

*Seminar on
“Impact Evaluations in Fragile States”*

**Promoting and Measuring
Social Cohesion
in the Kyrgyz Republic**

Damir Esenaliev, *SIPRI*

Mandi Larsen, *Jacobs University Bremen*

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Stockholm

Structure

1. Kyrgyzstan context
2. Social Cohesion Project
3. Social Cohesion Index

Kyrgyzstan



Source: <http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/map/kyrgyzstan-administrative-map.htm>

Violent conflict in June 2010

- Clashes between ethnic Uzbeks and Kyrgyz in the South of Kyrgyzstan
- 470 dead; 400,000 temporarily displaced; houses and business property destroyed
- Reasons: political instability and crisis; poverty and lack of economic opportunity.



Peacebuilding interventions

- Reconstruction, reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts has been in place
- Amount of investments made are substantial
- Unclear if the soft interventions are making a difference



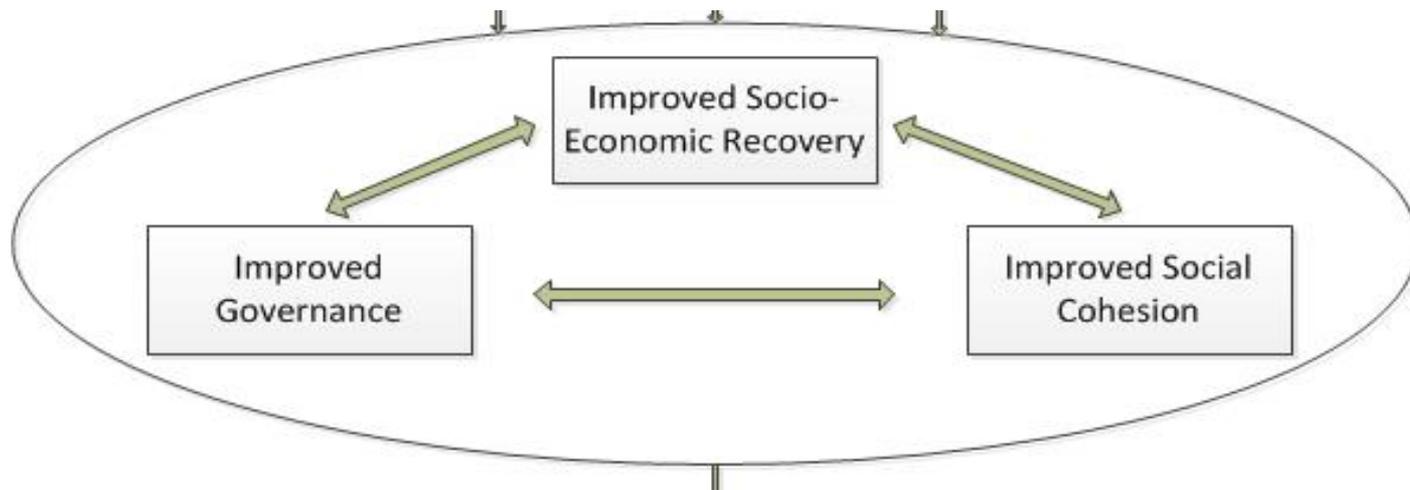
2. Social Cohesion through Community Development Project

Highlights

- The project aims to identify approaches that promote social cohesion in community driven development..
- .. by piloting such approaches through community-driven development micro-projects ...
- ... in select communities in Osh and Naryn oblasts (regions).
- The corresponding research exploits a randomized approach.

Community-driven development

- Community-driven development (CDD) gives control over planning decisions and investment resources for local development projects to community groups.
- CDD has been a popular tool to address poverty and local development; over 105 countries to date used this approach.
- World Bank alone approved over 730 CDD projects worldwide (2002-11) of about 23 bln.\$ in value.



