Mid Term Evaluation of the Search For Common Ground Morocco Project:

*Increasing Civic Participation among Marginalized Urban Youth in Morocco*

**Final Evaluation Report – April 2014**

*Submitted to:*
Search For Common Ground, Morocco

*Submitted by:*
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*Funding for the Increasing Civic Participation among Marginalized Urban Youth in Morocco program, and this evaluation, comes from the Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM) of USAID’s Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance.*
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Search for Common Ground (SFCG) were the primary intended users of the evaluation and contributed actively throughout the process: in defining the evaluation framework and research tools; providing logistical support and translation; and, in responding to findings as they emerged. The substantive contributions of the following SFCG-Morocco staff were key to the utilization-focused evaluation process:

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Selma Talha Jebril, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
Soufiane El Hamdi, Project Coordinator
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The evaluator would like to thank Partner Organizations and Field Coordinators in Casablanca (L’Association CHOUALA), Meknes (L’Organisation Marocaine pour L’Education et les Jeunes), and Sale (L’Association Marocaine de L’Education et Jeunes), who welcomed and contributed to the evaluation. Particular appreciation goes to the 19 youth Council Members who participated enthusiastically in Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and the 133 who completed surveys. USAID and the Institutional Learning Team of SFCG contributed to defining the evaluation scope and Terms of Reference.

EVALUATOR PROFILE
Alice Rowley holds an MSc in Development Studies from the London School of Economics (1999) and has 13 years experience as an evaluator. She has managed and delivered over 15 utilization-focused evaluations for the World Bank, DFID, European Commission, Gates Foundation and various INGOs.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS
CMM Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (USAID)
FC Field Coordinator
FGD Focus Group Discussion
MSC Most Significant Change
PC Program Coordinator
PCM Cooperative Program for Morocco
PGL Local Government Project, USAID
PO Partner Organizations in the 6 cities
SFCG Search for Common Ground
USAID United States Agency for International Development
YC Youth Council

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“We correct officials’ views towards many issues and topics because we are well qualified, they like these qualifications. There is a big difference between the way they see us and them (youth in general)”
Meknes YC Member, FGD

The Program
In August 2012, Search for Common Ground in Morocco began a 6-city program to promote civic participation among youth in marginalized urban areas in Morocco. The program is funded by the USAID Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM), and seeks to address ongoing challenges around improving transparency, accountability, and community interaction with local elected leaders in Morocco.

In collaboration with Partner Organizations in the 6 cities of Agadir, Al Hoceima, Casablanca, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale, Youth Councils have been formed and have commenced a leadership training program for the selected youth participants (25 per city). At this mid term stage, the program is continuing the leadership training, and moving towards increasing the interaction of Youth Councils with their local Communes, via a series of roundtable events and training sessions for local Officials.

The Evaluation
In late 2013, and in light of the potential scale-up of the project, Search for Common Ground Morocco commissioned an external Mid Term Evaluation. The evaluation aimed to provide an assessment of progress to date, and to identify priority actions to maximize the impact of the program on the civic participation of youth in Morocco moving forward. Search for Common Ground contributed actively throughout the evaluation and have responded to evaluation findings by making amendments to the program as issues have arisen. The evaluation process was structured according to a detailed Evaluation Framework.

• A survey measured feedback on the composition and decision making structure of the Councils; on the leadership training program; youth perceptions of interaction between youth and local officials; and, measurements of actual civic participation by Youth Council members. 133 Council members completed the survey across the 6 cities.

• Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were held with 19 randomly selected Council members in the 3 cities visited during the evaluation (Casablanca, Meknes and Sale). FGDs explored outcomes to date, discussed Most Significant Changes and identified key factors relating to successful interaction between youth and local Communes.

• Interviews with Partner Organizations and Field Coordinators in the 3 visited cities assessed program relevance, coordination and communication.
Outcomes identified during FGDs were mapped to the framework for Youth Civic Engagement developed in 2012 by Mercy Corps\(^1\). Potential impact indicators on three categories (‘Youth Ability’, ‘Openness of Officials to Youth Engagement’, and, ‘Awareness of the Youth Council in the Community’) were analyzed. Mixed-methods of data collection and analysis included the coding and quantifying of qualitative data; and gender disaggregation was performed on survey data.

Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

‘Youth who became involved in activities and attended workshops heavily are wondering about their rights and duties – casting their views frankly’
Meknes YC Member, survey comment

Objective 1: Youth Leadership and Civic Engagement
Youth Councils started with the identification of 25 members each. Participants were selected based on criteria including leadership and entrepreneurial potential, gender, and location within the cities. Feedback from members demonstrates strong representativeness on age, but 3 councils have fewer than 50% female members. Council members in general have a high education level as a result of the selection process.

Feedback on equal participation in decision-making processes within the Councils (by age, gender and literacy) was lower than for representativeness. Moreover, data from 5 cities demonstrate uneven gender integration in decision-making. Evidence suggests improvements can be made to the democratic decision making processes within 3 Councils: some tensions in the functioning of the Councils in Al Hoceima, Agadir and Meknes were revealed and should be further explored by SFCG.

The leadership development program has increased its intensity over time and participant feedback on training was largely positive. The progress of Youth Councils in holding training and public events is varied and requires cautious deliberation moving forward - Sale, Marrakech and Casablanca are less advanced. Meknes has been the most active and it is important that this drive is sustained, whilst at the same time ensuring the quality of events. Stronger curriculum design would have strengthened the sequencing of training sessions and overall coherence: In particular, the Self-Esteem and Gender Integration sessions should have been implemented at the outset.

Individual level outcomes of the leadership program were identified for participants in all 6 Youth Councils, including results relating to motivation and awareness of civic responsibility (for all cities), and increased capacity for effective civic participation and interaction (in Meknes and Sale).

‘We learned a lot in the trainings, particularly mediation. What is our role and rights in mediation’
Casablanca YC member

\(^1\) ‘Civic Engagement of Youth in MENA: An Analysis of Key Drivers and Outcomes’, Mercy Corps. 2012
I learned how to debate and discuss my issues, how to define solutions. How politics works. It has given me confidence to attend another conference’  
Sale YC member

• ‘Youth Ability’ scored a mean of 4.43 out of 5 across cities, the highest of three composite indicators measuring potential impact in the survey. This further validates the identified outcomes of increased motivation, awareness and empowerment at the individual level among participating youth.

Overview of Recommended Actions on Youth Leadership:
- Consider how to manage the uneven roll out of the program moving forward:
  - To keep momentum, Meknes should be supported (including financially) in continuing with well-planned roundtable and town hall events.
- Reassess the balance between targeting the most marginalized youth and those who demonstrate leadership and social entrepreneurial potential for future YCs:
  - Consider what support members from marginalized neighborhoods need to contribute effectively.
  - Monitor the occupations of potential members to avoid over representation from universities.
- Set targets per Council of 50% female participation and consider this when replacing members.
- Address the perception that male and female members do not contribute equally:
  - SFCG is establishing Gender Monitoring groups in all Youth Councils.
  - SFCG will prioritize the Gender Integration module moving forward; and for new Youth Councils from the outset. These sessions should produce explicit strategies to overcome the identified impact of gender on civic participation.
- Address issues around transparency and equality in decision-making processes within councils in Al Hoceima, Meknes and Agadir.
- The sequencing of training modules should be revised and the curriculum reinforced:
  - Curriculum design should explicitly link the training objectives to modules: ensure dependent topics are in the correct sequence and that they reinforce earlier modules.
- Maintain recent momentum in increasing the intensity of the training program:
  - SFCG is now utilizing a 1-month advance calendar.
- The leadership training program could be further strengthened and intensified through coaching and/or follow up to individual training sessions.
- Ensure the regular monitoring and utilization of data on the practicality of training, feedback on trainers, access to materials and equipment, and learning outcomes:
  - SFCG has now developed standard monitoring forms to capture learning outcomes and feedback.
- Consider requests for additional Council-determined training topics on a case-by-case basis.

Objective 2: Multiplying Impact

‘It is a chance for me to convince others in the neighborhood and friends that being part of a local association is not a bad thing. You can do that and still have a good life’

Meknes YC Member, FGD
Evidence of the multiplication the impact beyond direct participants was identified for all 6 cities: outcomes included increased awareness of the Council within communities (Agadir and Al Hoceima); the sharing of learning with non-participating youth (Casablanca, Meknes and Sale); and, leadership in initiating community improvement activities (Marrakech, Meknes and Sale). Participation in the project has had effects at the community level as Council members share learning and emerge as leaders within their communities. In Sale, for example, members of the Council have organized local projects. One of these projects aims to address youth unemployment in the city, by working with city stakeholders, to establish micro enterprises selling materials outside schools. In Meknes, a majority of members volunteer with local associations, including orphanages, and at summer camps for underprivileged children.

‘I used the training with my family. My father has become so easy to communicate with, less nervous. He understands that I can use it in a professional manner’
Casablanca YC member

‘There is a noticeable change. Members of the Council are initiating projects’
Marrakech YC member

Council members (from all cities) believe they can increase impact by engaging more effectively with non-participating youth in their cities. In fact the majority consider this to be a duty resulting from their privilege in participating in the program. ‘Awareness of the Youth Council’ was the lowest scoring potential impact indicator for 2 of the 6 cities (Casablanca and Sale) and scored 3.11 overall (compared to 4.43 for ‘Youth Ability’ and 2.84 for ‘Local Politicians Openness’). Evidence of outcomes relating to the social media elements of the program was unclear.

Overview of Recommended Actions on Multiplying Impact:
- **YC members should be encouraged and supported to develop materials to share training sessions within their neighborhoods:**
  - The National Meeting in April could discuss how best to implement this.
- **The location of venues for public events should facilitate the participation of youth from the most marginalized neighborhoods.**

Objective 3: Interaction between Youth and Local Communes

‘*Since the beginning of the project young people are more motivated and insist in forwarding their ideas and to make them real through the interaction with leaders of civil society*’
Al Hoceima YC Member, survey comment

A total of 9 roundtables, which bring local officials together to debate topics selected by the Youth Councils, have been held to date. Although at a nascent stage, the evaluation revealed evidence of positive results on youth interaction with local officials in 4 of the 6 participating cities. Political Voice outcomes include increased confidence in communication and articulation; increased awareness of political processes; and, improved understanding of the constraints facing local officials. Social capital outcomes included a sense of shared identity and networking. The leadership program is perceived to qualify participating youth to effectively engage with officials.
‘At the roundtables we invite community leaders and elected officials – important people to the community. There is some sort of connection and understanding. They do come and they listen’

Meknes YC member

Conversely, the perspective of Youth Council members towards their engagement with local officials is still mixed across cities and overall it is pessimistic. At the mid term stage, the project is yet to achieve the ‘constructive channels of communication with the Communes’ envisaged in its original design. Figure 1 below shows Council members’ perceptions on the nature of their participation in public decision-making, from tokenistic and consultative participation (indicators on the left), to shared decision making and control (indicators on the right)²:

Figure 1: Youth Civic Participation, from Passive to Active

Four of the 6 Councils have a generally pessimistic perception of youth civic participation and the ‘Local Politicians Openness’ indicator scored the lowest (at 2.84) of the 3 potential impact indicators. In addition to the future training events scheduled for local officials, strategic attention to sensitizing officials and fostering their incorporation, as project stakeholders, will be critical to achieving durable impact on youth civic participation in Morocco.

‘We have the constitutional (national) right to be heard, but they will take the documents and not do anything’

Sale YC member

‘Participation can be improved by giving the Council the real value, identity and autonomy in order to make change and discuss various issues of public interest’

Meknes YC member

² The indicators measured youth civic participation from passive on the left (1. ‘Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth to active’), to active on the right (6. ‘Youth making decisions about the city / community’). These indicators were modified to fit Roger Hart’s Ladder of Youth Participation.
Overview of Recommended Actions on Interaction:
- **The buy-in of local officials to the program requires increased strategic attention:**
  - SFCG is currently collaborating with national actors (PGL, PCM, UNICEF and parliamentarians) to advocate for a separate legal status for Youth Councils in Morocco.
  - Use the upcoming National Meeting to identify learning on engaging local officials.
- **Foster long-term relationships with local officials to strengthen their participation:**
  - Consider involving local officials by monitoring their feedback on activities and recognizing their involvement via social media.
- **Roundtable events must be carefully managed and planned to ensure they have a positive outcome on interaction between the Councils and Communes:**
  - Strategize the most effective invitees; the timing and title of the event; the marketing; location; resources; equipment; and, press turnout.
  - Partner Organizations should identify officials who are relatively open and incorporate them as project stakeholders.
- **The Gender Integration module should address gender influences on interaction with officials and civic participation.**

**Project Coordination**
Whilst there were challenges at the outset in project coordination\(^3\), which impacted the scheduling of activities, Partner Organizations noted improvements and are generally positive about the partnership moving forward. Overall, communication and coordination between SFCG, the Field Coordinators, Partner Organizations and Council members does appear to be working efficiently.

**Overview of Recommended Actions on Project Coordination:**
- **Follow up on mixed feedback on communication and decision making styles of Field Coordinators in Al Hoceima and Meknes.**
- **Increase the cohesion and sharing of learning between YCs:**
  - Consider regional exchanges between the Councils to document and share learning related to the objectives of the program.
  - The National Meeting should aim to increase cohesion among the Youth Councils.

**Relevance**
The relevance of the program to the stakeholders was very evident for Youth Council members, and the indirect beneficiaries they interact with. The sense of purpose and alignment to the program goal was also clear for partner organizations visited; however, their engagement with the program appears to differ according to the characteristics of the association. The evaluation identified strong evidence that more effort is required in sensitizing local officials to the program and the potential of youth civic participation.

**Overview of Recommended Actions on Relevance:**
- **Consider the characteristics of potential partner organizations moving forward; the unintended benefits for partner organizations; and, the trade off between the size and status of organizations and the requirements of the program.**

\(^3\) The delays were due to staffing changes at SFCG, the late incorporation of Sale, and challenges in finalizing the project PMP.
Sustainability
Despite the pessimistic views of engagement with local politicians, Council members are highly committed and engaged. When asked if there had been changes resulting from the program, over 70% described positive outcomes (in 5 of the 6 cities). The Youth Civic Participation program has achieved durable results in motivation and action towards youth civic engagement among the youth participants. There are indications that the Councils are progressing towards autonomy, but also risks to their sustained motivation if that process is not carefully managed. Partner Organizations are on the whole highly committed to project outcomes, whereas their incentives related to increased autonomy of the Councils are ambiguous. The potential durability of impact relies on achieving more effective interaction between the Youth Councils and local officials in their Communes.

OVERALL CONCLUSION
Notwithstanding the complexities and challenges at the beginning, SFCG and partner organizations have succeeded in establishing 6 active, motivated and increasingly empowered groups of young leaders across Morocco. Youth Council members are committed to and active in increasing youth civic engagement. The vast majority demonstrate a sense of civic responsibility in their attitudes and actions within their communities. The leadership development program is performing as intended, though it would be reinforced by stronger curriculum design.

The 6 Youth Councils remain largely discrete and focused on their immediate locations; however, the upcoming National Meeting should stimulate an increased sense of shared purpose. More can be done to ensure knowledge management between the Councils. Imminent Gender Integration training should utilize individual city-level findings to address gender influences on decision-making processes, within the Councils, and on Youth Council member’s civic participation.

