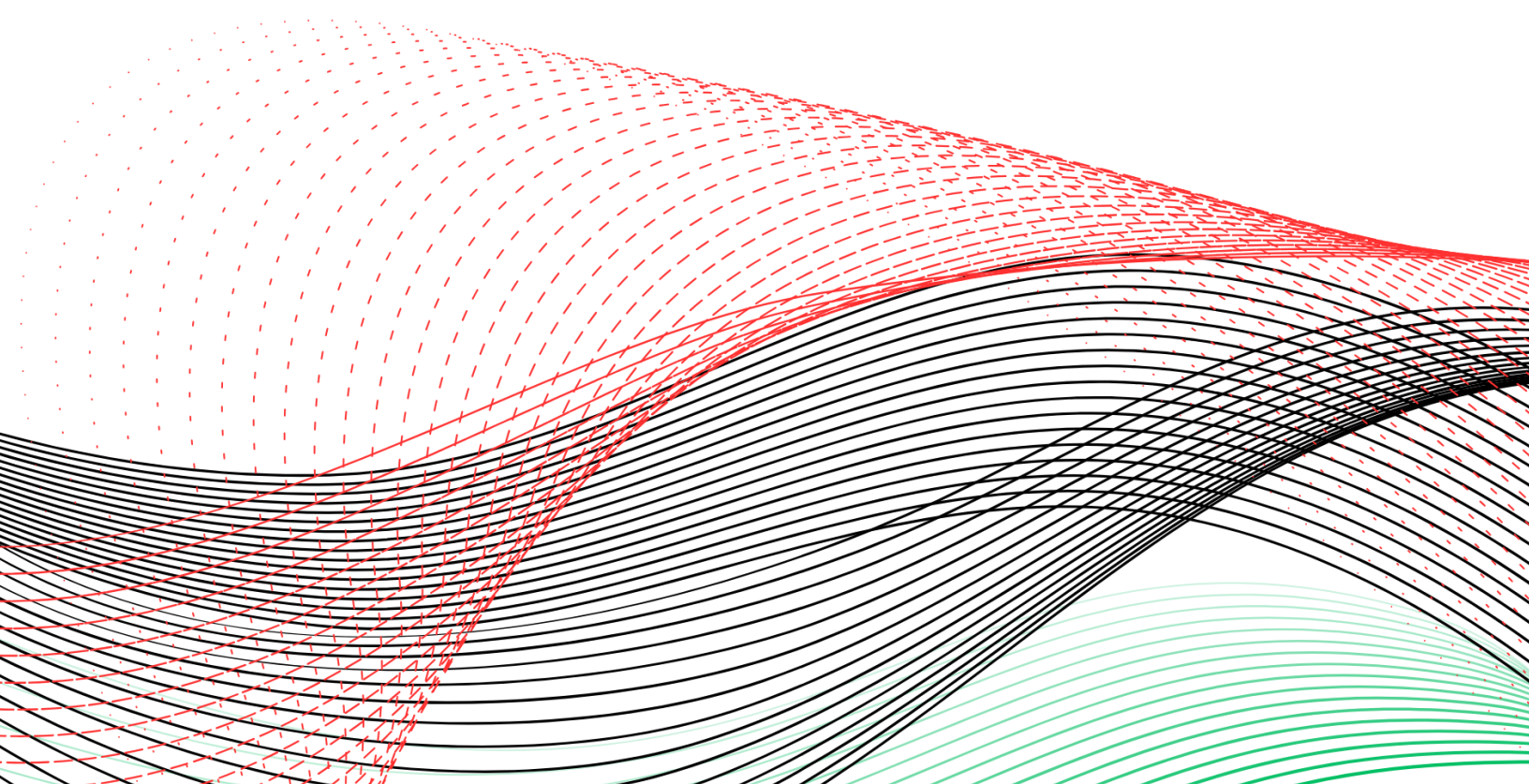


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Facilitator's Guide: *Structured Dialogue* *Community Consultation*



Purpose and objective

Thank you for taking the lead in bringing your community's perspective to the Structured Dialogue. This guide is designed to support you in facilitating discussions and sharing the outcomes through UNSMIL's official channels:

[\[https://unsmil.unmissions.org/en/get-involved-in-sd\]](https://unsmil.unmissions.org/en/get-involved-in-sd).