Project partners



Donors:
Aga Khan
Foundation and the
World Bank



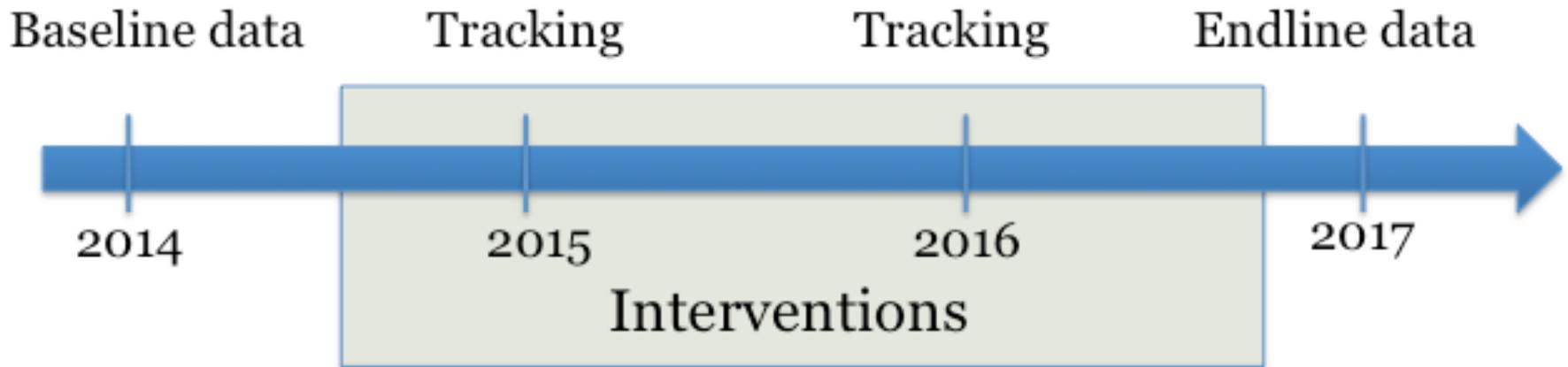
Research Team:
SIPRI and UCA



Implementation team:
MSDSP KG



Evaluation Timeline



Sample selection

Community selection

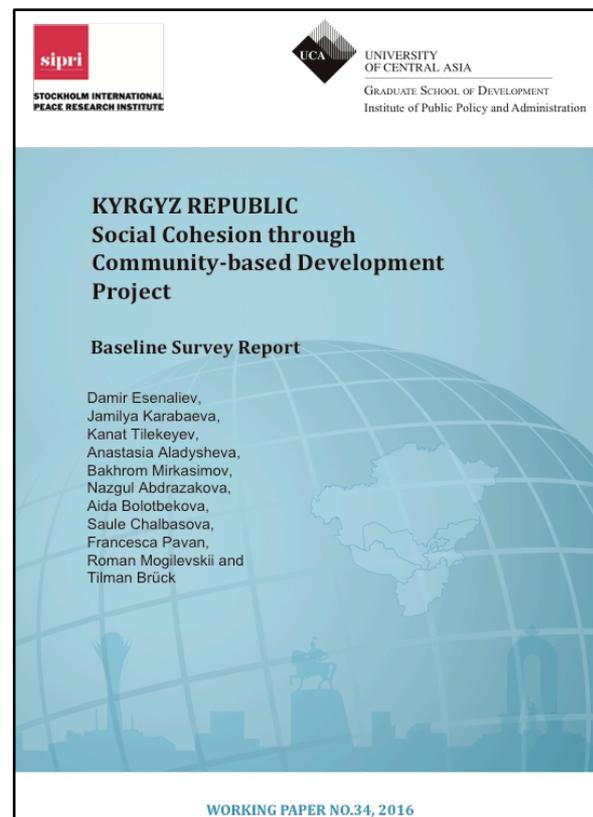
- 38 communities that qualify for project interventions formed the sample frame
- 15 intervention and 15 control communities were randomly selected through pair-wise matching
- 8 communities are multi-ethnic, and 7 are mono-ethnic

Household selection

- Random selection of households in both intervention and control communities
- At baseline, 2,000 households and over 6,000 individuals in 30 project communities were surveyed

Survey Data

- **Baseline survey**
 - 30 Ayil Aimaks (sub-districts)
 - September - December 2014
 - Face-to-face interviews
 - Community ($N_c = 137$)
 - Household ($N_h = 1986$)
 - Individual, adult ($N_i = 6356$)
 - Youth aged 14-17, ($N_y = 866$)



Baseline survey results

1. Balance between treatment and control communities is achieved.
2. The results contradict the assumption that social cohesion weakened in the post-conflict areas.
3. This has implications for the success of the intervention activities, as little room left for a change in social cohesion.
 - Target social groups that exhibit lower level of social cohesion
4. This calls to investigate whether the individual responses were driven by social desirability bias.
 - Test the results with qualitative methods of data collection.

Qualitative research

1. Post-conflict interethnic relations:
 - *Careful co-existence* rather than vibrant social exchanges or open conflict
 - Ethnic minorities show signs of assimilation towards Kyrgyz group
2. Social cohesion exists in small neighbourhoods
3. Local governments are present in good times and are perceived to be of little relevance in addressing local challenges

3. Social Cohesion Index



What is Social Cohesion?

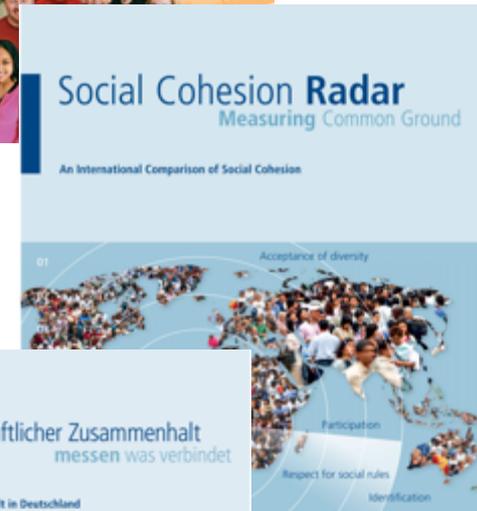
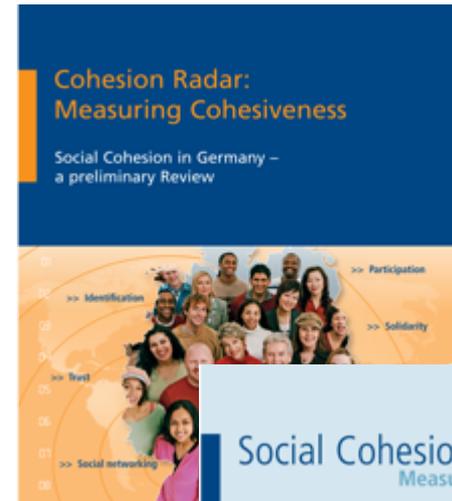
- Academic consensus
 - Multi-dimensional
 - Gradual phenomenon
 - Characteristic of societies
 - Manifests in attitudes and behavior of people
- But no agreed definition



Source: http://www.mtcsp.org.uk/media/6021/ga_recommunitycohesion503.jpg

Social Cohesion Radar

- International comparison (2013)
 - 34 OECD countries
- Intra-German comparison (2014)
 - 16 federal states
- Bremen comparison (2016)
 - 78 sub-districts
- Asian comparison (2016)
 - 22 South and Southeast Asian countries