The potential weakness of the program is that despite some encouraging signs, effective channels of communication with local officials have not yet been established. This challenge requires attention at the local and national level. SFCGs ongoing collaboration with national actors to seek legal status for Youth Councils in Morocco is a positive but possibly protracted approach, and must be accompanied with increased strategic attention at the individual city level.

The evaluation can conclude that the empowerment of youth component (Objective 1) does appear to be achieving its intended outcomes. Furthermore, and despite variance between cities, outcomes relating to the multiplication of impact (Objective 2) are apparent and emerging. The potential durability of impact relies on achieving more effective interaction between the participating youth and local officials in their Communes (Objective 3). This relies on the success of the upcoming sensitization activities with officials, as well as other local and national strategies to leverage their engagement with youth. At this mid term point, performance in implementation and the identified emerging outcomes do seem to be aligned to the programs theory of change. The scale up of the Youth Civic Participation program to other Moroccan cities is likely to achieve similar results.
INTRODUCTION

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Program Context: Since 1998, Morocco has been implementing major political and government reforms around democratization, human rights and decentralization. Youth participation in the local political process needs to be improved through greater transparency, accountability and community interaction with local elected leaders.

The Organization: Search for Common Ground was founded in 1982, and is the largest dedicated international non-governmental organization working in the field of conflict transformation in 33 countries worldwide. The Moroccan country office opened in July 2001, and for the last decade SFCG has worked with Moroccan society to transform the way in which people and institutions deal with conflicts and to develop a culture of mediation, with a specific focus on youth.

Overview of the Program: In August 2012, SFCG began implementing the ‘Increasing Civic Participation Among Marginalized Urban Youth in Morocco’ program with funding from USAID, and in partnership with local institutions in 6 Moroccan cities (Agadir, Al Hoceima, Casablanca, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale). Activities over the envisaged 2-year program included: 1) Baseline; 2) Training of youth; 3) Training of local Communes; 4) Communication through social media, radio and television; 5) National meetings, 6) Round Tables and Town Hall Debates; and, 7) Training of trainers and capacity development of Partner Organizations (POs)\(^4\). At the mid-term stage, Activity 1 (Baseline) is complete; activities 2, 4, 6 and 7 are underway; and the training of local Communes (Activity 3) is imminent.

Program Goal: The overarching goal of the program is ‘The promotion of civic participation and good governance among youth in marginalized urban areas in Morocco’. Intended outcomes are: 1) Youth from marginalized urban areas actively participate in civic-minded youth Councils; 2) Youth from marginalized urban areas use spaces to debate local governance; and, 3) Youth Councils participatory governance capacities are improved, enabling increased participation in local decision-making.

THE EVALUATION

This evaluation was initiated by SFCG-Morocco at the mid term of the program and in light of the prospective scale-up of the program across Morocco. The evaluation goal was to deliver evidence-based analysis of performance and progress towards intended outcomes to date, at the mid term (covering the period August 2012 to March 2013), by city and for the program overall; and to identify lessons learned and recommendations for maximizing potential impact moving forward. Full details can be found in Appendix D: Terms of Reference.

Methodology: To ensure utility, the evaluation was designed, conducted and analyzed with the extensive participation of, and regular feedback meetings with, SFCG-Morocco. Program amendments and actions already identified by SFCG, in response to the evaluation, are noted in the report.

\(^4\) More detail can be found in Appendix D: Terms of Reference.
• A detailed **Evaluation Framework** structured the process and research instruments. The survey was developed to capture quantitative and qualitative feedback from Youth Council members across the 6 cities. The Focus Group Discussion (FGD) guide concentrated discussions with randomly selected YC members on Most Significant Change (MSC) and potential barriers to impact. Interview protocols were developed for Partner Organizations (POs) and Field Coordinators (FCs) to provide evidence on project coordination and communication.

• **Analysis**: Outcomes identified during focus FGDs were mapped to the framework for Youth Civic Engagement, developed in 2012 by Mercy Corps⁵. Potential impact indicators on three categories (‘Youth Ability’, ‘Openness of Officials to Youth Engagement’, and, ‘Awareness of the YC in the Community’) were developed, measured by the survey and analyzed. Mixed-methods of data collection and analysis included the coding and quantifying of qualitative data, and gender disaggregation was performed on survey data.

• **Data Collected**: Three cities were visited (Casablanca, Meknes and Sale), and a total of 7 interviews completed with Partner Organizations (POs) and Field Coordinators (FCs). Focus group discussions (FGD) were held with randomly selected participants (19 members total), and 133 surveys of Youth Council members were completed and analyzed.

### CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

• The evaluation was initially scheduled to complete in December 2013, following data collection during the National Meeting (initially planned for December). Due to the postponing of the meeting to April, data collection had to occur at the city level, at the same time as YC activities were taking place – extending the time frame of the evaluation. The revised schedule also limited the potential of staggered data collection, and follow up of identified issues, envisaged in the TOR.

• Within the time frame and scope of the evaluation, and given previous challenges encountered when approaching officials during the baseline study, it was not feasible to meet local officials. The assessment of progress towards the third intended outcome is focused on *potential* for impact (given activities aimed at these groups are nascent at this mid-term stage).

### STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

The main body of the report examines performance of the program as a whole: the **Overall Findings** and **Conclusions and Recommended Actions** sections. These are presented according to the 3 intended outcomes and followed by the assessment of program coordination and communication, relevance and sustainability. The individual City Reports, which follow the main body, and Appendices A: Comparative Data Analysis and B: City Data Reports, contain the substantive overall and city-level analysis from which the Overall Findings are drawn.

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⁵ ‘Civic Engagement of Youth in MENA: An Analysis of Key Drivers and Outcomes’, Mercy Corps. 2012
OVERALL FINDINGS

1. EFFECTIVENESS IN DEVELOPING YOUTH LEADERSHIP

This section incorporates analysis and findings relevant to the youth leadership program, which aims to empower participating youth, and examines the composition and function of decision making within the Youth Councils. The relevant objective is; 1) To inform and sensitize youth to the principles and mechanisms of good governance, citizenship, democracy and human rights in order to increase levels of youth civic participation.

1.1. Representation of Youth Councils of their cities

The identification of Youth Council (YC) members sought to obtain adequate representation of sexes, age range and relevant minority groups. At the same time, leadership potential and social entrepreneurship were attributes for section.

Figure 2: Survey Scores on Representation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Age Representative</th>
<th>Literacy Representative</th>
<th>Gender Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sale</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meknes</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>3.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marrakech</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casablanca</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Hoceima</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agadir</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age:** All cities have representation across the age groups – with the exception of Marrakech.

Feedback from respondents on age was the highest of the three categories assessed. It was only noticeably lower for Meknes, which has a high proportion of 20-25 year olds. Marrakech has no members over 25, and 80% of members are 20-25, yet age was scored highest across the 3 categories.

Figure 3: Age Range within YCs

**Literacy** was used as a proxy for ethnicity and socio-economic status in the evaluation. Feedback across cities was the second highest of the 3 categories. Youth Council (YC) members in general have a high education level as a result of the selection process, which sought leadership...
potential. According to interviewed stakeholders, the YC members were selected to best represent their neighborhoods across the cities, rather than socio-economic status. The majority are students and this has an effect on their availability for attending YC activities as the scheduling of activities has to take into account examinations. In Casablanca, several YC members have part-time weekend jobs, which also make attendance difficult. One issue was identified in Meknes of more marginalized (and peripheral) neighborhoods being further from the YC center, and relatively more expensive to travel to.

**Gender:** Half of the cities have equal or high representation of women - Meknes (50%), Sale (52%) and Casablanca (59%) - but the other half fall below 50% - Agadir (41%), Al Hoceima (29%), and Marrakech (25%). This mixed-finding on adequate representation was clear in the percentages of YC members disagreeing that gender was well represented: 24% in Agadir, 20% in Al Hoceima, and 15% in Marrakech. Respondents scored gender representation as the lowest of the three categories in Agadir, Al Hoceima and Casablanca. In Agadir, 43% of female members disagreed that gender is accurately represented on the Council.

**Gender disaggregated feedback** across cities revealed lower female scores on representation of literacy and age, and similar feedback as males on gender. Gender disaggregation at the city level detected findings relevant to each YC, which are in the City Report section below.

### 1.2. Participation of members in decision-making

Within the Youth Councils, perceptions regarding equal participation were measured to assess the function of decision making, according to the same categories: age, literacy and gender.

**Figure 4: Survey Scores on Contribution to Decision Making**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Age - Participative</th>
<th>Literacy - Participative</th>
<th>Gender - Participative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sale</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>2.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meknes</td>
<td>2.26</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marrakech</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casablanca</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Hoceima</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agadir</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>2.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age:** Equal participation in decision-making by age group received the lowest score for 3 cities – Marrakech, Meknes, Casablanca. This was most evident in Meknes where 65% of YC members disagreed that age groups contribute equally.

**Literacy:** Equal participation by literacy received the highest score across the 3 categories for every city. It is not clear how well this proxy indicator for socio-economic status performed.

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6 Interviews with POs in Meknes and Casablanca
7 Scoring 1 (strongly disagree) or 2 (disagree) on a 5-point scale.
Gender: Data from 4 cities demonstrate uneven gender integration in decision-making. The percentage of members disagreeing that both sexes contribute equally were 58% for Meknes, 55% in Al Hoceima, 37% in Sale and 35% in Agadir. This feedback was from both male and female members: in Al Hoceima, for example, 4 of the 5 participants who strongly disagreed were male (27% of male respondents).

Gender disaggregated feedback reveals lower female scores overall on gender and age in contribution to decision-making, and higher feedback than males on literacy.

Scores on decision-making indicators were lower for all cities than for representation, with the largest gaps in Al Hoceima, Meknes and Agadir. These gaps provide an assessment of participant satisfaction with the function of decision-making within the individual Youth Councils. Supporting these findings, qualitative feedback from Al Hoceima and Meknes indicated some sensitivity relating to equal commitment and participation of YC members. Casablanca and Meknes findings identified a need to increase the transparency of identification of leaders and members who attend ‘training of trainers’ within the Council’s.

Figure 5: Satisfaction with Functioning of Decision Making

1.3. Training Program

As of March 2014, all cities have competed 2 of the 4 envisaged sessions on Alternative Methods of Conflict Resolution, and 4 of the 5 Social Entrepreneurship modules. Citizenship training sessions are also ongoing with 1 completed in Agadir, Al Hoceima, and Casablanca, 2 in Marrakech and Meknes and none prior to the evaluation in Sale.

Monitoring data on training sessions up to December 2013 was difficult to analyze and incomplete, since each trainer was using their own form for pre and post-testing. SFCG has recently developed a standardized form with pre and post questions, to be used in all future training sessions.

There was no benchmark to measure feedback on training against. During this evaluation, YC members scored all training to date. Mean scores for all respondents were 4.08 ‘Quality of the Trainer’, 3.87 ‘Overall Quality’, and 4.18 ‘Usefulness of the training’. These measurements can provide benchmarking for M&E of the program moving forward.

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8 See Meknes and Al Hoceima city reports below for more detail
9 This training was completed in March 2014.
Figure 6: Mean Scores for Training by City

Across cities, Sale gave the highest scores; Casablanca, Marrakech and Meknes were average; and, Agadir and Al Hoceima scored lower.

Gender disaggregated analysis showed higher feedback across the training indicators from female members: 4.14 mean on ‘Trainer’ compared to 3.87 from males, 4.02 on ‘Overall Quality’ compared to 3.66 from males, and, 4.14 on ‘Usefulness’ compared to 4.13 from males. There were diverse findings at the individual city level: see City Reports section below.

Comments provided on the training were frequently positive, and demonstrate the general sense of privilege YC members expressed towards their participation in the program.

Example comments on training

‘I benefitted from trainings and observed a positive change in how to interact with others’
Casablanca YC Member

‘Training sessions were important and useful’
Sale YC Member

‘Very good level of trainers and the trainings were useful to everyone’
Meknes YC Member

1.4. Outcomes relating to Leadership

Outcomes at the individual level were identified for all 6 Youth Councils: these results included increases in motivation and awareness of youth potential for participation (for all cities), and increased capacity for effective interaction (in Meknes and Sale).

Potential Impact Indicator: ‘Youth Ability’ (4.43 mean) scored highest of three composite indicators measuring potential impact in the survey\textsuperscript{10}: This validates the identified outcomes of increased motivation, awareness and empowerment at the individual level among participating youth.

\textsuperscript{10} See Appendix A.
**Comments relating to Leadership Outcomes**

‘*Since the beginning of the project young people are more motivated and insist in forwarding their ideas and to make them real through the interaction with leaders of civil society*’

Al Hoceima YC member

‘*We learned a lot in the trainings, particularly mediation. What is our role and right in mediation*’

Casablanca YC member

‘*There is a personal impact of the training and the program, now I am able to write articles and I’ve created a website – I have an electronic newspaper*’

Meknes YC member

‘*I learned how to debate and discuss my issues, how to define solutions. How politics works. It has given me confidence to attend another conference*’

Sale YC member

The survey asked respondents to indicate their actual interaction according to a series of criteria prior to and during the project\(^ 1\). Marrakech members demonstrated increased interaction in 5 categories, Agadir and Meknes in 4, Casablanca in 2 and Agadir in 1.

**Figure 7: Measured YC Member Interaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Since the project started</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Voted</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGADIR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL HOCEIMA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASABLANCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRAKECH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEKNES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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\(^1\) The YC members in Sale appear not to have completed these questions fully, since all categories show a decrease. Sale was the first YC to be surveyed, and survey administration was improved with clearer instructions in the following 5 cities.
1.5. Strengthening the Leadership Training

The most frequent participant feedback was that the intensity of the training program needs increasing\(^\text{12}\). This finding was evident across 5 of the 6 cities and encompassed the frequency of training sessions and their duration. ‘Regarding the duration of training sessions, it is not enough for me to get a full and holistic benefit’ Marrakech member. ‘The time between training sessions has been 3 months sometimes, and we can forget what happened, also the 2 day training might not be enough’ Meknes member. Casablanca and Meknes feedback added that the scheduling of training sessions needs advancing to maximize attendance and allow members to schedule other commitments. The Meknes FGD suggested a 2 to 3 month advance calendar\(^\text{13}\).

- SFCG report that the frequency and scheduling of training was initially delayed due to the staggered establishment of the 6 YCs, and since disrupted due to the schedule of participants other commitments and the long summer break. SFCG has responded, and interviewees in Meknes and Sale report improved recent scheduling.

The sequencing of the training program, in particular earlier delivery of the Self-Esteem training was raised by members of the Al Hoceima and Marrakech YCs: ‘Training sessions such as self esteem must be programmed before mediation’ Marrakech member. The findings above of contribution to decision making by gender also suggest that Gender Integration training should have been scheduled earlier.

Other recommendations included increase the practicality of training sessions (from Marrakech and Meknes); provide more materials and equipment (cameras in Al Hoceima, and a laptop in Casablanca); and, ensure top quality trainers (Al Hoceima, who scored the quality of the trainers the lowest across cities). As a sign of increasing autonomy, YC members in Agadir, Meknes and Casablanca would like to add training sessions on topics determined by the YC members themselves.