The aim of these consultations is to enable a larger number of Libyans to engage in the political process and contribute to the Structured Dialogue. The idea is to move beyond general discussion and generate **specific, actionable recommendations**. Your role is to identify both **immediate needs to prepare for elections** and **longer-term proposals that can contribute to a unified national vision for Libya**.

The outcomes of all community consultations will be analyzed and compiled into a report that will be **shared with Structured Dialogue Members, who will consider the input when formulating their final proposals**.

Pre-Session Preparation

Know your track

You may focus your consultation on any of the four themes of the Structured Dialogue:

- Governance
- Economy
- Security
- National Reconciliation & Human Rights

Download the background paper and slide deck corresponding to the track you wish to discuss: [\[https://unsmil.unmissions.org/en/get-involved-in-sd\]](https://unsmil.unmissions.org/en/get-involved-in-sd).

Select issues of focus

To ensure that community feedback can meaningfully inform Structured Dialogue deliberations, discussions should focus on **the issues the Structured Dialogue has agreed to address**. These issues are outlined in the background papers included in this toolkit for the Governance, Economy, Security, and National Reconciliation and Human Rights Tracks.

The slide deck included in the toolkit is designed to help facilitators keep the discussion focused.

You may choose to discuss **all or some of the issues listed below.**

Governance

- Political consensus needed prior to holding elections
- Integrity of the electoral process and its international support
- Elections government: mandate, tasks, and exit mechanism
- Libya's political system
- State structure and local governance

Economy

- Financial governance and public financial management
- Management of oil and sovereign resources
- Economic restructuring, private sector stimulation, and diversification Balanced development, state building, and economic justice
- Economic policies and macroeconomic stability

Security

- People-centered security
- Security sector governance
- A unified and civilian-led national security architecture
- Electoral security
- Sustaining the ceasefire and preventing conflict

National Reconciliation and Human Rights

- Advancing national reconciliation and transitional justice
- Strengthening the unity and independence of the judiciary, accountability, and rule of law
- Protecting civic space and inclusive participation
- Addressing arbitrary detention, due process, and conditions of detention

Important Note

Some of the issues the Structured Dialogue is addressing overlap with matters that are also linked to constitutional discussions, such as Libya's political system and the structure of the state and local governance. It is important to clarify that the Structured Dialogue is not meant to reach an agreement on a constitutional framework.

Rather, the Dialogue examines these issues from the perspective of **conflict drivers** and aims to develop recommendations that can help formulate a **unified national vision for Libya's future**.

This may include:

- identifying factors that contribute to driving conflict and unblocking conflict
- discussing what a unified national vision for Libya could look like, one that embraces Libya's diversity examining the advantages and disadvantages of different models
- proposing mechanisms for implementation, including ways to unlock progress in the constitutional process

Principles of good facilitation

Impartiality

You serve as a neutral facilitator. Your role is to listen, guide the discussion, and accurately record the views expressed. Facilitators should not influence participants' political opinions.

Inclusivity

Actively encourage the active and equal participation of community members, including **women, youth, persons with disabilities, and members of all cultural components**. Use inclusive language and ensure that diverse perspectives are welcomed. This can be supported by practical steps such as:

- **Setting participation guidelines** that ensure everyone has an opportunity to speak, such as collaborative discussions or moderated speaking turns.
- **Inviting quieter participants to contribute**, particularly women and youth, without putting them on the spot.
- **Ensuring accessibility**, including selecting venues that are physically accessible, providing sign language interpretation if needed, and sharing materials in clear, easy-to-understand formats.
- **Scheduling meetings at inclusive times** that do not conflict with caregiving responsibilities, work hours, or school commitments.

- **Providing safe and respectful spaces**, where participants feel comfortable sharing views without fear of judgement or backlash.
- **Using multiple engagement methods**, such as small group discussions, anonymous written inputs, or digital participation, to accommodate different communication preferences.
- **Reflecting diversity in facilitation teams**, so participants see themselves represented in leadership roles.
- **Actively acknowledging and validating contributions** from all groups to reinforce that their perspectives are valued.

Participants should also be assured that the consultation report will focus on **collective recommendations and will not include individual names**.