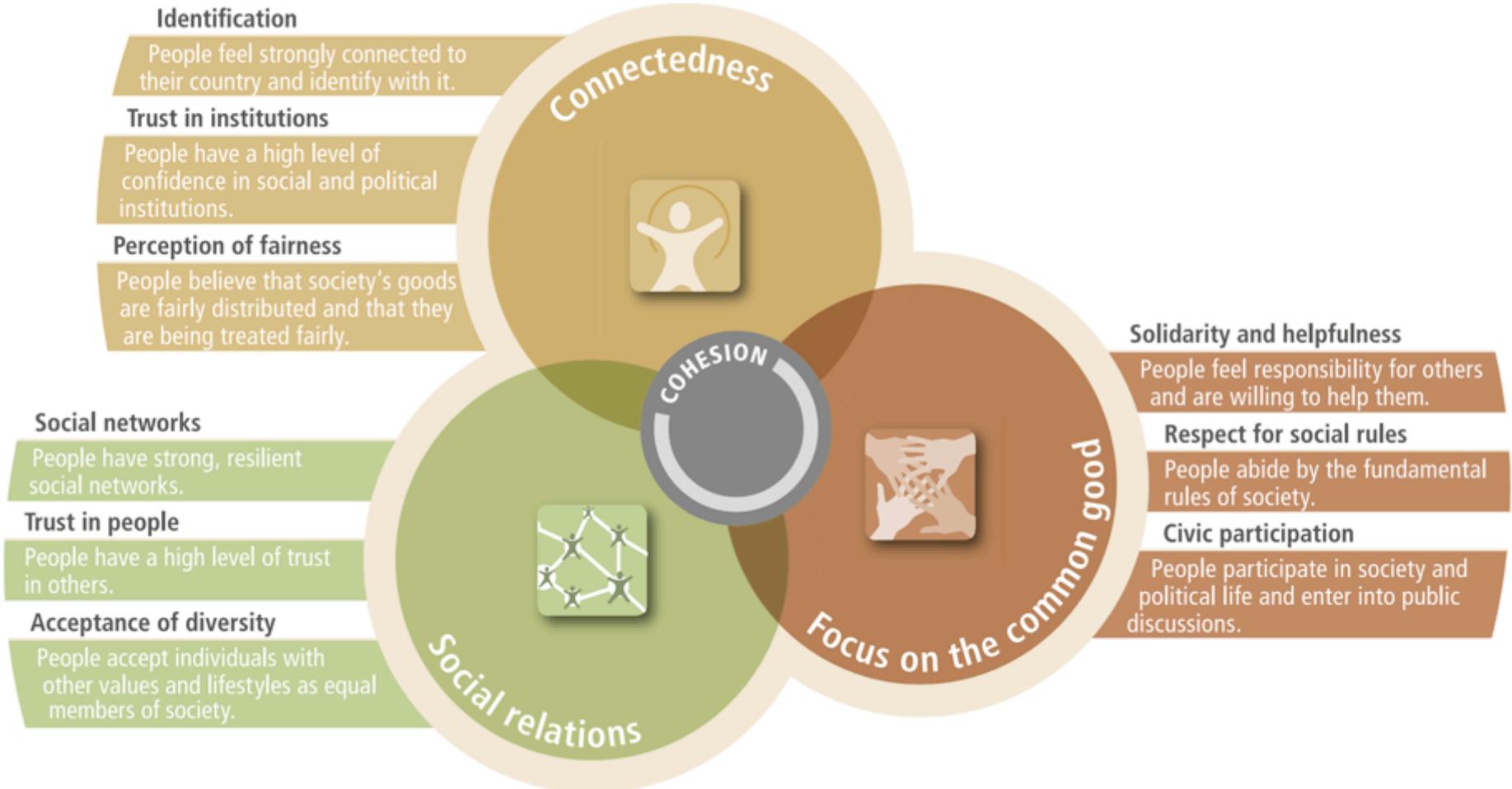


Funded by the Bertelsmann Foundation

Concept of Cohesion

- Quality of interactions among members of community, defined in geopolitical terms
- Characterized by
 - Resilient social relations
 - Positive emotional connectedness to community
 - Pronounced focus on common good
- Possible causes or effects
 - Wealth, inequality, ethnic diversity
 - Well-being