2. EFFECTIVENESS IN MULTIPLYING IMPACT

The Youth Councils were intended to multiply impacts within the cities and ‘inspire other youth through local competitions, online social media, and radio and television’ (proposal): The related objective is; 2) To create real and virtual spaces for debate, inspiration and exchange of information among Moroccan youth regarding citizenship, participation in local public and civil governance, local initiative-taking, and national policies on youth concerns.

2.1. Outcomes relating to Multiplying Impact

Outcomes that multiply the impact beyond direct participants were identified in all 6 cities. These include increased awareness of the YC within communities (Agadir, Al Hoceima), and leadership in initiating community activities (Marrakech, Meknes, Sale). Furthermore, The evaluation identified an important unintended outcome in all 3 visited cities – the sharing of learning with non-participating youth. There is substantial evidence that YC members have

\(^{12}\) See ‘Suggestions for improvement of impact’ in Appendix A for an overview of YC member’s feedback.

\(^{13}\) SFCG respond that 1-month is the most optimal calendar of events in order to fit with trainers planning and members examinations schedules which are unknown 2-3 months in advance.
taken on leadership roles within their communities, as envisaged in the project design, and verified through interviews with POs and FCs:

**Comments relating to outcomes in Multiplying Impact**

‘I used the training with my family. My father has become so easy to communicate with, less nervous. He understands that I can use it in a professional manner’

Casablanca YC member

‘My role is almost as a facilitator (for my) friends in the neighborhood. I try to bring solutions and problems both ways, also coming back from the training and discussions’.

Meknes YC member

‘Positive change is that youth interact with the ‘outside’ and pass on the information’

Casablanca YC member

‘There is a noticeable change. Members of the Council are initiating projects’

Marrakech YC member

‘Youth became involved in activities and attended workshops heavily are wondering about their rights and duties – casting their views frankly’

Meknes YC Member

Focus group discussions in each of the three cities visited during the evaluation identified **Social Capital related outcomes**:

- In Casablanca: Collective Action - reaching out to the wider community and emerging leadership competencies. Examples include training youth in local youth centers.
- In Meknes: Collective Action - in reaching out to the wider community, and civic responsibility and leadership competencies. Including multiple YC members volunteering with local associations, and summer camps for unprivileged children and orphanages.
- In Sale: Collective Action - reaching out to the wider community, organizational skills and emerging leadership, and increased tolerance in personal connections and relationships. Examples include local projects aiming to improve neighborhoods and training youth in local high schools.

**2.2. Strengthening the Multiplication of Impact**

The evaluation documented strong evidence that YC members (from across all cities) believe they can do more to multiply the impact by **engaging more with non-participating youth**.

**Potential Impact Indicator:** Supporting this is the low feedback on the potential impact indicator: ‘the youth council is well known by non participating youth in my community’ (2.87 mean)\(^{14}\).

**Examples of YC Members suggestions to Multiply Impact**

‘Communicate with them (youth) regularly and not exclude them from any activity as it was’

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\(^{14}\) See Appendix A.
‘By doing the workshops outside the Council, to improve and educate non-leader youth in Al Hoceima’

Al Hoceima member

‘The people at the Maisons des Jeunes (youth clubs) want more, if we can increase our training, we can increase the impact’

Casablanca YC member

‘A lot of the benefits of the project don’t reach the outskirts to the more marginalized population’

Meknes YC member

‘Try to integrate them well and bring them closer to the Council because many of the youth don’t know the existence of the Youth Council and also can’t express their views’

Sale YC member

Youth Council members in all cities recommended increasing activities with non-participating youth:

- Casablanca, Marrakech, Meknes, Sale data indicated that the visibility of the YC should be strengthened. In Sale, the lack of a permanent base for the Council was seen to limit the awareness of it among non-participants. Just 13% of Sale respondents agreed that non-participating youth are aware of the YC.
- Casablanca, Meknes and Sale FGDs revealed a need for materials to share and facilitate the provision of training for non-participants: ‘There are no tools to carry it out in the wider community, but even if we don’t have the tools are resources to carry it out, we try’, Meknes YC member.
- Travel costs to non-central venues, which limit the attendance of non-participants at public events, were raised as a concern in Meknes.

2.3. Media Component

Whilst the evaluation scope did not include measuring the multiplication of impact through the media component, a few YC members did make reference to this component: ‘several articles in local and national newspapers has published- the publication of several videos and tapes short that trait youth issues’: Agadir YC member describing changes resulting from the program. Field Coordinators were asked about this component:

- The Meknes FC described press members attending Roundtables, as well as a few YC members undertaking media related activities, such as interviews with radio stations. He also stated that members shared their YC activities with friends and family on Facebook.
- In Casablanca, the FCs interviewed stated that 155 non-participants have been active on the YC public Facebook page. A female YC member from Casablanca participated in a debate on the national TV channel 2M.

SFCG reports a total of 20,432 social media interactions (including numbers of likes, views, comments and shares)\(^\text{15}\). Evidence gathered from Youth Council members for the evaluation

\(^\text{15}\) Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP), Year 1 Report, SFCG-Morocco. January 2014.
indicates that in some cities, the use of social media has chiefly targeted direct participants. Most described interactions and activities with non-participants were in person. It is also unclear which published articles on Facebook are open to the public.

‘People in the neighborhoods mostly don’t know about the Facebook page. It is a new project and people don’t look at it’

Casablanca YC member

SFCG has monitored articles and videos published in the printed press and on social media. Agadir has been the most active with 22 total media publications, followed by Casablanca (11), Meknes (7), Al Hoceima and Sale have been less active (4) and Marrakech the least (3). In total, there have been 39 individual press articles published to date.\(^{16}\)

3. EFFECTIVENESS IN FACILITATING INTERACTION

The related objective is; 3) To offer marginalized urban youth the opportunity to contribute to local public governance and to constructively debate their vision of good governance and local priorities with local officials. At this mid-term stage, activities targeting local officials, including training and sensitizing them to youth civic participation, have not occurred. The underlying theory of change necessitates the empowerment of youth participants, prior to their engagement with officials. The assessment of effectiveness in facilitating interaction (objective 3) is therefore limited to examining roundtable events to date; assessing related outcomes in the cities visited during the evaluation; and, examining Council members perceptions of interaction.

3.1. Roundtable Events

To date the program as a whole has held a total of 9 Roundtables, but as the training roll out has been uneven, so have Roundtable events. Meknes has held 5 Roundtables, Agadir 2, Sale 1 (and there is 1 more planned for March), Marrakech has 1 planned for March, and Casablanca has yet to hold a Roundtable.

3.2. Outcomes relating to Interaction

Meknes, which has held 5 Roundtables, provided the strongest qualitative evidence of the results of interaction. The FGD discussed the roundtables in depth and YC members shared a general perspective that the training gives them confidence in communication, and strong networks, but also respect in the eyes of the officials: ‘We correct officials’ views towards many issues and topics because we are well qualified, they like these qualifications. There is a big difference between the way they see us and them (youth in general).’

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Comments on positive Interaction with Officials at Roundtable Events

‘At the roundtables we invite community leaders and elected officials – important people to the community. There is some sort of connection and understanding. They do come and they listen’
Meknes YC member

‘The project is considered a positive step by officials who encourage youth to participate and give their opinions and express their abilities’
Sale YC member

‘The leaders of civil society are becoming aware of youth capacities’
Meknes YC member

‘Two round tables organized during which many members of the local population did interact - the interaction of local officials with members of the Council, they welcome their proposals and organizing visits to the municipal council to bring youth from the work of the municipal council’
Agadir YC member

Positive outcomes on interaction were identified in 4 cities – Agadir, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale. The most common outcome was a perceived increase in the openness of local officials towards engaging with the Youth Council. In Meknes, other outcomes were also identified: enhanced communication between youth and officials, and increased respect from civil society towards the YC.

Focus group discussions in each of the three cities visited during the evaluation identified political voice outcomes:

• In Casablanca, confidence and awareness and increased understanding.
• In Meknes, confidence and awareness, increased skills in defining solutions. Confidence in engagement with officials and increased understanding and interaction.
• In Sale, confidence and awareness, social awareness and increased understanding. Confidence in engagement with officials and skills in defining solutions.

It must be noted that there was also a widespread sense of pessimism within the data towards official’s openness to youth participation (see next section). This was most notable from Sale, where the FGD discussed collaboration with local officials and the youth perception that even if officials do meet with youth, they are ignored:

‘We have the constitutional right to be heard, but they will take the documents and not do anything’
Sale YC member

‘(We need to) change the mindsets of some local officials by awareness and training sessions’
Meknes YC member

3.3. Youth Council Members Perceptions of Interaction

The evaluation sought to measure YC members perceptions relating to interaction with local officials, in order to examine potential impact, and to establish a baseline for the final evaluation. Indicators were developed to assess participation according to Harts Youth...
Participation Ladder. Analysis mapped indicators of youth participation from tokenistic to consultative (passive), to shared decision-making and control (active). These ranged from 1. ‘Officials and civic leaders inform and educate youth’, to 6. ‘Youth make decisions about the city/community’\textsuperscript{17}. The charts below demonstrate members’ perceptions of the nature of youth participation in local decision-making:

Figure 9: Perceptions of Youth Civic Participation by City

\textsuperscript{17} See Appendix A for more information.
Members in 4 of the 6 participating cities have a clearly pessimistic perception of youth civic participation in their cities. Al Hoceima and Agadir had the most pessimistic response; Sale and Casablanca were also overall pessimistic:

- Agadir YC members strongly perceive decreasing participation as the categories move from passive to active. (Evidenced by the trend line and high R squared score of 0.6): ‘Participation of youth in their interactions with the local decision-makers is still weak because it needs more to build bridges of trust and engagement’. Agadir YC member.
- Al Hoceima members strongly perceive decreasing participation, and scored the lowest across cities for the most active indicators (5 and 6). (R squared score of 0.57).
- Sale members also described a trend of decreasing participation, though indicator 4 was an outlier with 86% agreeing that ‘officials and civic leaders actively support youth engagement’. (R squared score of 0.27).
- Casablanca members perceive decreasing participation, though this is less dramatic than for Al Hoceima or Agadir. (R squared score of 0.7).
- Meknes scored the highest on the active categories and is the only city to have a fairly optimistic trend line. (R squared score of 0.36).
- There was no discernable pattern from Marrakech, and the scores on the most active indicators – 5) ‘Officials involving youth in decision-making’, and 6) ‘Youth making decisions about the city’ – were the highest across cities. (Low R squared score of 0.05).

Gender disaggregated analysis of potential impact indicators shows that in some cases, gender does appear to play a role in interaction and in perceptions of it in:

- In Agadir and Al Hoceima, female members had a more pessimistic perception of interaction than males. 83% of Al Hoceima female members did not respond to questions about actual interaction.
- In Casablanca and Marrakech the female perspective was more positive than the male, with the exception of ‘officials actively support youth’ where 40% of females agreed, compared to 69% of males.
- In Meknes, there was also gender divergence but unrelated to the overall pattern.

2.4. Strengthening the Interaction

Field Coordinators in Casablanca and Meknes identified a lack of engagement by local officials as the key challenge:

Stakeholder perspectives on Officials’ Sensitization to Youth

‘Political groups do not really get involved with the youth but try to block them from doing anything, by ignoring them’

Casablanca FC

‘The problem is with the elected officials – trying to get them on board. They don’t really understand the program’

Meknes FC

‘The national allowance for youth to voice their concerns hasn’t gone to the local level. There is no local charter. Central power is not communicating this’

Sale YC member
‘There are problems in communication with officials within the city’

Sale YC member

**Potential Impact Indicator:** Survey respondents were asked a series of questions relating to the potential for civic engagement in their cities. Whilst they have confidence in youth ability to engage (4.33 mean score), the feedback on openness of local officials to youth engagement was generally weak (2.84 mean score)\(^\text{18}\). The perspective of FCs in Casablanca and Meknes further validate this finding.

Youth Council members in Agadir, Al Hoceima and Sale commented that more work is needed to ensure local officials understand the program goals and youth potential for engagement. Comments were received from members in all cities that more work is needed to sensitize local officials. Suggested actions to improve this situation included incorporating a legal framework for youth participation within Communes, and using central pressure on the Communes.

**Quality of Roundtable events:** The FGD in Meknes generated some good feedback on maximizing the impact of Roundtable events. Feedback on the quality of these events to date suggests they have been uneven. The FGD in Meknes identified the need to produce quality events, in the right venues (with the right format to encourage discussion and with the right facilities as key). Events that were held at the PO base attracted fewer non-participating youth, due to transport costs. ‘The first roundtable was very successful because we were in a hotel and the others were just in public places. Need to focus on the place so you can attract people to come’, FGD participant Meknes. The PO reported challenges in getting the attention of officials, and estimated between 50 and 70% of those approached will attend events. Scheduling the events at the weekend, to fit with student’s schedules, is one reason for this challenge.

4. PROJECT COORDINATION

There were several obstacles to establishing the 6 Youth Councils; these included changing cities from Safi to Sale (necessitated by an existing YC in Safi), and a subsequent change of PO in Sale. SFCG has experienced several staffing changes, including the project manager and M&E officer.

4.1. **Project Communication and Cohesion**

Three of the POs (in Casablanca, Meknes and Sale) and 5 FCs (2 for Casablanca and Meknes, 1 in Sale) were interviewed to assess project communication and coordination. The PO in Meknes noted initial challenges in coordination, particularly in scheduling training, but reports that this has been addressed and is very positive about the ongoing relationship and communications with SFCG. Feedback from Sale was also strongly positive. On the other hand, the PO-representative met in Casablanca was less satisfied with communication and believes the delays in the program need addressing\(^\text{19}\).

The Sale PO requested more communication between POs in the program, to improve learning especially relating to training feedback. Youth and POs in Sale and Meknes requested increased coordination and communication among the Youth Councils: The FC in Meknes described the

\(^{18}\) See Appendix A: Comparative Data Analysis for full scores by city.

\(^{19}\) See Casablanca City Report (below) for full analysis, including SFCGs response.
interaction resulting from participating members attending an international exchange of youth councils as a ‘turning point’ in the stimulating them to take initiative in proposing events, training topics and working on local issues.

4.2. **Partner Organization Capacity**

Partner Organization’s were asked during interviews about this program element. It is not clear from their responses that they all consider this to be necessary – the large PO in Casablanca reports that the YC program is just 2-3% of their operational budget. The Meknes PO considers the capacity element to have been very positive, as does the Sale PO. Moving forward, the PO in Sale requested more support from SFCG in strategic networking: to share learning and build wider connections to support youth engagement.

4.3. **Field Coordination**

Interviewed Partner Organizations in Sale and Meknes were very satisfied with the role of the FC in coordinating the project. Feedback from Casablanca was positive on the role the FCs have in coordination, yet believe this additional layer may impede communication with SFCG.

![Figure 10: Frequency of FC contact with Council Members](image)

There is varying frequency of contact between the FC and YC Members: Agadir and Casablanca have the highest frequency. Most communication between YC members and the FC is via Facebook. Two survey comments indicated some issues in Al Hoceima around communication and decision-making between the FC and YC members.

