's Economic Empowerment at municipal level - FAUTAPO		1	1			1		1	CSO	U+R	LT	Large		GM	Women's economic empowerment
Sum	5	6	5	4	4	1	4	4							

Annex 6 – Terms of reference

Reference no.:	Date
UM2020/06370	February 13, 2020

If the information provided here is already included in the procurement document, the same information need not be provided here.

1 Background

1.1 Intervention/Project description

The 2016-2020 Swedish Development Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia has been approved to contribute to a better environment and sustainable use of natural resources, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience, the democratic development of society and improved opportunities for poor people to support themselves. In addition, it is to support a transition from development cooperation to broader relations.

The Strategy is valid for the period 2016–2020 and provides a total of SEK 750 million.

Where relevant, provide a brief overview of the intervention or project and provide some information on the history behind Sweden’s involvement as well as the reasons for Sweden’s funding of the assignment.

2 Scope of assignment

2.1 General information

Contributions within the framework of the strategy are expected to contribute in the following areas:

Strengthened democracy and gender equality, and greater respect for human rights.

- Strengthened democratic institutions, greater capacity and due process in public administration, and increased participation in political processes.
- Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to promote respect for human rights, with focus on women, children and indigenous people.
- Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to promote gender equality, with particular focus on combatting gender-based violence.

A better environment, reduced climate impact and enhanced resilience to environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters.

- Strengthened capacity among public institutions and civil society organisations to manage the effects of negative environmental impacts and climate change.
- Enhanced resilience to environmental impacts and climate change in rural areas.
- Increased productivity in primarily small-scale agriculture, including sustainable use and management of natural resources and ecosystem services, with focus on women and indigenous people.
- Greater access to environmentally sustainable community services.

Better opportunities and tools to enable poor people to improve their living conditions
Enhanced conditions for free and fair trade and sustainable investments that will benefit sustainable development, with particular focus on a better environment, reduced climate impact and greater resilience to environmental impacts and natural disasters.

2.2 Scope of work

State clearly all the details that are required of the tenderer.

Where possible, indicate the specific goals for each interim assignment, e.g. key activities for achieving the goals and the anticipated result for each assignment.

Specify clearly if the assignment forms part of a larger project.

Where relevant, describe special environmental considerations, the quality assurance that applies to the assignment, and/or other aspects of relevance taking into account Sweden's key principles/goals in development cooperation.

To perform an overall evaluation of the 2016-2010 Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia, implemented by Sida through the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz, Bolivia.

The **general objective** of the evaluation is i) to assess whether or not the contributions implemented (or under implementation) in Bolivia during the 2016-2020 years comply with the expected results as described in the above mentioned Strategy; and ii) to provide recommendations based on the above assessment to be used for the planning and implementation of the coming Swedish strategy in Bolivia.

The **specific objectives** of the evaluation are:

To determine the progress achieved in relation to the expected results of the Strategy for each of the three components. It will be of particular interest for the Embassy to determine whether the products/results and activities developed by different counterparts contributed at achieving results.

To assess whether the progress in each of the areas is satisfactory or not. Specifically, it will be necessary to highlight and/or to determine:

- How relevant were the contributions to the overall situation and needs in the sector, and in relation to what other donors are doing?
- What is the degree of progress in achieving the expected results for each area?
- Is it possible to find products/results and/or ongoing activities which were (or are) not in the direction of the projected goals?

What problems and obstacles (internal and external) affected the development and/or performance of the implemented contributions and project management? Are there systematic problems which recur across several contributions?

For the discussion of relevance, the consultant is expected to review the entire Swedish portfolio during the strategy implementation period.

For the other issues, the consultant is requested to review in depth at least 12 of the contributions of the Bolivian portfolio which were initiated between August 2016 and December 2019. The contributions will be selected in discussions with the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz which will also provide a list of contributions and information on the same. Selected contributions are expected to be both representative of the program in general and of innovative approaches in the same.

In addition, the Embassy of Sweden in La Paz expects that the following general questions be answered by the consultancy:

- Which contributions in each of the three areas and sub-areas have been the most relevant to achieve the intended goals and to respond to needs in each sector? Could relevance have been enhanced?
- What has been the achievements of the contributions in terms of achieving the goals of the strategy? What have been the main problems (internal, external, contextual) affecting the implementation of contributions and achievement of the strategy results?
- What are the lessons learned, good practices and difficulties during the execution of the Strategy?
- Value the Strategy and its implementation in terms of coherence, consistency, and efficiency. Please elaborate your answer for each one of the categories.
- How well have Sida's general priorities been considered in the implementation of the strategy: (poor people's perspectives; rights perspective; and conflict, gender equality and the environmental and climate perspective).

Others that the consultant may consider relevant to incorporate.

When visiting counterparts, the following guiding questions may be used by the consultancy:

- What is the assessment (positive or negative) of the counterparts and/or beneficiaries in relation to a given contribution?
- Were the expected products, approaches and/or modality of support delivered by Sweden adequate for the counterpart? Elaborate your answer.
- How do the final beneficiaries evaluate the technical assistance and training activities delivered by Sweden?
- What failed, what is insufficient and/or what is inappropriate in terms of compatibility between the initiatives and the Strategy areas?
- How is the support and technical assistance provided by Sweden valued in terms of equity, expertise, balance and transparency?

2.3 Schedule

Where relevant, state period of time and duration of the Assignment.

The consultancy is expected to last a total of between 15 and 20 working weeks for the entire team. The team is expected to spend between a third and a half of that time in field visits to Bolivia. The Embassy of Sweden in La Paz, Bolivia suggests that the draft report be ready no later than May 31, 2020 and the final version of the consultancy to be ready no later than July 15, 2020.



External Evaluation of the Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia 2016–2020

Sweden's contribution to eradication of gender-based violence, strengthening of democracy, urban planning, climate change and the transition from aid to trade.

The purpose of this Evaluation is to assess results from implementation of the 2016–2020 Swedish Cooperation Strategy with Bolivia and provide recommendations for the planning and implementation of the coming Swedish strategy in Bolivia (2021–2025). The evaluation concludes that the relevance of the contribution portfolio is high and that the Embassy has managed to adapt to evolving demands, including in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The portfolio composition is well-balanced across key strategic areas and includes a number of new innovative approaches and concepts. While progress has been affected by COVID-19, this has at the same time created new opportunities for cooperation. The evaluation recommends maintaining a strong strategic focus on support to eradication of gender-based violence, strengthening of democracy, urban planning, climate change and the transition from aid to trade. In addition, a continued and strengthened focus on multi-stakeholder approaches is encouraged, further emphasising participation of grassroots organisations and social movements. Sustainability aspects need to be strengthened.

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