Nine Dimensions of Social Cohesion



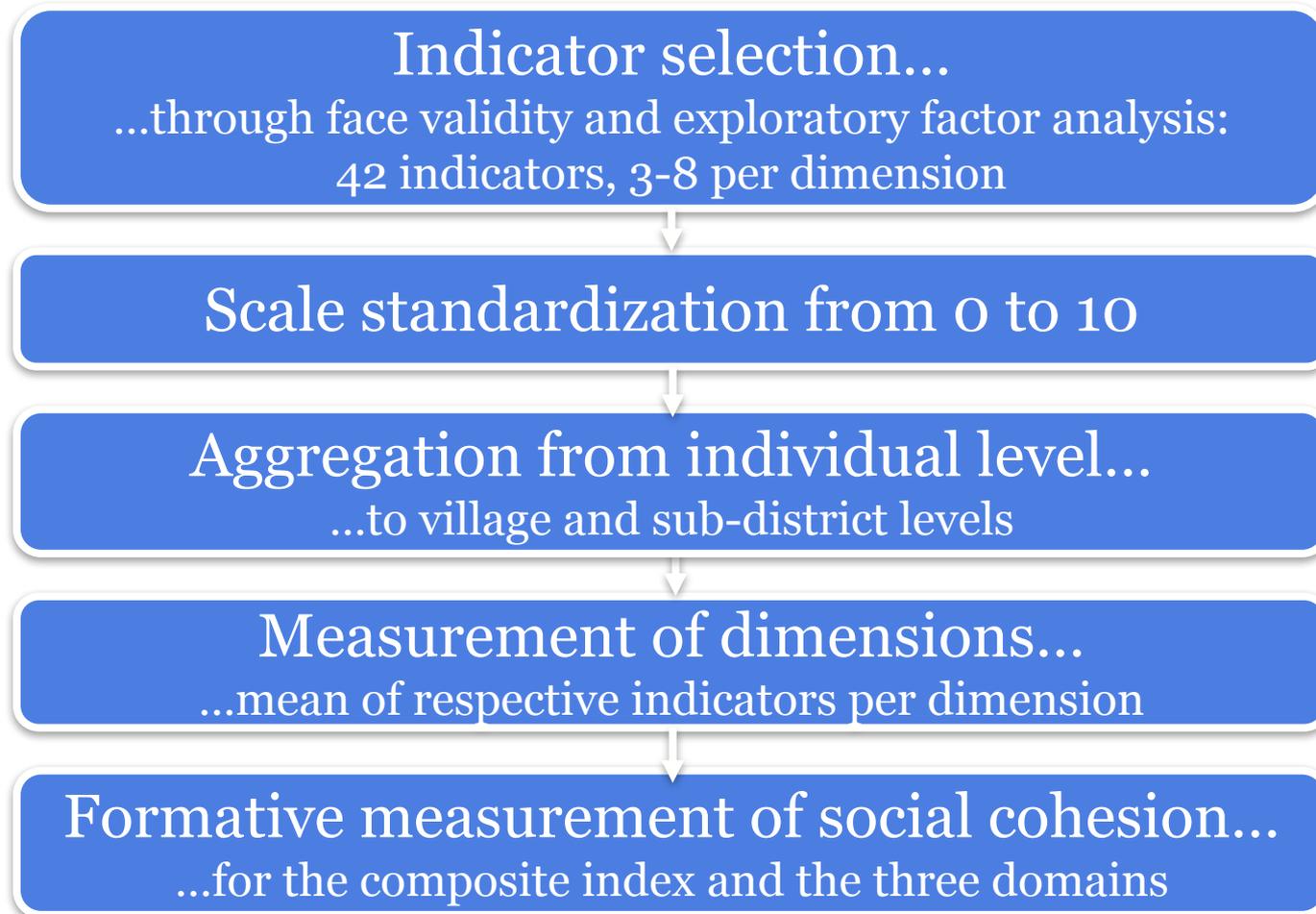
Social Cohesion in the Kyrgyz Republic

- How strong is the current level of social cohesion in the sub-districts under study?
- Which dimensions demonstrate strengths or weaknesses?
- What are the possible determinants and outcomes of cohesion?

Survey Data

- Baseline surveys for the “Social Cohesion through Community-based Development Project”
 - 30 Ayil Aimaks
 - September - December 2014
 - Face-to-face interviews
 - Community ($N_c = 137$)
 - Household ($N_h = 1986$)
 - Individual, adult ($N_i = 6356$)

Methods



Overall Index and Dimensions at Baseline

Treatment	Ethnic	Sub-District	SoCo	D1	D1.1	D1.2	D1.3	D2	D2.1	D2.2	D2.3	D3	D3.1	D3.2	D3.3
Control	Multi	Jany-Nookat	6,83	6,96	4,49	8,32	8,06	7,21	8,95	7,01	5,67	6,33	4,26	7,33	7,39
Control	Mono	Kenesh	6,79	6,82	4,32	7,53	8,63	7,20	7,91	6,62	7,07	6,36	4,16	7,31	7,60
Control	Mono	Terek	6,78	6,49	2,70	8,25	8,51	7,99	9,50	7,47	6,98	5,87	6,17	6,30	5,13
Control	Multi	Too-Moiun	6,74	6,82	3,77	8,09	8,61	7,59	8,52	6,81	7,45	5,79	3,74	7,31	6,31
Control	Multi	Don Bulak	6,73	6,50	3,72	7,55	8,23	7,55	9,26	6,12	7,27	6,15	5,23	6,98	6,24
Control	Multi	Mirmahmudov	6,63	6,90	4,77	7,70	8,22	7,32	8,69	6,99	6,29	5,68	3,19	7,07	6,79
Control	Mono	Iyri-Suu	6,50	6,17	2,79	7,93	7,78	7,11	7,99	6,52	6,83	6,23	4,39	7,85	6,44
Control	Multi	Savai	6,47	6,07	3,19	7,17	7,83	7,45	7,84	7,44	7,06	5,90	4,43	7,13	6,14
Control	Mono	Baetovo	6,38	6,18	2,85	7,31	8,39	7,69	9,45	7,34	6,27	5,28	4,88	6,72	4,25
Control	Mono	Ugut	6,22	5,39	4,00	5,54	6,64	6,99	9,88	4,75	6,34	6,29	5,36	6,94	6,56
Control	Multi	Ak-Tash	6,21	6,12	2,43	7,82	8,11	7,01	7,95	5,86	7,23	5,49	3,68	7,27	5,52
Control	Mono	Kazybek	6,09	5,22	3,48	5,47	6,71	6,52	7,56	6,59	5,42	6,52	6,11	6,29	7,16
Control	Multi	Tort-Kol	6,02	6,19	3,93	7,70	6,94	6,74	8,71	5,40	6,10	5,13	2,93	6,03	6,43
Control	Mono	Taldy-Suu	5,98	5,40	2,69	6,51	7,00	7,58	9,52	6,56	6,65	4,95	3,09	4,53	7,23
Control	Multi	Chek-Abad	5,30	5,51	3,14	6,74	6,66	6,11	7,24	5,88	5,21	4,27	2,53	6,16	4,12
Pilot	Mono	Ak Chiy	6,73	6,24	3,04	7,26	8,43	7,82	9,72	6,99	6,75	6,11	6,07	6,52	5,76
Pilot	Mono	Changet	6,69	6,29	2,84	8,47	7,54	7,67	8,58	7,43	7,00	6,11	4,13	7,41	6,80
Pilot	Multi	Kara-Tash	6,43	6,85	5,75	7,26	7,55	6,41	8,20	5,18	5,85	6,03	3,86	6,99	7,23
Pilot	Multi	Mady	6,29	6,23	3,71	7,68	7,28	7,24	8,80	6,38	6,53	5,39	3,80	6,10	6,28
Pilot	Multi	Anarov	6,20	6,00	2,74	7,47	7,77	7,67	9,23	7,23	6,56	4,95	3,09	6,16	5,59
Pilot	Multi	Otuz-Adyr	6,16	5,91	3,02	7,06	7,66	7,09	8,82	5,94	6,50	5,49	3,91	6,77	5,80
Pilot	Multi	Sarai	6,15	6,01	3,13	7,07	7,81	6,69	8,42	5,80	5,85	5,74	4,27	6,72	6,23
Pilot	Mono	Karool	6,14	6,28	3,53	8,09	7,23	7,08	8,91	6,78	5,55	5,07	2,59	6,02	6,60
Pilot	Mono	Kara-Suu	6,13	5,97	3,81	6,27	7,83	6,42	7,83	5,10	6,34	5,99	5,46	6,93	5,59
Pilot	Multi	Zarger	6,07	5,89	2,92	7,23	7,53	7,03	9,00	6,37	5,71	5,31	4,44	6,03	5,44
Pilot	Multi	Tepe-Korgon	6,00	5,80	2,57	7,42	7,43	6,94	8,31	6,56	5,94	5,27	4,16	6,21	5,43
Pilot	Mono	Kok-Jar	5,99	5,24	2,01	5,36	8,36	6,84	9,78	5,48	5,27	5,90	4,81	7,56	5,32
Pilot	Multi	Yusupov	5,72	5,49	2,61	6,86	6,99	6,34	7,28	5,99	5,74	5,34	4,98	6,12	4,91
Pilot	Mono	Ak-Kuduk	5,45	5,12	3,06	5,83	6,48	5,77	7,48	4,81	5,01	5,47	5,28	5,18	5,95
Pilot	Mono	Jerge-Tal	5,43	4,97	2,38	6,09	6,45	7,65	9,88	6,44	6,64	3,66	2,72	2,43	5,83
		<i>Mean</i>	6,24	6,03	3,31	7,17	7,62	7,09	8,64	6,33	6,30	5,60	4,26	6,48	6,07
		<i>Standard Deviation</i>	0,41	0,55	0,79	0,85	0,66	0,53	0,78	0,77	0,66	0,62	1,02	1,03	0,85