4.4. **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The baseline conducted in 2012 was intended for use by an impact evaluation, i.e. it measured indicators for non-participating youth. As such, it has not been possible to use this data to measure change with direct beneficiaries of the project. The data collected for this mid-term evaluation can serve as a baseline for the end evaluation, to measure progress with direct beneficiaries from this point.

Monitoring of the media element by SFCG can be improved. As the media component picks up speed, SFCG should ensure FCs regularly document viewing figures, numbers joining Facebook groups and actively participating, etc.

**Emerging recommendations for the monitoring and evaluation system** (which are detailed in the recommendations section below) include:

- SFCG has already made some changes to the monitoring of the training program, to ensure timely adjustments are made to increase effectiveness.
- SFCG is considering creating gender monitoring within the YCs.
- Incorporate local officials into a monitoring system.
5. RELEVANCE

The ongoing relevance of the program was examined by assessing the alignment of stakeholders to the program objectives.

**Youth Council members** were asked to define civic engagement in the survey, which 100% of respondents\(^{20}\) did adequately (with the exception of 1 YC member in Al Hoceima). They were also asked to describe their reasons for joining the YC: almost all provided responses aligned to the objectives of the program, ranging from 100% in Agadir, Al Hoceima and Marrakech, to 86% in Casablanca and Meknes, and 91% in Sale.

**Example Reasons for Joining the YC**

‘To achieve a positive change in the city and pass the gains that we learned within the Council for other youth to encourage them to participate in citizenship’

Agadir YC member

‘To learn more about everything, to acquire the knowledge and integrate different ideas, especially to hear women’s voices’

Al Hoceima YC member

‘The main reason is the acquisition of communication skills and how to express my opinion. The second reason is to use these skills to help in problem solving, starting from the surroundings where I live’

Casablanca YC member

‘To participate effectively in decision-making and the management of local affairs’

Marrakech YC member

‘Make change in the areas which are known to be corrupt in terms of governance, through negotiation with the decision makers and pressure on them’

Meknes YC member

The minority who expressed non-aligned reasons cited personal development (including enhancing their employment potential), as the main reason, with the exception of 1 YC member in Casablanca who was more interested in working with the PO than civic engagement: ‘Reasons for joining the council are knowledge gain, take advantage and change my relationship with the Chouala Association, which was one of the main reasons for joining the council’.

**Partner Organizations:** Three of the POs were interviewed during field visits. The Meknes and Sale POs shared a strong sense of purpose, which was aligned to the program goal and objectives. The project also brings other unintended results for POs, which should be considered moving forward: In Meknes the PO reported that it has raised the status of the PO in the city as an independent and active association. In Casablanca the YC is only a very small part of the POs work on youth in Morocco, and though no evidence indicated a lack of alignment to the program goals, the association might not give the program the same level of attention as a smaller PO.

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\(^{20}\) Excluding non responses.
Communes and Local Officials: Although local officials were not participants in the evaluation, strong evidence suggests they do not share the aims of the project.

6. SUSTAINABILITY

Youth Council members are highly committed and engaged in the project to increase youth civic engagement in Morocco. Despite the pessimistic views of interaction with local politicians, a majority (in 5 of the 6 cities) cited positive changes when asked if there had been any change: 69% in Agadir, 83% in Al Hoceima, 92% in Marrakech, and 83% in Meknes and Sale. In Meknes, which has been the most active YC, there are indications the Council is well established and members are seeking ownership and autonomy of the YC. Even for the relatively less established Youth Council in Casablanca, members demonstrate commitment and high motivation: “We were just the consumers of training, and now we need to be the producers as the Youth Council”, and a desire for autonomy: “eventually when Search is gone, we want to sustain ourselves.”

Partner Organizations in Sale and Meknes indicated that if the SFCG funding ends, they will seek to maintain the Councils through funding from other sources. The Meknes PO is considering broadening the membership or perhaps creating an additional Council. The Casablanca PO is committed to the endurance of the project: “If the project ends, they (the youth) lose. They will be less interested in similar activities.”

Moving forward, the key areas for attention are to increase efforts towards the third objective. Potential impact and sustainability relies on an effective process of interaction between the youth participants and local officials in their cities.

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21 The score was just 50% in Casablanca.
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

7. Overall Conclusions
Despite the complexities and challenges at the beginning, SFCG and partner organizations have succeeded in establishing 6 active, motivated and increasingly empowered groups of young people across Morocco. Despite variance between cities the overwhelming majority of Youth Council members are committed and active in increasing youth civic engagement.

- Outcomes of the leadership program (Objective 1) have been identified at the individual level for all cities: comprising changes in motivation and awareness, and increased capacities for effective interaction.
- The participants in the program are multiplying the impact within their communities (Objective 2): Outcomes were identified on wider communities for all cities: including increased awareness of the potential of youth, leadership and initiative by the youth in addressing community problems. An unintended but widespread result of Youth Council members sharing the training in youth clubs and high schools is evident. Results of the media element aiming to multiply impact are more challenging to assess, although outputs do appear to be on track\(^{22}\).
- On interaction (Objective 3), there are encouraging signs, considering the early stage of the process, and outcomes were identified as changes in Youth Council members interaction with Communes and officials in 4 of the 6 cities: including increased officials’ openness to youth, enhanced communication, and increased respect from civil society towards the Youth Councils.

Leadership attributes, and emerging political voice and social capital outcomes\(^{23}\) were identified in all 3 cities visited. Evidence demonstrates the increasing autonomy of the Meknes Council (which is also the most advanced in numbers of trainings and roundtable events).

The initial set backs in the program are being overcome by SFCG, and it is important that the momentum is maintained. The advancement of Youth Councils in holding training and public events is varied and requires cautious consideration to ensure progress is made, whilst maintaining quality in Councils that are less advanced (Sale, Marrakech and Casablanca). Meknes has been the most active and it is important that this drive is sustained, whilst ensuring the quality of events. Evidence indicates improvements can be made in the management of participant expectations: some tensions in the functioning of the Councils in Al Hoceima, Agadir and Meknes were revealed, which should be further explored. Representation of women on 3 Councils (Agadir, Al Hoceima and Marrakech) is low. Diverse gender contribution to decision making was identified in 5 cities (Al Hoceima, Agadir, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale), supporting the finding that Gender Integration should have been prioritized in the sequencing of training. Gender also affects interaction and this should be addressed in the upcoming Gender training.

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\(^{22}\) Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP), Year 1 Report, SFCG-Morocco. January 2014.

Overall, communication and coordination between SFCG, the Field Coordinators and Partner Organizations does appear to be functioning efficiently. The relevance of the program to the stakeholders, and the indirect beneficiaries they interact with, was very apparent. Conversely, the effective participation of local officials may be undermined by their limited openness towards youth engagement. Youth Council members overwhelmingly identified a need to increase activities and the engagement of non-participating youth. They require materials to support this process. The evaluation identified strong evidence that more effort is required in sensitizing local officials the potential of youth civic participation.

The 6 Youth Councils remain largely discrete and focused on their immediate locations: The upcoming National Meeting should stimulate an increased sense of shared purpose. More can be done to ensure knowledge management between the Councils.

The potential weakness of the program is that despite some encouraging signs, effective channels of communication with local officials have not yet been established. This challenge requires attention at the local and national level. SFCG’s ongoing collaboration with national actors (PGL, UNICEF, PCM and parliamentarians) to seek legal status for Youth Councils in Morocco is a positive but possibly protracted approach, and must be accompanied with increased strategic attention at the individual city level.

8. Project Component Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Note: SFCG has actively participated in discussing findings and analysis throughout the evaluation process; several actions have already been taken or are being considered, these are indicated with the following:

Leadership (Objective 1) Conclusion and Recommended Actions

Leadership Conclusion: The leadership development program, although it had challenges maintaining the pace of training at certain points, is improving over time and is generating outcomes at the individual and community level.

1. The roll out of the program across cities has been uneven, with Meknes completing the most training and already completing 5 Roundtables, and Casablanca and Sale completing the least. **SFCG will need to consider how to manage this situation moving forward:**
   - To keep momentum, Meknes should be supported (including financially) in continuing with well-planned Roundtable and Town Hall events.

2. **Representation on YCs can be improved.** SFCG should reconsider the balance between targeting the most marginalized youth and those who demonstrate potential social entrepreneurship among YC members: for future YCs:
   - Consider alternative methods to identify potential members within their neighborhoods for future YC member recruitment.
   - Assess and consider what support members from marginalized neighborhoods need to effectively contribute to the YC, including travel costs and briefing POs on facilitating attendance and participation.
   - Monitor the occupations of potential members before forming new YCs or replacing members, who leave current YCs, to avoid over representation from universities.
o Set targets per YC of 50% female participation and ensure equal representation. This applies to new YCs and to current YCs (notably Agadir, Al Hoceima and Marrakech), as they replace members who leave.
o Also target improving the age range of the city YC when replacing members who leave (notably Marrakech, Al Hoceima and Agadir).

3. Participation within the YCs can also be improved. The **perception that male and female YC members do not contribute equally** (relevant to Al Hoceima, Agadir, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale) should be addressed:
   - SFCG is considering constituting Gender Monitoring groups in all cities to regularly discuss and document steps and outcomes towards equal contribution and engagement. The upcoming Gender Integration training sessions should identify a mixed-group to undertake this task, and clear expectations in terms of process documentation and reporting.

4. **Transparency and equality in decision-making processes and the identification of leaders** in Al Hoceima, Meknes and Agadir should be further explored to ensure those Council’s remain coherent and with a high degree of solidarity.
o A facilitated and documented discussion at the National Meeting between SFCG, POs and attending YC members, or individual meetings with POs and the Al Hoceima, Meknes and Agadir YCs, should be a starting point for addressing this issue.

5. Recent momentum in **increasing the intensity of the training program needs to be maintained**, and scheduling should be more advanced:
   - SFCG will develop a 1-month advance calendar, which is considered most effective since booking trainers 1 month in advance is achievable.
   - To address the perceptions of delay, Casablanca will receive Gender Integration training in April.

6. The **sequencing of training modules should be revised and the curriculum reinforced**. It is essential that Gender Integration and Self Esteem are implemented as a priority and earlier for future YCs. Moving forward, the training program requires more attention to curriculum development and design, including linking objectives to particular sessions (to ensure dependent tropics are in the correct sequence, topics support and reinforce earlier outcomes, and learning outcomes can be assessed):
   - Based on findings discussed during the evaluation, SFCG is bringing the Gender Integration training forward, and it will be the next training to be rolled out. These trainings are an opportunity to set a tone relating to gender and should openly discuss some of the uneven findings on contribution to decision making within the YCs (notably from Agadir, Al Hoceima, Marrakech, Meknes and Sale). Explicit strategies to overcome the impact of gender on interaction should also be developed in each city as part of the training (most relevant to Agadir, Al Hoceima and Meknes, but likely to be relevant for all).
o  - Agadir: Explore further different perspective of interaction by gender and if this is related to female members finding the training less useful than males.
o  - Al Hoceima: Explore how gender impacts civic engagement and develop strategies to overcome barriers.

7. The leadership training program could be further **strengthened through coaching** and/or follow up to individual training sessions to increase the intensity of the program:
   - SFCG could consider a system of mentoring or coaching within the YCs, or recruiting leadership coaches to work individually with YC members.
8. The **practicality of training, feedback on trainers and access to materials and equipment** and should be regularly monitored and responded to, and feedback provided to trainers and the PO.
   - SFCG has now developed standard monitoring forms to capture learning outcomes and feedback to share with trainers and the PO.
     - Ensure timely analysis and use of monitoring data to enable SFCG to identify issues that can be shared and addressed, as training is rolled-out across cities.
     - Benchmarks for performance should be set on each standard indicator.
   - The requests for **additional YC-determined training topics** should be considered on a case-by-case basis as the YCs mature.
     - SFCG to consider the possibility of adding specific training topics requested by Meknes (not specified) and Casablanca (civic journalism, video).

**Multiplying Impact (Objective 2) Conclusion and Recommended Actions**

**Multiplying Impact Conclusion:** Youth Council members (from all cities) believe they can multiply the impact by doing more with non-participating youth. In fact the majority consider this to be a duty resulting from their privilege in participating in the program. Available data does not permit conclusions regarding the media aspects of the program.

9. **YC's should be supported to develop materials to share within their neighborhoods.** The National Meeting in April could discuss how best to implement this.

10. **Visibility of the Councils is important to multiplying impact.** SFCG should consider and respond to YC member’s requests for business cards, stronger branding of the YCs, websites, and in Sale a permanent base for the council.

11. **When selecting POs moving forward, the location of venues should be considered to facilitate youth participation in public events from the most marginalized neighborhoods.**

**Interaction (Objective 3) Conclusion and Recommended Actions**

**Interaction Conclusion:** The evaluation delivered evidence of positive outcomes on youth interaction with local officials from 4 of the 6 cities, and Meknes is clearly advanced. The perspective of YC members towards their engagement with officials are, however, generally pessimistic. This could be expected at this early stage, given the small numbers of roundtable events for most cities: However, given the widespread negative feedback on the openness of officials to youth engagement, the achievement of this program objective is unclear. Experiences from Meknes indicate that roundtable events should be carefully planned and managed, to ensure high attendance and that local officials remain engaged. Gender may affect interaction and this should be addressed in the upcoming Gender Integration trainings.

12. **Findings indicate that the buy-in of local officials and civic leaders to the program requires increased strategic attention:**
   - The National Meeting to be held in April 2014 should focus attention on discussing and documenting strategies for ensuring increased sensitization of officials at the local level.
   - SFCG is currently collaborating with national actors (PGL, UNICEF, PCM and parliamentarians) to advocate for a legal status for Youth Councils in Morocco.
     - Incorporate officials into the program more directly, by increasing regular contact with them; monitoring their feedback on their participation and making adjustments where necessary; ensuring events are engaging and of high quality; and, recognizing their participation via social media.
14. **Roundtable events must be carefully managed and planned** to ensure they have a positive outcome on interaction between the Councils and Communes:
   - Focus on the invitees (targeted to establish long-term relationships); the timing (officials prefer events during the working week); the title of the event (must be engaging); the marketing, location (central rather than peripheral, format aligned to the event, prestigious to attract officials); resources and equipment (sufficient microphones for town hall debates for example); and, press attendance.

15. **Foster long term relationships with local officials** to strengthen their participation:
   - POs should identify officials who are relatively open and incorporate them as project stakeholders.

### Project Coordination Conclusion and Recommended Actions

**Coordination Conclusion:** Whilst there were challenges at the outset in project coordination, due to staffing changes, and the late incorporation of Sale, Partner Organizations in Sale and Meknes noted improvements and are positive about the partnership moving forward. Overall, communication and coordination between SFCG, the Field Coordinators and Partner Organizations does appear to be working efficiently. This was not the case in Casablanca, however, where the relationship with SFCG could be improved. Field Coordinators communicate frequently with participants in most cities and this model of communication between SFCG and POs appears to function well.