Safety

Create a safe and respectful environment where participants feel comfortable sharing their views, particularly given sensitivities around discussing political issues in Libya. Clearly communicate that participation is voluntary, opinions will not be attributed to individuals, and confidentiality will be respected. Establish ground rules that prohibit harassment, intimidation, or hate speech, and encourage respectful listening across differing perspectives. Facilitators should remain attentive to signs of discomfort and adapt the discussion as needed to ensure all participants can engage without fear.

Session Flow (Step-by-Step)

Step 1: The Briefing (15–20 Minutes)

Introduction

Use the title slide in the provided slide deck to open the session. Explain that this meeting is a community consultation on the Structured Dialogue, intended to gather community perspectives on national priorities. Clarify that the consultation was facilitated with topical guidance from the Mission in response to its request for public engagement in the political process, but that the meeting itself is independent and neither organized nor funded by the Mission.

Context Setting

Provide a brief overview of the issue being discussed, drawing on the background briefing provided in the toolkit.

Setting Ground Rules

Establish a **code of conduct** for the discussion. This should include:

- respect for all opinions
- equal speaking time
- zero tolerance for hate speech or discriminatory language
- a focus on solutions and concrete recommendations rather than grievances

Participants should be invited to contribute to the ground rules in order to foster shared ownership and ensure respectful dialogue.

Step 2: Guided Discussion (45–60 Minutes)

Focusing the Discussion

Use the **guiding questions** included in the slide deck to stimulate conversation.

If the group is large, participants can be divided into smaller discussion circles. Each group should then present its key recommendations to the plenary.

The role of the facilitator is to encourage sharing and listening. In addition to asking open questions, the facilitator should acknowledge what has been shared. At the end of the discussion, the main issues raised, including points of convergence and points of disagreement should be reflected back to the group.

Recording the Discussion

Each session should have a designated note-taker responsible for documenting:

- the main points raised
- areas of consensus
- areas of disagreement
- the level of intensity or importance attached to certain issues
- key takeaways

The note-taker may also collect **anonymous direct quotes** that capture the human impact of policies or reflect the local perspective. These may later be used in a web story on the UNSMIL website.

Step 3: Capturing Recommendations (20 Minutes)

Focus on the “How”

For each issue discussed, aim to conclude with **clear recommendations**.

For example:

- Instead of recording: “We need better security.”
- Capture: “We recommend establishing a joint coordination centre in our district to support election security.”

Facilitators should identify areas of consensus while also documenting recommendations that are debated or contested. Care should be taken to ensure that **both men’s and women’s concerns and priorities are reflected in the recommendations**.

When relevant, highlight when two or more tracks—governance, security, economy, and national reconciliation—intersect and provide related recommendations.

Categorizing Feedback

Organize the recommendations into two categories:

- actions needed **before elections**
- proposals related to **long-term state structure or national vision**

Step 4: Closing

Before closing the session, **read the recommendations back to participants** to confirm that their views have been captured accurately.

Reiterate that the consultation was facilitated with topical guidance from the Mission **to facilitate public engagement in the political process**, but that the meeting itself was **independent and neither organized nor funded by the Mission**.

Thank participants for their contributions and explain that their recommendations will be submitted to UNSMIL which will share them with Structured Dialogue members. Emphasize that the recommendations will help inform the deliberations of the Structured Dialogue teams and the political process as a whole.

Submission

Recommendations from the community consultation should be submitted through the following form: [<https://unsmil.unmissions.org/en/get-involved-in-sd>]

Required Information

- **Facilitator Name.** Name of the individual or organization that facilitated the session, along with the names of those who contributed to organizing or conducting the consultation.
- **Contact Information.** Phone number of the facilitator so that UNSMIL can verify the authenticity of submissions.
- **Date and Location.** Indicate when the consultation took place and the location where it was held.
- **Audience.** Provide quantitative information about participants, including the total number of participants disaggregated by:
 - **Sex.**
 - **Age group.** Youth vs elders.
 - **Persons with disabilities.** Number of attendees.
 - **Community affiliation.** For example: Tebu, Tuareg, Amazigh, or IDP status.
- **Recommendations.** Summarize areas of consensus as well as areas of debate or disagreement. Clearly highlight recommendations that reflect **women's perspectives, priorities, or concerns**, where applicable.

Optional Information

- **Direct Quotes.** Include two or three compelling anonymous quotes that capture the perspectives shared during the consultation. These may be considered for inclusion in a web story on the UNSMIL website.
- **Photos.** Please obtain participants' consent before taking or sharing any photographs.