Overall Index and Dimensions at Baseline

- Overall SoCo Index score
 - Scores range from 5.3 to 6.8 out of 10
 - No extremely high or low scores
 - No differences between pilot and control
- Strongest dimensions
 - Dimension 2.1: Identification
 - Dimension 1.3: Acceptance of diversity
 - Dimension 1.2: Trust in people
- Weakest dimensions
 - Dimension 1.1: Social networks
 - Dimension 3.1: Solidarity and helpfulness

Potential Determinants and Outcomes

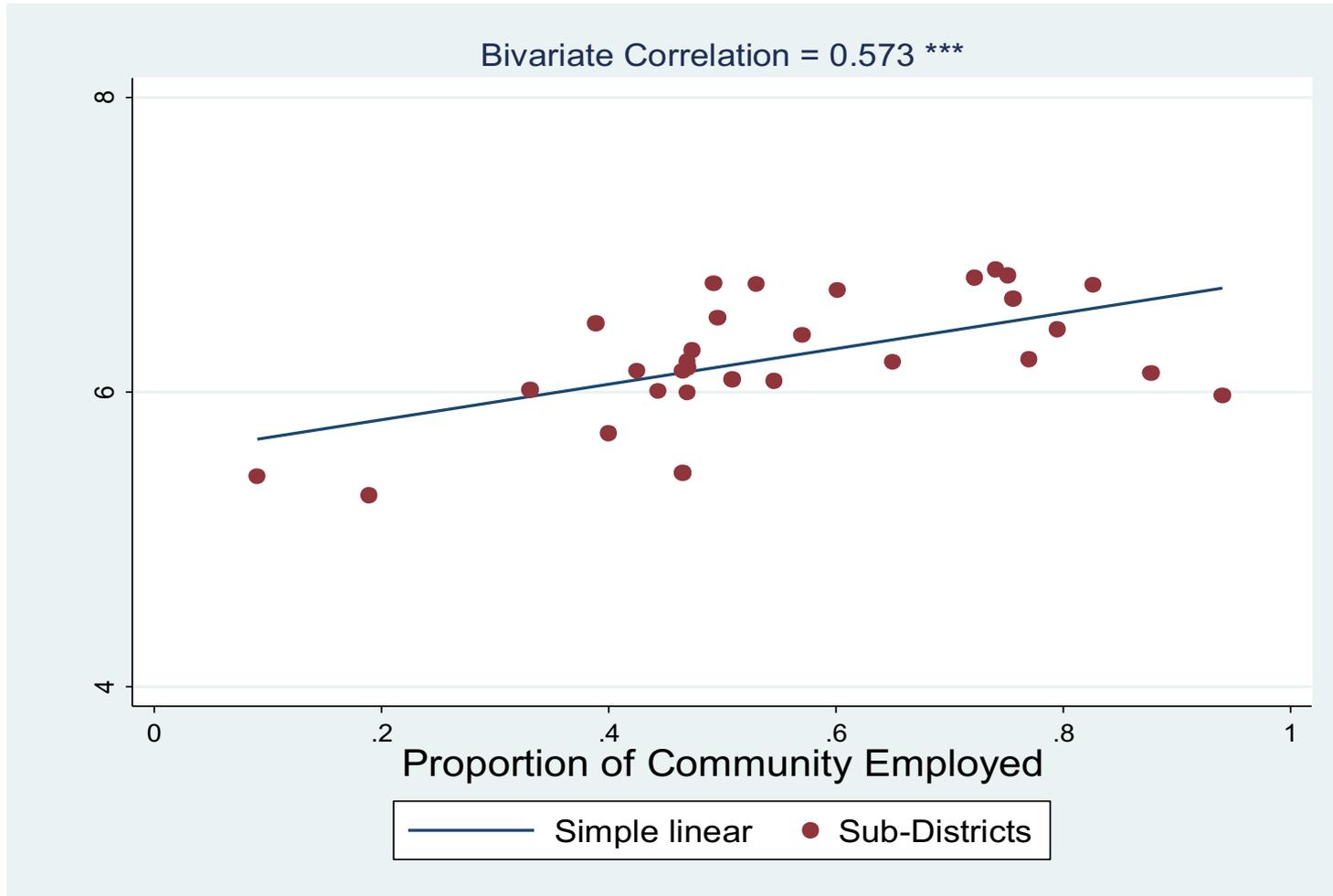
- Seven sets of relevant societal characteristics
 - Wealth and economic situation
 - Access to education
 - Inequality and poverty
 - Spatial structure
 - Modernization
 - Personality
 - Well-being
- Pearson Product-Moment Correlations
 - Not possible to infer causality