16. **Casablanca seems to be an outlier in the feedback on communication between SFCG, the FCs and the PO, and this may be related to the characteristics of the PO** (a large, national organization), which limits the attention the YC program achieves within the association.
   - In the short-term, SFCG is reaching out to the participants in Casablanca and will address their key feedback by prioritizing Gender Integration in Casablanca.

17. Some mixed feedback from Al Hoceima and Meknes YC members on the communication and decision-making styles of the FCs should be followed up by SFCG.
   - Ensure that all YC members have access to Facebook, if this is the main communication method of the FC.

18. **Exchanges between the 6 YCs to date have been limited.** A National Meeting is planned for April; this should aim to increase the cohesion and sharing of learning between YCs.
   - Topics for this meeting could include discussing potential YC to YC exchanges, perhaps regionally. Exchanges should be focused on sharing and documenting learning relating to the objectives of the program.

### Relevance Conclusion and Recommended Actions

**Cohesion and Relevance Conclusion:** The relevance of the program to the stakeholders was clearly validated for YC members, and the indirect beneficiaries they interact with. The partner organizations visited are coherent in their sense of purpose and their alignment to the program goal and intended outcomes was clear: However, their engagement with the program appears to differ according to the characteristics of the association. The potential weakness of the program at its mid term is that despite some encouraging signs, the effective participation of local officials might be undermined by their sustained limited attitudes towards youth engagement (see recommendation 13 to 15 above).

19. **Characteristics of potential POs for new YCs should be carefully assessed before new partnerships are made.** There are unintended benefits for POs within their cities as they can gain status as a perceived independent association with international linkages.
Partnering with associations who have a political affiliation also brings risks that the YC attracts members who want to become politically affiliated, or recruits affiliates from within the YC. Also, the ability of these associations to hold broad and open Roundtable or Town hall events is ambiguous. Larger POs may have increased capacity at the outset, however, smaller associations may give more priority and commitment to the project.

**Sustainability Conclusion**

**Sustainability Conclusion:** The Youth Civic Participation program has achieved durable results in motivation and action towards youth civic engagement among the youth participants. There are indications that the Councils are progressing towards autonomy, but also risks to their sustained motivation for engagement if that process is not carefully managed. The potential durability of impact relies on achieving more effective interaction between the Youth Councils and local officials in their Communes.
9. Conclusions for Individual City Youth Councils

Agadir: The survey revealed no significant challenges and some contradictory results making an overall conclusion difficult to reach. The functioning of decision-making within the Council requires some further discussion. Outcomes were identified at the individual, community and interactive levels. Agadir has held 7 training sessions and 2 roundtables.

Performance: Perceptions of representation were high but equal contribution to decision-making within the Council relatively low – the gap between them was high at 0.93. The training feedback was also relatively low but members report high attendance and the FC contacts members regularly. 69% reported positive changes, 31% say there is no change. Outcomes were identified at 3 levels (individual, community and interactive).

Potential: Perceptions of participation by youth were strongly pessimistic. Yet YC members consider the potential for youth civic engagement in their city to be high for ‘youth ability’, and reported the highest scores across cities for both ‘openness of officials to youth’ and ‘awareness of the YC’.

Al Hoceima: Findings are more mixed for Al Hoceima, and concerns around decision-making processes within the Council were revealed. Outcomes were identified at the individual and community level, but not at the interactive level as yet. Al Hoceima has held 7 training sessions and 1 roundtable.

Performance: Perceptions of representation on the YC was high, but participation low – the gap was the highest across cities at 1.26. Feedback on training was relatively low on the ‘overall quality’ and ‘trainer’ and reported attendance was also low. The frequency of FC contact is average and there are indications that not all members are satisfied with their interactions with the FC or the decision-making processes within the Council. 83% report positive changes, and 17% say there was no change. Outcomes were identified at 2 levels (individual, community).

Potential: The pattern of participation of youth in the city was strongly pessimistic, yet potential impact indicators on ‘youth ability’ and ‘awareness’ were high compared to other cities, whilst the ‘openness of officials to youth’ was relatively low.

Casablanca: Performance indicators for Casablanca were mostly within the average range, but indicators of potential impact were relatively low. Results were identified at just 2 levels, individual and community, and categorized as ‘emerging leadership’. Casablanca has held 7 training sessions, but has not held a roundtable to date.

Performance: Perceptions of representation were the lowest across the cities, yet perceptions on equal contribution to decision making were relatively high and the gap between the two scores was small at 0.42. The training feedback was relatively low on the ‘trainer’ and ‘usefulness’ but high on ‘overall quality’. Attendance and frequency of FC contact was average across the cities. Just 50% of respondents described positive changes (and 50% stated there is no change), which is the lowest across the cities. The FGD in Casablanca revealed most significant changes as ‘emerging leadership’. Outcomes were identified at 3 levels (individual, community, interactive).

Potential: The pattern of perceived interaction was fairly pessimistic. Casablanca scored the lowest for ‘youth ability’ and ‘awareness’, and low for ‘openness of officials’, which is of concern.

Marrakech: Overall, the data collected for the evaluation suggest that the Marrakech YC is performing well and obtaining expected results (at the 3 levels – individual, community and interactive): Marrakech has held 8 training sessions, and had not held a roundtable at the time of the evaluation.

Performance: Indications that decision-making within the Council is working well (smallest gap between representation and participation – 0.15). The low female representation should be addressed moving forward. Feedback on training is good however FC frequency was relatively low. High increases in
engagement - outcomes were mapped on three levels (individual, community and interaction) and 92% of respondents report positive change (just 8% said there was no change).

Potential: There was no pattern in perception of engagement. Feedback on ‘youth ability’ and ‘openness of officials’ was average, but ‘awareness’ the highest.

Meknes: There are indications of some issues around leadership and decision making within the Meknes YC. Nevertheless, expected outcomes are clearly emerging in the 3 levels, and the FGD revealed the highest level of result, characterized as leadership. Meknes has been the most active YC in the program with 8 training sessions and has held 5 roundtables.

Performance: The gap between representative and participation is the second highest at 0.95 and overall score on participation the lowest across cities. Feedback on training was relatively high on the trainer but low on usefulness and quality, reported attendance was relatively low and frequency of FC contact mixed. High increases in engagement - outcomes were mapped on three levels (individual, community and interaction) and 83% of respondents report positive change (17% said there was no change). The FGD identified the broadest level of outcomes and leadership.

Potential: Meknes was the only city to have an optimistic pattern on youth participation, however scores on ‘openness of officials’ were relatively low, and average on ‘youth ability’ and ‘awareness’.

Sale: Indications are that the Sale Council is performing and functioning well. Results were relatively high, at 3 levels, and characterized as ‘emerging leadership’. Sale was the last Council to be established and has the lowest level of activity: 5 trainings, and 1 roundtable.

Performance: The gap between representative and participation was average compared to other cities (0.56), and both scores were relatively high. Training feedback was relatively high on the 3 areas. Reported attendance was low and the FC has the lowest frequency of contact across cities. 83% report positive changes, and 17% none. Outcomes were identified at the 3 levels (individual, community and interactive. The FGD mapped broad outcomes and characterized emerging leadership.

Potential: Sale has a pessimistic perception of interaction and scored the lowest for ‘awareness’ and relatively low for ‘youth ability’ and ‘officials openness’.
A: AGADIR DRAFT REPORT
Completed Participant Surveys 17 (10 Male, 7 Female)

EFFECTIVENESS
Quality of the Training: Agadir YC members gave low scores to the training program, on quality of the trainer and scored under 4 for usefulness of the training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usefulness of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.94</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Agadir is the only city that scored all three aspects of training under 4. However, there were no scores on the indicators at 1 or 2, meaning participants were either neutral or positive about the training.

• There are some notable differences in gender disaggregated scores, the greatest for usefulness of the training, which drops under 4 due to female feedback: 30% of males scored this at 5, while just 14% of females did. Why female participants do not find the training as useful as males in Agadir should be explored further.

• Comments on the training included that members would like to suggest training topics for further sessions.

Relevance of Program Design: 100% of Agadir YC members provided valid reasons for their participation in the program. The focus on civic engagement outcomes and contributing to positive outcomes in the city was strong: ‘to achieve a positive change in the city and pass the gains that we learned within the Council for other youth to encourage them to participate in citizenship’, and ‘To participate in changing negatives things in the city’. 76% demonstrated an understanding of civic engagement, whilst the remaining 24% didn’t answer: ‘Civic participation of youth from my perspective is to participate and contribute as much as possible in the region’s development’.

Role of Field Coordinator: The FC in Agadir has very frequent contact with the participants, more than any other city: 40% of participants have daily contact with the FC, 53% weekly and 7% when there is an activity.

Representation and Participation: The gap between scores on representativeness of the Youth Council of their city (3.82 out of 5 mean) and equal contribution to decision making (2.89 mean) is relatively high. Agadir scores for representation are higher than the cities average, but lower for participation:
**Representation**: Age is the only aspect to score over 4 for representation. Feedback on gender differed the most with male members scoring 3.56, and female 3.14: Of the 4 who scored 2 (disagree) that gender is accurately represented, 1 was male and 3 were female – representing 43% of female participants. Gender scored 3.38 overall, which reflects the fairly low female membership in the YC – there were 10 male survey respondents (59%) surveyed compared to 7 females (41%).

**Contribution to decision making**: Literacy was the only indicator to score above 3. The standard deviations are high for all indicators, with 2 participants strongly disagreeing that literacy and age groups contribute equally, and 4 participants strongly disagreeing that males and females contribute equally. Whilst age and gender contribution to decision making received the same overall score (2.73), there is a large gap between male (2.44) and female (3.17) feedback. 3 male respondents (30% of males) strongly disagreed that both genders contribute equally to decision-making, whilst 1 female did (14% of female respondents).

**Youth Council interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders During the Project in Agadir**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officers and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Officials and civic leaders involving youth in decision making regarding the city / community</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Youth making decisions about the city / community</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Agadir members scored the highest for indicators 2, 3 and 4, across all cities. However, the pattern of perception of interaction shows a clear decreasing participation by youth as the interaction moves from passive to active: ‘Local politicians ask and discuss several topics But do not take our views into consideration’ survey comment. 59% agreed that officials and civic leaders inform, gather information from, and consult youth, but just 29% believe they involve youth in making decisions about the city, and 24% believe youth make decisions.
- Gender disaggregation shows a more pessimistic perception by female members.

**Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Agadir**:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Scores for actual interaction are relatively high – a total of 76% male respondents report having spoken to an elected official and 64% of females. 4 of the aspects of engagement (event, letter, online and other) show an increase. Other interactions included: “Attend meetings of the municipal council to discuss the city issues”.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT**

**Youth Potential for Civic Engagement in Agadir**: Agadir is the only YC to score local politicians openness above 3. Agadir members scored indicators 2,3,4,5,6 and 8 the highest across cities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zscore</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth are able to change situations in your community</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>0.49</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Local politicians in your city listen to youth concerns</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

24 All percentages exclude non respondents to the question
3. Local politicians in your city act on youth concerns  &  3 & 3.29 & 0.69 & 3.57 & 3.10
4. Local elected council members value youth’s opinion and contributions & 4 & 3.82 & 0.81 & 4.14 & 3.60
5. I feel that I have the ability to make a difference in my community & 5 & 4.71 & 0.77 & 5.00 & 4.50
6. The youth council is well known by the leaders of my community & 4 & 3.88 & 0.60 & 4.00 & 3.80
7. I believe that local youth can come together to create change at the local level & 5 & 4.47 & 0.87 & 4.57 & 4.40
8. The youth council is well known by non participating youth in my community & 4 & 3.53 & 0.72 & 3.71 & 3.40
9. The youth council is respected by the leaders of my community & 4 & 3.94 & 0.68 & 4.00 & 3.90

These indicators can be aggregated into three categories:

A. The first relates to **youths’ ability to engage** and comprises indicators 1, 5 and 7.
B. The second addresses the **openness of local politicians and elected officials** to youths’ concerns, indicators 2,3,4 and 9.
C. The third category related to the **awareness of the youth council in the wider community**, indicators 6 and 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composite Indicators</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Youth ability</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.51</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>4.62</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Local politicians openness</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Awareness of Youth Council</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The overall score for ‘awareness of the YC’ is the highest across cities - with the sub indicators of awareness by non-participating youth, and by local officials the highest among cities.
- 41% of survey respondents described positive changes and they were mostly at the community and interaction level: “Two round tables organized during which many members of the local population did interact - the interaction of local officials with members of the Council welcome their proposals and organizing visits to the municipal council to bring youth from the work of the municipal council - several articles in local and national newspapers has published- the publication of several videos and tapes short that trait youth issues”. “There are changes in the neighborhoods of the city, the Youth Council members inspired other youth and encouraged them to participate within creating changes within their neighborhoods for example. More attention to cleanliness and painted murals”.
- 18% stated that there are no changes to date and relate this to the early stage of the program and the lack of openness of local officials: “Participation of youth in their interactions with the local decision-makers is still weak because it needs more to build bridges of trust and engagement”.

**Moving Forward:** The majority of Agadir YC participants provided recommendations which relate to increasing non-participating youths access to and participation in the program: ‘Communicate with them (youth) regularly and not exclude them from any activity as it was’. Comments stated that youth need to be trained and sensitized about their participation and recommend the YC increases activities for non-participating youth: “Organize open dialogue and roundtable to meet with the youth of the city to listen to their challenges and interact with them.”
B: AL HOCEIMA CITY REPORT

Completed Participant Surveys: 21 (15 Male, 6 Female)

EFFECTIVENESS

Quality of the Training: Al Hoceima members gave the lowest score across cities on overall quality, a low score for the trainer and a high score on usefulness:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usefulness of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>4.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The mean score from Al Hoceima participants for both the ‘quality of the trainer’ (3.81) and the ‘overall quality’ (3.67) is under 4. These scores reflect the relatively large scores at 3 (neutral).
- 7 participants provided comments on the training, the majority of which recommended improvements. These included: Providing top quality trainers; rethinking the sequencing of training and providing more materials: ‘Provide texts on the subject of the training as well as qualified trainers with respectable experience’, and, ‘Concerning the training on self-esteem, it should have been done previously’. One respondent stated that members often have good reasons for non-attendance (Al Hoceima reported attendance is low compared to other cities), however, another stated that the commitment of the YC members differs: “Efficiency of the youth council differs, there are those who are active and others that aren’t”.

Relevance of Program Design: The majority (81%) of respondents describe their reasons for participation in the YC in alignment with the intended outcomes. Examples include: “Youth are a pillar of any community and the youth initiative should come out of the ground”, and, “To participate in training sessions and learn more about different fields such as good governance, leadership, communication and mediation, and all this in order to create leaders and actors in my city”. 48% of Al Hoceima surveyed-members provided a valid description of civic engagement in the survey: “Youth to participate to the decision-making process at the local level particularly and national level generally, and participate in decision-making that are in the interest of the city and the nation as a whole”. The 1 invalid response mentioned the role of the field coordinator (see below) and 48% provided no response.

Role of Field Coordinator: 15% of participants have daily contact with the FC, 35% weekly and 50% when there is an activity – this is an average frequency across cities.

- Al Hoceima is the only city where unsolicited survey comments expressed dissatisfaction with the FC. These included: “The field coordinator should communicate and consult with all members and take into consideration all suggestions and opinions”, and, “the field coordinator should communicate with members in order to take their ideas”. This should be followed up with participants in Al Hoceima.