Potential Determinants and Outcomes

	Correlation with Social Cohesion Index	
	<i>r</i>	<i>p</i>
Proportion of community population who are employed	0.573	***
Proportion of 16-17 year olds attending 10-11 th grade	0.385	**
Number of languages of communication	0.495	***
Rating of household's economic situation compared to others in village	0.329	*
Main routes to communities are paved or partially paved	0.343	*
Household size	0.319	*
Possession of a mobile phone	0.438	**
Communities with mobile phone service	0.399	**
Frequent disruption to electricity supply in last 12 months	-0.346	*
Satisfaction with household's standard of living	0.480	***
Satisfaction with health	0.310	*

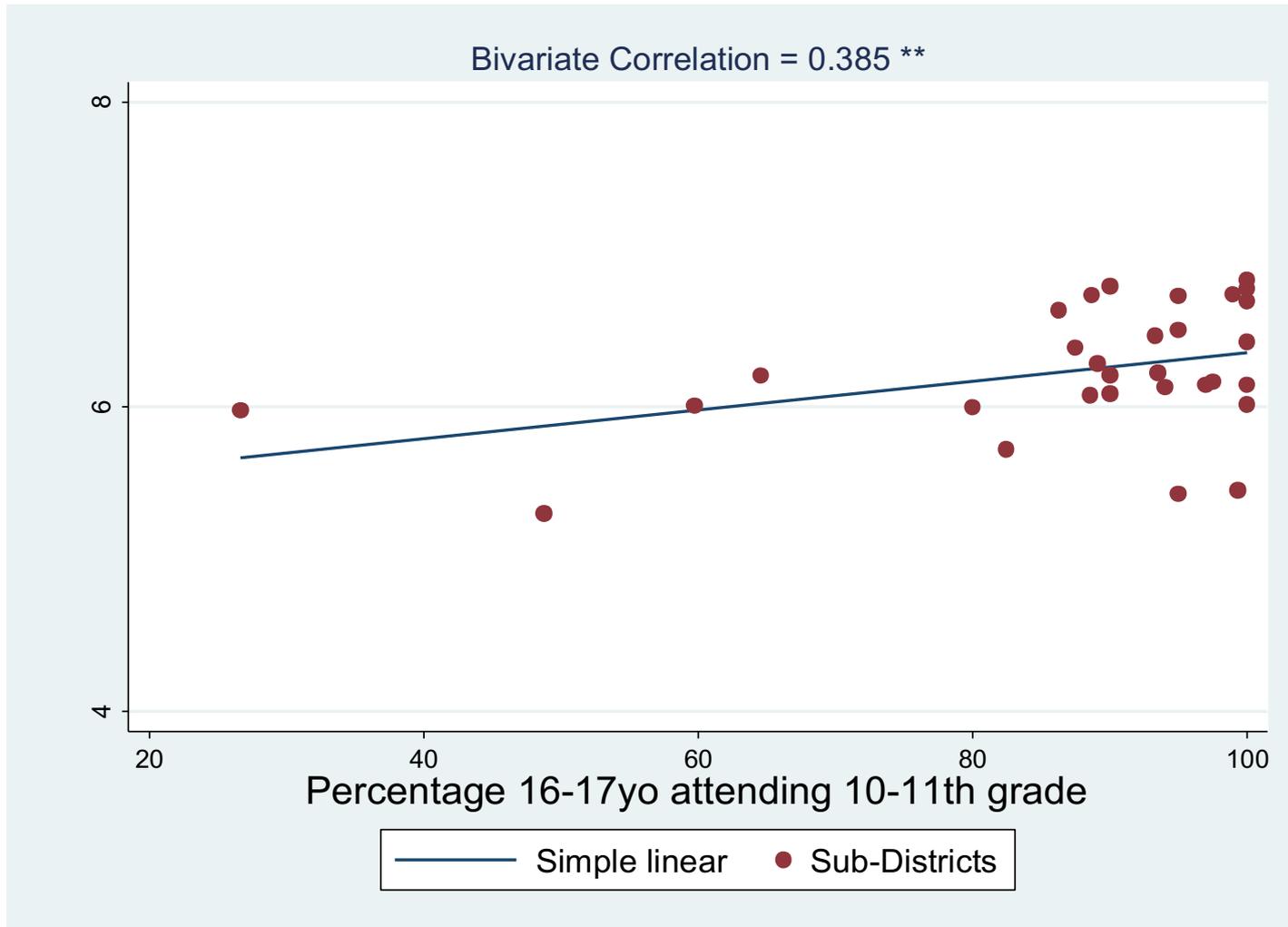
Potential Determinants and Outcomes

- Higher employment in more cohesive sub-districts



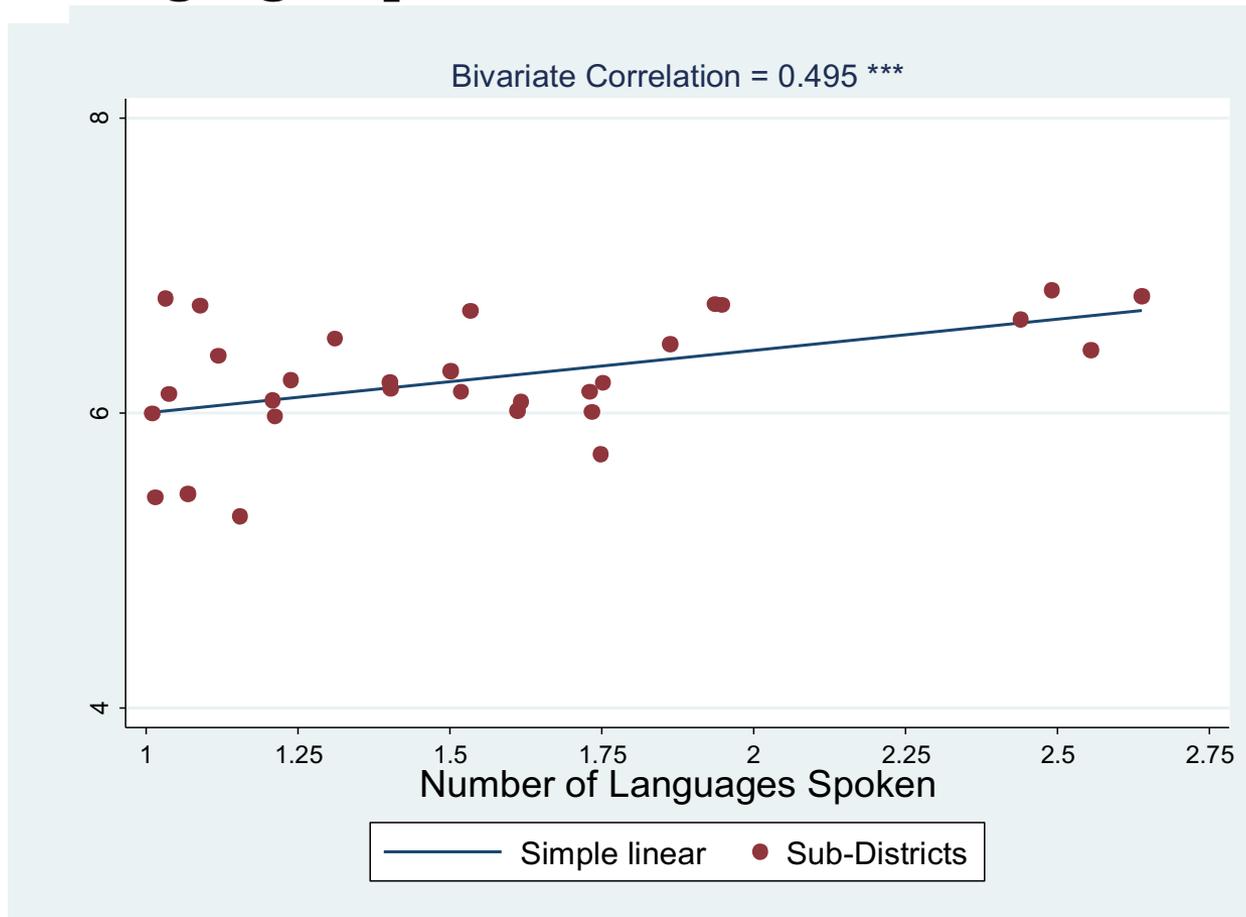
Potential Determinants and Outcomes

- Higher levels of schooling in more cohesive sub-districts



Potential Determinants and Outcomes

- More languages spoken in more cohesive sub-districts



Conclusion

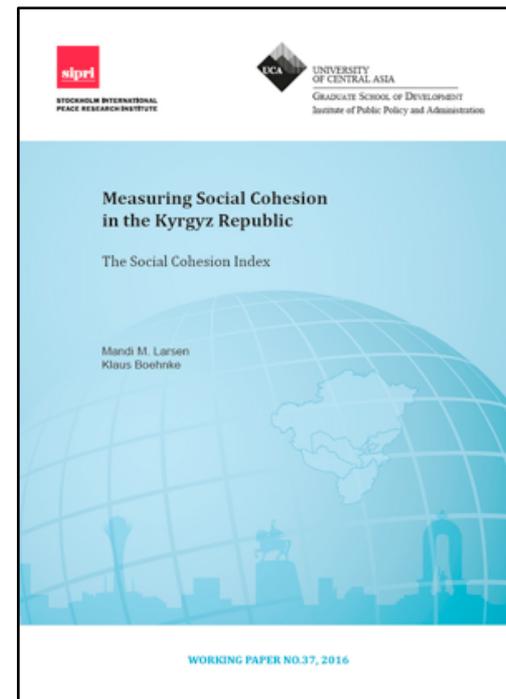
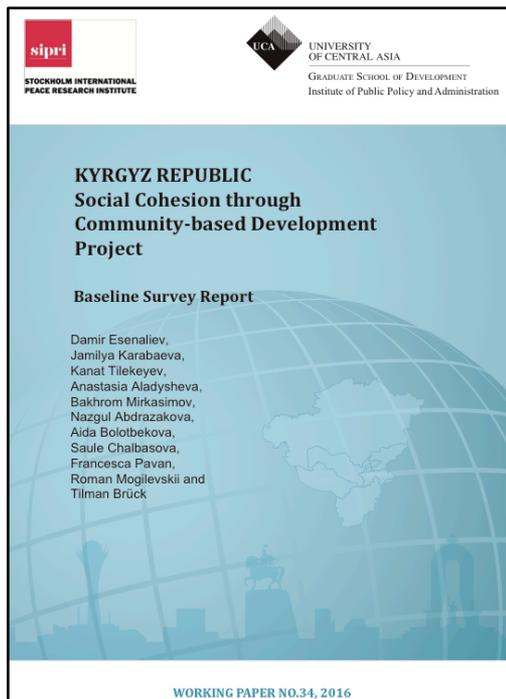
- Moderate levels of social cohesion, no extremes
 - Room for improvement
 - Social networks
 - Solidarity and helpfulness
- Macro-level conditions associated with higher cohesion
- Cohesion associated with higher levels of well-being