Representation and Participation: The gap between scores on representativeness (4.00) and equal contribution to decision making (2.74) is high, the second highest after Meknes. Across the cities, the score on representation is high but participation low.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth participants accurately represent the youth in general in my city</td>
<td>Overall 4</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>4.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age  4</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy 4</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Youth Potential for Civic Engagement

• Actual perception of Hocer

This evidence clearly indicates the need for follow up on who makes decisions within the Al Hoceima YC.

Perception of interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders during the project in Al Hoceima:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Officials and civic leaders involving youth in decision making regarding city</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Youth making decisions about the city</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The pattern of perception of interaction from surveyed Al Hoceima YC participants clearly depicts decreasing participation by youth as the interaction moves from passive to active. 63% agreed that officials and civic leaders inform youth, but just 13% believe that youth are making decision about the city.

• This is one of the more pessimistic models of interaction from across the cities surveyed. Scores on indicators 5 and 6 were the lowest across cities.

Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Al Hoceima:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Whilst the data does not show much increase, 62% have attended events, 33% have written letters, and the score of 62% for speaking to an official is relatively high.

• The number of non-responses on the questions above was higher than for other cities. 3 males respondent did not complete this survey question, and just 1 female did – meaning 5 of the 6 female survey respondents did not provide any response to the question. It is impossible to infer the reason for this non-response, either a lack of any interaction, or choosing not to complete this question. It is noticeable however, that female respondents did complete a majority of the other questions. The role gender plays in interaction, is an important area for follow up in Al Hoceima.

Youth Potential for Civic Engagement - Al Hoceima:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Youth are able to change situations in your community</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.43</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The gap between scores for youth ability and local politicians openness is the second highest of the cities in the program (after Meknes): 4.53 is the highest score across the cities for youth ability, whilst 2.73 is the second lowest score for politicians’ openness.

100% of the respondents scored either 4 or 5 (agree or strongly agree) for all the indicators related to youth ability. Whereas, for the 3 indicators relating to officials openness to youth concerns, just 14% scored 4 or 5 for ‘listening to youth concerns’; 19% scored 4 or 5 for ‘acting on youth concerns’, and 66% scored 4 or 5 for ‘leaders of my community respect the youth council’.

Several survey comments reflected this pessimistic perception of interaction: “The local officials in my city are not open”.

48% described positive outcomes in the survey; 90% were all at the individual level. These included changes in the motivation and awareness of the youth participants: “Since the beginning of the project young people are more motivated and insists to forward their ideas and make them real through the interaction of leaders of civil society”, and, “Youth are more convinced to participate in political life”.

Just 1 response cited changes beyond the direct participants in the YC: “Positive changes are reflected in the importance acquired by the youth of local council through documentaries, reports and roundtables organized by the council in order to create positive changes in the city”.

As with the other cities, the youth in Al Hoceima reported the perception that the youth council is better known among leaders of their community (3.19 mean with 38% scoring 4 or 5), than among other youth (3.05 with 31% scoring 4 or 5).

**Moving Forward:** The majority of Al Hoceima YC participants provided recommendations which relate to increasing youths access to and awareness of political engagement, reinforcing the sense that youth engagement in Al Hoceima is contingent on working to increase the openness of authorities: “Local elected officials should have an interest in the problems of youth”, and, “Improving the youth civic participation through their involvement in projects and discussions that concern youth in general and what matters the city in particular and through their inclusion in all decisions that concern their city (involving them in decision-making)”, and, “By linking the youth to the executive authority”. YC participants consider that youth in Al Hoceima in general need increased attention: “To sensitize the youth to a culture of citizenship”. One response
indicated a need to share trainings beyond the YC: “By doing the workshops outside the Council to improve and educate non-leader youth in Al Hoceima”.

C. CASABLANCA CITY REPORT

| Completed Participant Surveys | 23 (9 Male, 13 Female) |
| Focus Group Discussion         | 6 (3 Male, 3 Female)   |
| Partner Organization Interview | 1 (2 staff)            |
| Field Coordinator Interview    | 1 (2 FCs)              |

**EFFECTIVENESS**

**Quality of the Training:** Feedback on the training received to date is good on the usefulness of the training, with 96% scoring 4 or 5. The quality of the trainer was scored low compared to other cities, below 4 (mean 3.96 and 87% scored 4 or 5), as was the overall quality scored 3.91 (with 74% scoring 4 or 5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>4.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usefulness of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>0.49</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>4.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The tone of feedback from stakeholders was different from the other cities visited, with a general focus on challenges. The training schedule is perceived to have been too slow by the PO-representative interviewed in Casablanca. During the FGD the issue of time lapsed between trainings also arose as a barrier to impact: “It would be better if the trainings had 14 days between them and not 2 months. We forget what we have learnt.” Female FGD participant. However, SFCG indicate that training was delayed at the beginning of 2014 in order to accommodate the participants’ examination schedule in January.
- The Casablanca YC kicked-off 3 months after the other cities due to contractual delays and challenges in identifying participants, and this may have contributed to the sense of delay. Nevertheless, the participants in the YC in Casablanca remain engaged and eager to progress to a more active interaction and leadership.

**Role of Field Coordinator:** Given the large size of the city of Casablanca, there are two Field Coordinators for Casablanca, who are also both members of the association - this was proposed by the PO at the beginning of the project. The FCs appear to meet frequently and work well with the participants - 60% report daily or weekly contact. Additionally, the PO-representative is happy with the role of the FCs regarding youth communication and logistics. The FCs reported that splitting tasks of the job between them works well.

**Communication between Partners:** The President of the PO was not available to meet the evaluator. The PO-representative interviewed in Casablanca expressed disappointment with the communication, via the FCs, with SFCG. SFCG confirm some challenges with the program and in communication with the PO who have not been available to attend meetings. SFCG communicate with one FC, who was delegated by the PO to sign the contract and whom SFCG

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25 SFCG note that Casablanca was the last YC to be established and this was in part due to delays in agreeing the contract with the PO. The Casablanca YC also had challenges recruiting participants to the council, and had to run two castings to identify the participants, which was not the case for other cities. This also added to the delay in commencing with the program.
consider their focal point for the association (both FCs in Casablanca are also employees of the association).

**Partner Organization Capacity:** The PO, the Association Chouala pour L’Education et la Culture is a large association, with links to the Ministry of Education and a political party and has 92 offices in over 70 locations throughout Morocco. Clearly, the expectations of capacity enhancement from this partnership were not high: “We are a national association, SFCG financing is perhaps 2 or 3% of our budget. However, it does fulfill our needs in terms of the training. We have staff who would benefit from the same training, but they cannot be present during YC training because the rooms are not large enough.”

**Relevancy of Program Design:** The association in Casablanca is affiliated with a political party (USFP) and the challenges with the project and communication between the PO and SFCG indicate that this model of partnership may not be the most effective for the YC program in the future.
- Given the challenges of establishing the YC in Casablanca, and the issues in communication and scheduling events, the planned sequencing of events (particularly the designed ongoing process of interaction between participants and local leaders), has not taken off as it has in other cities. This could be reflected in the measured relatively pessimistic perceptions of participants towards interaction – see the section on interaction below.
- The evaluation follow up discussions would be a good opportunity to reconsider the approach in Casablanca.
- Just 55% of surveyed members provided valid reasons for joining the YC (compared to 79% for Meknes, and 83% for Sale). 1 invalid response indicated a stronger desire to align with the PO than work towards civic engagement: “Reasons for joining the council are – knowledge gain, take advantage and change my relationship with the Chouala association which was one of the main reasons for joining the council’.
- Understanding of youth civic engagement is however high: 91% provided a valid definition.

**Representation and Participation:** Across the cities, Casablanca scored representation the lowest, whilst participation was relatively high. As with other cities, Casablanca respondents rate the representativeness of the youth council of their city (3.58 mean) to be just slightly higher than their equal contribution to decision making (3.16 mean).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth participants accurately represent the youth in general in my city</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StdDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>4.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All groups contribute to decision making in the youth council</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StdDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Representation:** All 3 scores are under 4: The gender mean is 3.48 however the standard deviation score is high (1.16): 9% strongly disagreed on balanced gender representation, and 13% disagreed, reflecting high female representation (13) compared to male (9).
- **Contribution to decision making:** Overall, contribution by age is rated to be slightly lower than the other categories (3.00), just 4% (1 member) scored 5, and 34% scored 1 or 2. Strategies to ensure all age groups be encouraged to participate equally is an issue for
follow up. Regarding gender, the overall score of 3.18 is not the lowest, however 28% scored just 1 or 2 and just 1 participant scored high – resulting in the high standard deviations. Again this is an issue to be followed up.

Youth Council interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders During the project in Casablanca:
Casablanca scored the lowest on indicator 5 ‘officials involving youth’, and the highest on 2, ‘officials gathering information from youth’ across the cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Officials and civic leaders involving youth in decision making</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Youth making decisions about the city / community</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The scores on indicators which aim to assess the degree of active interaction - 4 ‘active support’, and 5 ‘involving youth’ - are the lowest, at just 35% agreeing with both. Indicators measuring passive interaction -1 ‘informing’ and 2 ‘gathering information’ - score the highest, at 70% and 80% agreeing respectively.
- The general trend in Casablanca is very clearly for decreasing participation by youth as the interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders becomes more active – see chart below. This is possibly related to the YC not holding any roundtables with local officials to date – or it could be due to the characteristics of Casablanca in general. This is potentially an important finding of the evaluation since the theory of change is based on a process of interaction, and to date this is not happening, and is possibly impacting the perceptions of the participants.
- There is a divergence in opinion between males and females: the greatest difference is on question 6 ‘youth making decisions’, where 70% of females agreed, compared to just 13% for males.

Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Casablanca:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- As would be expected, given the delay in organizing roundtables for the Casablanca YC to date, there are limited increases in interaction with officials. On the positive side, there is a slight increase in online interaction, 61% to 67% and 1 participant has written a letter to an official.
- According to the PO-representative, the planning of the roundtables is critical to their success. Marketing, press and inviting key people are considered to be essential. The association has many years experience working with officials and believes that when they invite them to participate, they will: “It depends on the organization of the roundtable, if we invite high-caliber people it will work, but if it is restricted to a small circle, we won’t reach the objectives. We need to fix the objectives at the beginning, and press and marketing are very important.”
- The FCs consider that meaningful interaction with civic and political leaders is potentially more challenging: “Political groups do not really get involved with the youth but try to block them from doing anything, by ignoring them.”

POTENTIAL IMPACT
Youth Potential for Civic Engagement in Casablanca: Members of the Casablanca YC scored lowers’ for youth ability for civic engagement (4.26), and awareness of the YC (2.80) across the cities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composite Indicators</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Youth ability</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>4.22</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Local politicians openness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>2.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Awareness of Youth Council</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Indicators 1,5 and 7 relating to youths’ ability to engage all show a low variance in responses, and between the genders. 85% are positive that ‘youth are able to change situations, and 95% agreed or strongly agreed with the statements - ‘I have the ability to make a difference in my community’; and ‘local youth can come together to create change’ – however these scores are low compared to other cities. The FGD revealed a perception that their opportunities to work on the issues they have identified for action have so far been limited: “We feel like we are just consumers, some of us start to give training to others but we need more to give” Female FGD participant. “We were just the consumers of training, and now we need to be the producers as the Youth Council” Male FGD participant.

- Youth council participants assessment of local politicians openness to youths’ civic engagement is low, at 2.78 mean across the 4 indicators. Diversity between male and female responses is low for 3 indicators, but for indicator 9 ‘the youth council is respected by the leaders of my community’ the difference was significant at 3.54 for females and 2.89 for males. This reinforces the findings in feedback by gender noted in the section above. Different attitudes and perceptions were not discussed in the FGD; however, it may be interesting to examine further the reasons for these differences.

- Both indicators relating to awareness of the youth council were low: 2.76 mean for ‘known by non participating youth’ (the second lowest after Sale) and 2.85 for ‘known by leaders of my community. This is the lowest score for all cities surveyed and probably reflects the lack of any roundtables held by the Casablanca youth council.

Identified Outcomes relating to Youth Civic Engagement in Casablanca: Just 26% of YC members described positive changes since the program; these were at the individual and community levels. Competencies identified during the FGD are mostly pre-leadership. The strong sense of responsibility identified in other cities was less present amongst the youth, and the topic of delay dominated the discussion: “We haven’t done a roundtable yet. We want to discuss drugs in schools, we are prepared but we haven’t done it yet.” Female FGD participant. However, they have been active in several aspects:
• Participants have taken the training and shared it in their neighborhoods and have used the strong links of the PO with the Maisons des Jeunes to reach out to other youth: “The people at the youth clubs want more, if we can increase our training, we can increase the impact” Female FGD participant.

• Other identified outcomes include increased awareness of how to communicate and confidence: “We learned a lot in the trainings, particularly mediation. What is our role and right in mediation” Male FGD participant.

MOVING FORWARD
Members of the Casablanca YC are engaged and positive about moving forward, but concerned by delays. During the discussion around impact, the role of officials was not raised as an issue. Barriers to impact identified by youth participants included:

A – Strong desire to move forward with roundtable events.
B – Need better planning and scheduling.
C – Need more intensity of training.
D – Need for more diverse training. The participants described technical training they require in order to complete the multimedia aspects and share the videos they produced. These were not part of the YC project however, but a different SFCG project on multimedia training. Given the impact on participants of the multimedia project and remaining skills gaps, adding these aspects to future YC modules could be considered. They also would like support on how to write articles – civic journalism.
E – Need for a stronger identity of the YC and business cards for participants to facilitate introductions and their confidence in approaching other.

SFCG are responding to these findings and will shortly meet with the YC to ensure the program moves forward and the challenges identified are addressed.

Sustainability: Speaking about the impact on the participants if the project ends, the PO stated: “If the project ends, they (the youth) lose. They will be less interested in similar activities”. The association believes in the potential of the project and cited the example of one participant speaking on the 2M television network which approached the PO asking for a participant from the YC.

• The FCs were both very positive about the potential of the program and the only challenge they identified is in planning activities.

• The YC members in the FGD are engaged and say that they would like to keep the youth council going: “eventually when Search is gone, we want to sustain ourselves” Male FGD participant.

D. MARRAKECH CITY REPORT

Completed Participant Surveys 20 (15 Male, 5 Female)

EFFECTIVENESS
Quality of the Training: Feedback from Marrakech was relatively low on usefulness but good on the overall quality and the trainer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Feedback on the training received to date is good; both scores for the ‘quality of the trainer’ and ‘usefulness of the training’ were over 4. Overall quality dipped just below 4 (mean 3.85). A total of 75% scored 4 or 5 for the quality of the trainer, and 85% scored 4 or 5 for both overall quality and the usefulness of the training.

• Despite the overall positive ratings of the training, the majority of participant comments on the training recommended improvements. The duration and intensity of training was considered too limited for impact: “Regarding the duration of training sessions is not enough for me to get a full and holistic benefit”. One respondent stated that the sequencing of training needs rethinking: “Training sessions such as self-esteem must be programmed before the mediation”. Another member suggested the trainings are too theoretical to have impact: “So far, trainers content themselves with the theoretical side and they ignore the practical side dramatically”. Other suggestions include the need for catch-up sessions for new members and to increase the attendance of YC members.

Relevance of Program Design
• The vast majority (95%) of survey respondents describe their reasons for participation in the YC in alignment with the intended outcomes. Examples include: “To take advantage of the training sessions and acquire new knowledge to work out on the ground and to help in making change”, and, “(To) participate effectively in the decision-making and management of local affairs”

• Marrakech participants appear to also have a solid understanding of civic engagement, with 55% providing a valid description in the survey: “Create a culture of dialogue among the civil society and give impact at the local level through the influence of the citizen environment”. There were no invalid responses, but 45% provided no response.

Role of Field Coordinator: The frequency of contact was relatively low: 30% of YC members have daily or weekly contact with the FC, 65% when there is an activity, and just 1 (5%) daily.

Representation and Participation: Marrakech respondents rate the representativeness of the youth council of their city (3.73 out of 5 mean) to be just slightly higher than their equal contribution to decision making (3.58 mean). This is the smallest difference found across the cities, with the highest city score for contribution to decision making:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth participants accurately represent the youth in general in my city</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All groups contribute to decision making in the youth council</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Representation: Age is the best perceived represented category of Marrakech youth (4.00), which is surprising given that 80% of participants are between 20 and 25, with just 20% under 20 and no participants over 25. Literacy and gender both scored 3.60 for both, with a higher diversity of scores for gender (standard deviation of 1.10 for gender, and 0.88 for literacy). On gender representation, 1 female respondent strongly disagreed (scored 1) and 2 male participants disagreed (scored 2).
• **Contribution to decision making:** Overall, contribution by age is rated to be slightly lower than the other categories. There is no noticeable variation between male and female scores, however, female respondents rate gender as the least participative category, for males it was age. The higher standard deviation for all the contribution scores reflects 4 members who scored 1 or more of these questions at just 1, these respondents were all male.

**Youth Council interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders During the project in Marrakech:**

Compared to other cities, there was no clear pattern of participation, Marrakech had the lowest score for indicators 1,2 and 3, but the highest for 6:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>indicator</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Officials and civic leaders involving youth in decision making</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Youth making decisions about the city / community</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Overall, Marrakech participants cite ‘officials and civic leaders’ supporting youth engagement (61%), and ‘youth making decisions about the city’ (44%), as the most frequent forms of interaction – notably these are the least interactive - youth make decisions autonomously, and officials supporting youth can also be passive.

• The lowest overall scores are for ‘officials gathering information from youth’ (17%), and ‘officials involving youth in decision making’ (17%).

• Male and female participants scored just 1 indicator ‘officials consulting youth’ equally (females 40%, males 38%), all other indicators showed high divergence (see chart below). The greatest was for ‘officials involving youth in decision making’ where 60% of females agreed, whilst no males did.

**Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Marrakech:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>indicator</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before the start of the project</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Marrakech is the only city where all measured aspects of youth civic engagement among members have increased (excluding voting). The greatest difference was for online interaction (25% increase) and speaking to officials (20% increase). This is surprising given Marrakech YC has not yet held a roundtable.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT**

**Youth Potential for Civic Engagement in Marrakech:** Scores for the composite indicators are all average compared to other cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>indicator</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth are able to change situations in your community</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.37</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Local politicians in your city listen to youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Local politicians in your city act on youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Local elected council members value youth’s opinion and contributions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>2.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I feel that I have the ability to make a difference in my community</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The youth council is well known by the leaders of my community</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I believe that local youth can come together to create change</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.70</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>4.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
at the local level

8. The youth council is well known by non participating youth in my community
   Mode  Mean  StDev  F    M
   3     2.84  0.69  3.20  2.71

9. The youth council is respected by the leaders of my community
   Mode  Mean  StDev  F    M
   4     3.30  1.03  3.40  3.27

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composite Indicators</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Youth ability</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.51</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>4.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Local politicians openness</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Awareness of Youth Council</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>3.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 60% of Marrakech YC members described positive changes: at the individual, community and interactive levels: “There is a noticeable change. Members of the council are initiating projects”, and, “The youth become more informed about local affairs and they interact with some civil society leaders”.

- Reflecting the score of just 17% of participants believing that local officials ‘gather information from youth’ (Section 1.4 above), the lowest scoring indicators are both on indicator 2 and 3 - local politicians’ openness to youth concerns. 55% disagreed that local politicians listen to youth concerns, and 60% disagreed that they act on youth concerns. These indicators also had a high standard deviation and a few survey comments indicated a perception of change: “Officials and the local authorities have become somewhat open to listening and discussing the youth”.

- As with other cities, feedback on the awareness of the youth council among non-participating youth was also low (2.84). When asked how the project could be improved, 6 of the 16 survey comments (38%) focused on involving more youth in the project: “Must involve the youth in this project and inform them about all developments”, and, “through sensitization and outreach, listen to youth problems, involved youth in making decisions that concern local affairs”.

- Male and female feedback differed less than on other sections of the survey, however the gap for ‘local politicians valuing youth contribution’ also reflects the gender gap seen in Section 1.4 (above) – females scored 3.4 and males just 2.93. Both comments provided in the survey, which related to interaction, were from male participants. 1 stated that there is a problem: “There are problems in communication with officials within the city”. The other was a suggestion to improve interaction by enacting a legal framework: “Provide a legal framework for the Youth Council to negotiate and work with managers and decision makers in the communal Council”.

**MOVING FORWARD**

The majority of suggestions for improving the project in Marrakech focused on the management and structure of the Youth Council. In addition to the feedback noted above on training, a few comments suggested that the council would benefit from more interaction with SFCG: “More motivation, supervision and communication with the organization – framing must be in line with all activities”; and increased publicity in local media. Limited publicity of the work of the YC was also mentioned by the 1 respondent who stated there has been no change in interaction in Marrakech – they have not held a roundtable yet: “Lack of dissemination of the information and absence of communication exchange”. The second theme focused on involving more youth in the project, see above, and the suggestion that more work needs to be done on facilitating interaction with local authorities: “Create partnerships between the council and local authorities and elected officials”.

E. MEKNES CITY REPORT

- Completed Participant Surveys: 24 (12 Male, 12 Female)
- Field Coordinator Interview: 1
- Partner Organization Interview: 1
- Focus Group Discussion: 1 (7 (5 female, 2 male)

EFFECTIVENESS

Quality of the Training: Compared to data across cities, Meknes scored high on the trainer but relatively low on usefulness and quality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>4.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>3.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usefulness of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Feedback on the training received to date is good, with the overall quality dipping just below 4 (mean 3.83). A total of 87% scored 4 or 5 for the quality of the trainer, and 75% scored 4 or 5 for both overall quality and the usefulness of the training.
- Survey comments on the training included 13 suggestions for improving the training. Frequent recommendations included increasing the training, increasing the time for role-play and practicing skills - "Increase the time for exercises to assimilate the information" - and to provide more training materials.
- Interviewees mentioned that the program is running late, but were very positive about the training program in general. Some challenges in scheduling events include finding weekends when all participants were available, however, according to the FC this situation has got better over time. The YC has been requesting specific training which is not envisaged within the SFCG program, this signals their growing independence and therefore sustainability, but also raises questions on whether SFCG can support this process.
- Attendance at training sessions in Meknes is an issue that arose during the FGD and is also reflected in the survey, 61% of respondents stated that not all members have attended all the training sessions. The strength of opinion evident during the FGD, that not all participants were consistently attending, was driven by the strong sense of privilege the youth council members feel the program gives them, and a frustration towards members who do not take this responsibility seriously. This is an issue to be followed up with the Meknes council.
- Recommendations to improve attendance included setting up a calendar to schedule training and events for 2-3 months, this improved planning would allow the participants to schedule other commitments around their youth council events. Feedback from the FGD included a need to maintain the intensity of the trainings: "The time between training sessions has been 3 months sometimes and we can forget what happened, also the 2 day training might not be enough." Female FGD Participant.

Role of Field Coordinator: There are 2 Field Coordinators for Meknes, 1 is also the Program Coordinator for the project and is based in Rabat. According to respondents the FCs have contact with the majority of participating youth when there is an activity, this is relatively low frequency compared to other cities. More frequent contact is reported for 4 participants, (weekly for 14% and daily for 4%). 2 participants reported that they never have contact with the Field Coordinator – this could be error in survey completion. The FC is active on Facebook and uses this to communicate with the participants.
• The PO believes that the FC function is very useful and provides a bridge to the youth. The transition from 2 FCs to 1 was a challenge at first, but this has been overcome.

**Communication between Partners:** The PO is extremely positive about the relationship with SFCG, saying it is effective and that communication is good. He has seen an improvement over the last 18 months, with the change in leadership at SFCG (the relationship between the PO and SFCG goes back to 2008). The FC was also happy with communication, saying it was challenging at first but has improved.

**Partner Organization Capacity:** The PO reports that the capacity support has been very good, and that the staff of the PO have also benefitted from the training program. The program has raised the profile of the PO in Meknes and given them greater prominence in the community, allowing them to be more effective. “A lot of people already think Meknes is a politically stagnant city, the Youth Council has become an prominent action movement in the city.” According to the PO, the program has boosted the perception that the association is independent and active – “local officials want to participate to improve their image”.

**Relevance of Program Design:** The youth, PO and FDG share a strong purpose, which is aligned to the original design of the program.

• 79% (19 survey respondents) provided reasons for joining the YC that are aligned to the program objectives, whilst 13% (3 respondents) provided reasons that relate to their personal development – “to take advantage of the largest possible number of training”.

• All 11 survey respondents who answered the question on civic engagement demonstrated an understanding of it: “participation of youth and their contribution to the management of local and national affairs to realize a positive change”.

• However, interviews and survey data reveal the limited participation of elected officials and a stronger focus on community action above political engagement. Local officials’ understanding of the objectives of the youth council is not clear, according to the FC.

• Meknes has already completed the anticipated 5 roundtables and there was a strong desire from youth FGD participants to continue with these. SFCG will need to consider how additional roundtable events could be funded moving forward.

**Representation and Participation:** Across the three categories of age, literacy and gender, Meknes respondents rate the representativeness of the youth council of their city (3.65 out of 5 mean) to be higher than their equal contribution to decision making (2.70 mean). This is the second highest gap between representation and participation across the cities and Meknes scored the lowest for participation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representation</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth participants accurately represent the youth in general in my city</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>3.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>4.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All groups contribute to decision making in the youth council</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.26</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>1.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• **Representation:** According to participants, gender is the most well represented category of Meknes youth (3.88 mean), reflecting the equal numbers of males and females on the youth
council. Literacy is also well represented. However, representation according to age is slightly lower – a total of 51% scored this at 3 or lower. This issue did not arise during interviews or the FGD, however, it does reflect the fact that 15 participants are 20-25, (compared to just 4 participants over 25 and 5 aged 18 to 20).

• High educational level was a criterion for participation, however the FC believes that the various neighborhoods of Meknes are well represented, participants did not consider this to be an issue.

• **Contribution to decision making:** Overall, the participation of all groups in decision-making is rated the lowest of all 6 cities - a mean of 2.70 in Meknes - with both age and gender scoring under 3. The participation by age group and gender is an issue to follow up with the youth council, as 65% disagreed that age groups contribute equally, and 58% disagreed that males and females participate equally. The FC reported that female participants are more vocal in the council than males. However, the difference between male and female feedback is clear from the chart below.

![Difference between Female and Male feedback](chart.png)

This chart shows the difference, the higher scores are where females rate higher than males. The strongest area of divergence is on gender participation, with female participants scoring this at 2.08 compared to the male score of 3.25.

- Added to the perception that attendance and equal participation can be improved, there may also be some issues around the perceived position or equality of Meknes YC members – potentially revealing a challenge with the management of participants expectations in Meknes. Comments on the survey indicate a frustration within the council around the process used to select some members for further training and leadership training: “Know the criteria that are taken into consideration for the selection of leaders in some trainings”. Another Survey response on the question about results on interaction between youth and civil leaders hinted that these divisions within the Council could limit the social capital outcomes: “The Council is an opportunity for youth to be train in important areas in addition to the knowledge and training value for the project, we were able to bring positive change and important relationships as members of the Council, which is a unique experience. However, the difference in the level of the council members creates divergence sometimes.”

**Youth Council interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders During the project in Meknes:** Feedback on youth council interaction with officials and civic leaders is complex for Meknes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The general trend is for increasing participation as the interaction becomes more active – which represents an overall positive perception of interaction among Meknes youth. However, scores on indicators 1,2,3,4 (the passive indicators) are the lowest across cities, whilst 5 and 6 (which are active) are the highest.
• The highest percentage (50%) was recorded for youth making decisions about the city/community. This finding was reinforced by the strong sense of purpose and independence identified during the FGD (see below).
• The lowest interaction was reported on officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth, with 70% considering that this does not happen. The lowest score of 30% believing ‘officials and civic leaders gather information from youth’ corresponds to the lowest civic engagement score for ‘local politicians in your city listen to youth concerns’. For both indicators, female respondents scored lower than males. Added to the different feedback on gender participation, this is an area for follow up with the Meknes youth council.
• The PO and FC struggle to get the attention of elected officials, they estimate somewhere between 50 and 70% of those approached will attend events, but the scheduling during weekends increases this challenge.
• Feedback from the FGD on the interaction with officials during youth council events focused on the need to produce quality events, in the right venues, and with the right facilities. Feedback on events to date suggests that the quality has been uneven and that the location is important to ensure the participation of local officials: “The first roundtable was very successful because we were in a hotel and the others were just in public places. Need to focus on the place so you can attract people to come.” Male FGD Participant.

Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Meknes: Increases in interaction were measured for 4 of the 5 categories. All Meknes participants reported some interaction with local officials or civic leaders, either before or during their participation in the youth council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                           | 8%    | 58%   | 29%    | 54%    | 75%   | 29%   |

• The most frequent types of interaction were speaking to officials and attending events. Quantitatively, participants in the Meknes youth council have increased interaction in 4 of the 6 categories; the biggest differences were in interacting online and speaking.
• According to the PO and analysis of the FGD, youth council member in Meknes most frequently increased their engagement with civic associations as a result of their participation in the program, this was not captured by the survey.

POTENTIAL IMPACT
Youth Potential for Civic Engagement in Meknes: Compared to other cities, Meknes members scored average for youth ability and awareness and low for openness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth are able to change situations in your community</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.63</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>4.92</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Local politicians in your city listen to youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Local politicians in your city act on youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Local elected council members value youth’s opinion and</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In general, **youth participants in Meknes are positive about their potential for civic engagement**, both indicators relating to this scored above 4. 96% scored 4 or 5 for ‘youth are able to change situations in your community’ (the highest score across cities), and ‘I feel that I have the ability to make a difference in my community’.

Despite the issue not arising in the FGD, the survey data clearly reveal **frustration with the interaction with local officials**: 79% disagreed (54% strongly) that local politicians listen to youth concerns; 79% disagreed (33% strongly) that local politicians act on youth concerns. According to the PO, local officials do come to events and listen to the youth, but they are mostly powerless to make changes and resolve the issues: “**they have good communications with local officials, but its not necessarily productive**”.