Future Steps

- Midline and end-line measurement of Social Cohesion Index
 - Comparison with baseline scores
 - How was social cohesion impacted by intervention?
- Analysis of time-lagged correlations of social cohesion with macro-level conditions
 - Improve understanding of directionality
- Life in Kyrgyzstan Survey 2016 collects all indicators needed for social cohesion index
 - Cross-region comparisons in the country

Thank you!
esenaliev@sipri.org

http://ucentralasia.org/Research/IPPA_Publications



Choice of Indicators

- According to face validity
 - Unanimous agreement among team members
- Application of exploratory factor analysis
 - Criteria
 - Loading ≥ 0.40 (or ≥ 0.25 in extreme cases)
 - Cronbach's alpha $\geq (0.10 * \text{number of indicators})$
 - 42 indicators (3-8 per dimension)

Dimension 1.1

Table A.1: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 1.1 – Social networks

Variable	Label	Loading
d11_i401*	If you suddenly needed 2000 Som, how many people you know would lend you the entire amount?	0.3023
d11_i408	How likely is it that you will easily ask for help from your neighbors, friends or co-workers?	0.6695
d11_i413*	Number of groups you belonged to during the last 12 months? (e.g., professional union, neighborhood committee, Sherine, etc.)	0.6616

Alpha = 0.522

Dimension 1.2

Table A.2: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 1.2 – Trust in people

Variable	Label	Loading
d12_i3011*	In general, you can trust people.	0.4870
d12_i3022*	How much do you generally trust your neighbors?	0.4870
d12_i3023*	How much do you generally trust people in your village?	0.7561
d12_i3024*	How much do you generally trust people from your own ethnic or linguistic group?	0.8304
d12_i3025*	How much do you generally trust people from other ethnic or linguistic groups?	0.7961

Alpha = 0.824

Dimension 1.3

Table A.3: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 1.3 – Acceptance of diversity

Variable	Label	Loading
d13_i3061	People from different social backgrounds get on well together.	0.5066
d13_i3062	I have meaningful interactions with people from different backgrounds.	0.4844
d13_i3063	Ethnic differences between people are respected.	0.4437
d13_i3064	People treat one another with respect and consideration.	0.4096
d13_i3065	I consider it to be a problem if people are being attacked because of their ethnic origin or religion.	0.4772
d13_i3033*	Please rate your attitudes towards people with disabilities.	0.8501
d13_i3034	Please rate your attitudes towards poor people.	0.9232
d13_i3035*	Please rate your attitudes towards rich people.	0.5904

Alpha = 0.8432

Dimension 2.1

Table A.4: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 2.1 – Identification

Variable	Label	Loading
d21_i3053*	I see myself as a member of my neighborhood.	0.9428
d21_i3054	I see myself as a member of my village.	0.9497
d21_i3056*	I see myself as a member of my tribe.	0.7568
d21_i3057*	I see myself as a member of my ethnic group.	0.6201
d21_i3058*	I see myself as a citizen of Kyrgyzstan.	0.4885

Alpha = 0.879

Dimension 2.2

Table A.5: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 2.2 – Trust in institutions

Variable	Label	Loading
d22_i3026*	How much do you generally trust the head of aiyl okmotu?	0.7847
d22_i3027	How much do you generally trust the Rayon administration and services?	0.8746
d22_i3028*	How much do you generally trust the government of the Kyrgyz Republic?	0.9318
d22_i3029*	How much do you generally trust the President of the Kyrgyz Republic?	0.8604
d22_i30210*	How much do you generally trust the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic?	0.8818
d22_i30211*	How much do you generally trust the Aiyl Kenesh in your area?	0.8163
d22_i30212*	How much do you generally trust the police?	0.7219

Alpha = 0.943

Dimension 2.3

Table A.6: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 2.3 – Perception of fairness

Variable	Label	Loading
d23_i503_5	I think the Ayil Kanesh and Aiyl Okmotu treat all types of people fairly.	0.689
d23_i503_7	All community members are given an opportunity to participate in the meetings and discussion initiated by the Aiyl Okmotu and Aiyl Kanesh.	0.615
d23_i507*	Do you think Ayil and Rayon administrations and public service providers are attentive and make enough efforts to solve your problems?	0.384

Alpha = 0.544

Dimension 3.1

Table A.7: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 3.1 – Solidarity and helpfulness

Variable	Label	Loading
d31_i3015	Most people in this community are willing to help if you need it.	0.312
d31_i404_yn*	Do you give any financial help during the last 12 months?	0.703
d33_i409_yn*	Did you give any non-financial help (e.g., homework or baby care, repairing house, preparing celebrations) during the last 12 months?	0.639

Alpha = 0.419

Dimension 3.2

Table A.8: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 3.2 – Respect for social rules

Variable	Label	Loading
d32_i601_b1*	I feel safe when walking alone in the neighborhood during the day.	0.9100
d32_i601_b2*	I feel safe when walking alone in the neighborhood during the night.	0.6008
d32_i601_b4*	My neighborhood is overall peaceful.	0.4921
d32_i601_b5*	The level of violence increased during the last 12 months.	-0.5466

Alpha = 0.711

Dimension 3.3

Table A.9: Exploratory Factor Analysis – Dimension 3.3 – Civic participation

Variable	Label	Loading
d33_i430*	In general, how interested in politics are you?	0.3015
d33_i434*	Do you vote in national and local elections?	0.7196
d33_i435*	Have you voted in the last election in Ayil Kenesh?	0.7805
d33_i423_yn*	Have you taken part in any of the following activities in the last 12 months? (e.g., political activities, community-based projects, protests and demonstrations, etc.)	0.4501

Alpha = 0.492