Feedback on **low levels of interest from elected officials identified their motivations for participation as publicity**: “it’s a chance to publicize what they are doing, to say they met with the youth. For them it’s a publicity opportunity. So running big events with a good title and where there is good representation from the press and a good title is important” (FC). At the roundtables, member of the press have been present, but this is something that both the FGD and the FC identified as an important attraction for officials.

Youth participants believe that leaders in their community are more knowledgeable about the youth council (3.65 mean with 51% agreeing with the statement) than non-participating youth (2.75 mean with just 25% agreeing). Further the FGD identified the **location of the training center as too far out of town with high transportation costs**, limiting wider community participation in events. Youth participants would like a stronger branding of the council to increase visibility among the community and with officials and civic leaders.

The Meknes youth council has a clear focus on their city and region, according to the FC, just a couple of members consider the national level because of their links to political parties.

**Identified Outcomes relating to Youth Civic Engagement in Meknes**

Social capital outcomes are the most prevalent among Meknes participants and include an increased sense of civic responsibility, emerging leadership competencies, networking and increased interaction with associations and the wider community. Other identified outcomes in Meknes include political voice outcomes, relating to increased understanding and interaction and increased confidence.

- There is robust evidence (from the FGD and interviews) that **youth participants in Meknes are developing leadership competencies**. These include a strong sense of responsibility towards other youth in their neighborhoods. Participants share a strong sense of purpose and are positive about the potential for collective action offered through the council. “My
role is almost as a facilitator between me and my friends in the neighborhood, I try to bring solutions and problems both ways, also coming back from the trainings and discussions. I want to use this in the future.” Female FGD participant. The sense of collective action is also a strong outcome in Meknes: “The impact of the training, and being together for a whole year. Now we can say we have a reputation in Meknes, we established networks in Meknes.” Male FGD participant. Youth participants in the FGD requested tools to enable them to better share the learning with wider youth in the community: “There is not necessarily the tools to carry it out in the wider community, but even if we don’t have the tools and resources to carry it out, we try.” Female FGD Participant.

- Youth participants in the FGC and the FC raised the most frequent change that youth have made since their participation in the program as involvement in local associations, for example volunteering with orphanages and other associations. Another example is the special training program run last summer to train participants to work as camp councilors for summer camps with underprivileged kids. They also take on projects in their neighborhood and seek to find collaborative solutions – for example on issues such as street lighting and rubbish collection. “There is a personal impact of the training and the program, now I am able to write articles and now I’ve created a website and I have an electronic newspaper, we decided to organize trainings in the high schools, on mediation. Took it to high schools.” Male FGD participant.
- Identified political voice outcomes though less frequent included increased confidence and skills in interaction and a sense that a dialogue has been established: “At the roundtables we invite community leaders and elected officials – important people to the community, there is some sort of understanding. They do come and they listen,” Female FGD Participant.
- Of the 12 responses to the question on the interaction of youth and civic leaders, 10 described positive changes (the 2 remaining said there has been no change yet). Described changes included changes in the youth capacity and awareness “wondering about their rights and duties – casting their views frankly”, and resulting changes in the awareness of civic leaders and interaction “the leaders of civil society are becoming aware of youth capacities”: “Young people become able to do sensitization campaigns and interact with officials”.
- According to the FC, the exchanges done with other youth councils was a ‘turning point’ in the program (an international exchange held in Bouznika, organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sport, and with participants from the US, France, Ukraine, Somalia, Egypt etc). Following this, the youth began to take initiative in proposing events, training and in working on local issues. The PO also recommended increased interaction with other youth councils, to share experiences and learning.

MOVING FORWARD
The most frequent recommendations from the survey to improve youth civic engagement in Meknes centered on the YC working more intensively with youth to engage them: “create associations and organize awareness campaigns for youth and train the youth”, increasing the intensity of training was the second most frequent recommendation. The third was working with local officials to improve their awareness of the potential of youth: “I can improve youth civic participation in my city through sensitize the youth on the leading role that they can play in addition to changing the mindsets of some local officials via awareness campaign and training sessions.” The issue of the identity and branding of the YC was raised during the FGD, business cards were recommended, and in the survey which highlighted the autonomy of the YC as an
issue: “Participation can be improved by giving the Council the real value, identity and autonomy in order to make change and discuss various issues of public interest.”

**Sustainability**: There are indications that the youth council in Meknes is well established, that the participants are taking ownership of the council, and have made substantial changes in their awareness and active civic engagement.

The PO is actively considering the future of the youth council, broadening the membership and perhaps creating a second one.

### F. SALE CITY REPORT

| Completed Participant Surveys | 24 | (7 Male, 17 Female) |
| Field Coordinator Interview | 1 |
| Partner Organization Interview | 1 |
| Focus Group Discussion | 1 | 6 (2 female, 4 male) |

**NOTE** – problems with the completion of gender category mean no disaggregated analysis by gender can be performed for Sale.

#### EFFECTIVENESS

**Quality of the Training**: Compared to all cities, Sale scored highly on all aspects of training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the trainer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall quality of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usefulness of the training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Feedback on the training received to date is good, with all aspects scoring a mean of over 4 (Sale is the only city to score all 3 indicators over 4). A total of 96% scored 4 or 5 for the quality of the trainer and the overall quality, 100% scored 4 or 5 for the usefulness of the training.
- All other stakeholders consulted considered the training quality to be high, however, interviewed stakeholders suggested a stronger knowledge sharing between Partner Organizations, during the roll-out of training modules, to improve learning and the training program.
- Whilst feedback on the training offered is good - “Training session was important and useful” (survey respondent) - comments on the training included suggestions that the training is not enough to facilitate effective change.
- This ties in to findings below on the limited interaction with officials and decision-making: “The student can make a decision within this council, but we did not look at all the decisions that concern us” (Survey respondent).

**Role of Field Coordinator**: The Field Coordinator for Sale meets with the majority of participating youth when there is an activity (91% of survey respondents), or weekly (for 9%).

- Whilst this falls short of the ‘daily’ contact envisaged in the original program design, and is the lowest frequency across cities, feedback from the PO was very positive and the FC is considered to facilitate a closer relationship between the youth and the PO, and bring an element of continuity to the program.
- In particular, the PO considers that the program has benefitted from the experience of the FC, in direction on activities and ideas on different program elements.
Communication between Partners: Communication with SFCG is considered to be very good by the PO and FC, whilst SFCG did report some aspect that can be improved. 
- The PO expressed an interest in increased communication between the cities There has been a meeting between the POs and that was considered to be useful, however, the youth have not had the opportunity to share knowledge between themselves. To strengthen the youth leadership of the project, the PO considered this important, and the National Meeting an opportunity to start a process of dialogue on experiences and strategies. Following the national meeting, a series of exchange visits was recommended.

Partner Organization Capacity: The PO is satisfied with support they have received to build their capacity from SFCG. According to the PO, the Field Coordinator has been very helpful in giving the PO strategic direction on the project.
- The key capacity gap, which the Association would like support on, is to strengthen its strategic connections to different organizations. Other funders of the PO have worked with them to strategically network, but SFCG has not done this. The PO considers that the Sale youth council has a lot of experience and a lot to learn in terms of building connections, but has not had the opportunity to do this. The limited interaction between the 6 participating cities also prevents the youth councils from operation as a nationally coherent voice.

Relevance of Program Design: All stakeholders shared a strong purpose, which is aligned to the original design of the program.
- 84% of respondents (20 participants) when asked about their reasons for joining the YC provided valid responses: “To achieve effective participation in society and strengthen democracy”. Just 2 participants provided answers that were unrelated to the objectives.
- 46% of Sale respondents provided a valid description of civic engagement in the survey: “(Civic engagement) is the positive participation of youth in development of the country (Sale) by upholding the right to participate as confirmed by the Moroccan constitution” (Survey respondent). There were no invalid responses, however, 54% provided no response.
- The transition of the pre-existing youth council to the SFCG program was considered to be very smooth by the PO, as the SFCG program builds upon leadership work already implemented. The two elements requiring increased effort (see below) are increasing the visibility of the youth council among non-participating youth in Sale, and strategizing increased support to the youth council from local officials.

Representation and Participation: Across the three categories of age, literacy and gender, Sale respondents rate the representativeness of the youth council of their city (3.78 out of 5 mean) as slightly higher than their equal contribution to decision making (3.22 mean): Both scores are high relative to other cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth participants accurately represent the youth in general in my city</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>3.78</strong></td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>0.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All groups contribute to decision making in the youth council</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>3.22</strong></td>
<td>1.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td>1.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- **Representation:** According to participants, age is the most well represented category (3.95), with literacy (3.70) and gender (3.70) slightly lower.

- **Contribution to decision making:** Overall, the participation of all groups in decision-making is rated as slightly lower, gender scored under 3 (2.91), with 37% disagreeing that male/females contribute equally to decision-making. Respondents also had a high divergence of opinion on gender and participation (StDev 1.28).

**Youth Council interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders During the project in Sale:** Youth council participants clearly believe that their role in civic life in Sale remains passive, with below half (43%) indicating than officials and civic leaders involve youth in decision making, and just 14% considering that youth make decisions relating to their city / community (this was the lowest score across cities).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Officials and civic leaders informing and educating youth</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Officials and civic leaders gathering information from youth</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Officials and civic leaders consulting youth (exchange of ideas)</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Officials and civic leaders actively supporting youth engagement</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Officials and civic leaders involving youth in decision making</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Youth making decisions about the city / community</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 57% of respondents believe that officials and civil leaders do not ‘gather information from youth’. This is an issue that arose in the FGD; youth believe that whilst they may be able to present their issues to elected officials, they are then ignored: “We have the constitutional right to be heard, but they will take the documents and not do anything” Female participant. The most frequent recommendation to improve the program made by youth in the survey was to increase the support of local officials for, and their role in, the youth council.

- The highest score of 86% stating that officials actively support youth engagement is also unexpected given the overall trend and the findings of the FGD. All participants in the Sale FGD agreed that there is a lack of official support for the youth council. Nevertheless, the general trend is for decreasing youth participation, as participation moves from inactive to active.

**Actual interaction with Officials and Civic Leaders in Sale:** The only measured increase is ‘other’, however this may indicate further problems with the survey completion in Sale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the start of the project</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Spoke</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since the project started</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A total of 63% of survey respondents reported that they have experienced interaction with local officials or civic leaders, either before or during their participation in the youth council. The most frequent types of interaction were voting and attending events. The third most frequent form of interaction was speaking directly. There were just 2 instances of letter writing.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT**

**Youth Potential for Civic Engagement in Sale:** Scores on youth ability and openness are low relative to the other cities, and awareness was scored the lowest from the 6 cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>StDev</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth are able to change situations in your community</td>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>4.27</strong></td>
<td>0.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Local politicians in your city listen to youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>2.46</strong></td>
<td>1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Local politicians in your city act on youth concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>2.64</strong></td>
<td>1.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• According to the stakeholders consulted for the evaluation, the **interaction with locally elected officials in Sale has been limited**, and without pressure from above, it will remain so: “*Unfortunately, the youth interaction with officials and civic leaders is still very weak*” (Survey respondent). Increasing interaction should be a priority for moving forward. One strategy already employed is to develop relationships with potential candidates for local office.

• It is notable that youth participants believe that leaders in their community are more knowledgeable about the youth council (3.23 mean with 54% agreeing with the statement) than non-participating youth (2.48 mean with just 13% agreeing).

• The aggregation of individual questions into composite indicators reinforces the finding that **youth are confident in their ability for civic engagement** (4.35 mean overall) but are **frustrated by the lack of openness of local politicians** (2.74 mean overall).

• The **lowest mean score was for local politicians listening to youth**, at 2.46. Over half (55%) of respondents to the survey disagreed that local politicians listen to youth, 33% chose neutral and just 12% agreed. One comment from the survey stated that: “*there is no serious interaction with local politicians and youth*”. This finding was also strongly validated by the FGD. The issue of local politicians not being open to interaction with the youth council was further validated during interviews with the PO and FC, “*local leaders do not give much credence to the youth*”. Whilst the national constitution (2011) allows youth to voice their concerns, this has not been enacted at the local level: “*The national allowance for youth to voice their concerns haven’t gone to the local level. There is no local charter. Central power is not communicating this*.” Male participant. The interaction with officials for the Sale youth council has been mostly with national politicians, including a forum open to all youth in Sale with 2 high-profile parliamentarians working on civic engagement. The location of Sale, next to Rabat, might explain the strong focus on national level processes, and there is clear frustration at the city-level.

• **Knowledge of the youth council among non-participating youth in the community is considered to be too low** by the participants, documented from both the survey findings and the FGD. For the survey, it is the second lowest score at 2.48, with just 13% responding favorably. “*Try to integrate them well and bring them closer to the Council because many of youth don’t know the existence of the Youth Council and also can’t express their views*”, survey comments on how to improve civic engagement of youth in Sale. A need for the youth council to reach out to the wider youth community, involving them in discussions,
increasing the number of participants and sharing the training, and having a permanent base for the council were all identified solutions in the FGD: “By keeping the council centered in the same place, instead of changing venues, it would increase the visibility and awareness of the youth council” Male participant.

Identified Outcomes relating to Youth Civic Engagement in Sale: The survey identified outcomes by 22% of respondents, including individual, community and interaction levels. Outcomes relating to youth civic engagement identified during the FGD, included increased confidence in being able to influence government (political voice category). Over half of the participants in the FGD described how their participation in the youth council had increased awareness of how the community is run and increased their confidence in communication: “I learned how to debate and discuss my issues, how to define solutions. How politics works. It has given me confidence to go to another conference.” Male participant.

- Youth share a sense of purpose and responsibility and are positive about the potential for collective action offered through the council: “Government officials will often say that the youth don’t want to get involved or are not trained, but the youth council gives them the opportunity to say they represent youth and have the training.” Male participant.
- Positive changes identified by survey respondents included increased confidence in communication, and the innovation of the project in facilitating youth interaction: (The) project is considered to be unprecedented, so it is a good, effective step.”
- The FGD also revealed examples of other types of civic engagement, 5 youth who had received training in mediation decided to informally share this training at high schools and collages in Sale.
- The majority of the participants in the FGD expressed opinions and defined solutions, which revealed their leadership attributes and ambitions. The youth participating in the FGD want to increase the numbers of youth able to participate in the youth council; they want to increase the visibility by having the council in a permanent location: “There are a lot of youth in Sale but not a lot of them know about this, more youth involved would make our demands more strong.” (Female participant)

MOVING FORWARD
Participants were asked in the survey what is needed to improve civic engagement moving forward. Of the 10 responses to this question, 4 recommended changes to the program, including increasing training, and reaching out further to the wider population of youth in Sale “Trying to integrate them well and bring them closer to the Council because many of youth don’t know the existence of the Youth Council and also can’t express their views”.

Sustainability: The Partner Organization in Sale does intend to keep the council going and will keep working towards the same objectives, and seek additional funding after the end of the project. They use relationships to provide free venues (which change) for events, sometimes meeting in outside areas. The youth participants in the FGD however believe this transience limits the visibility of the youth council.