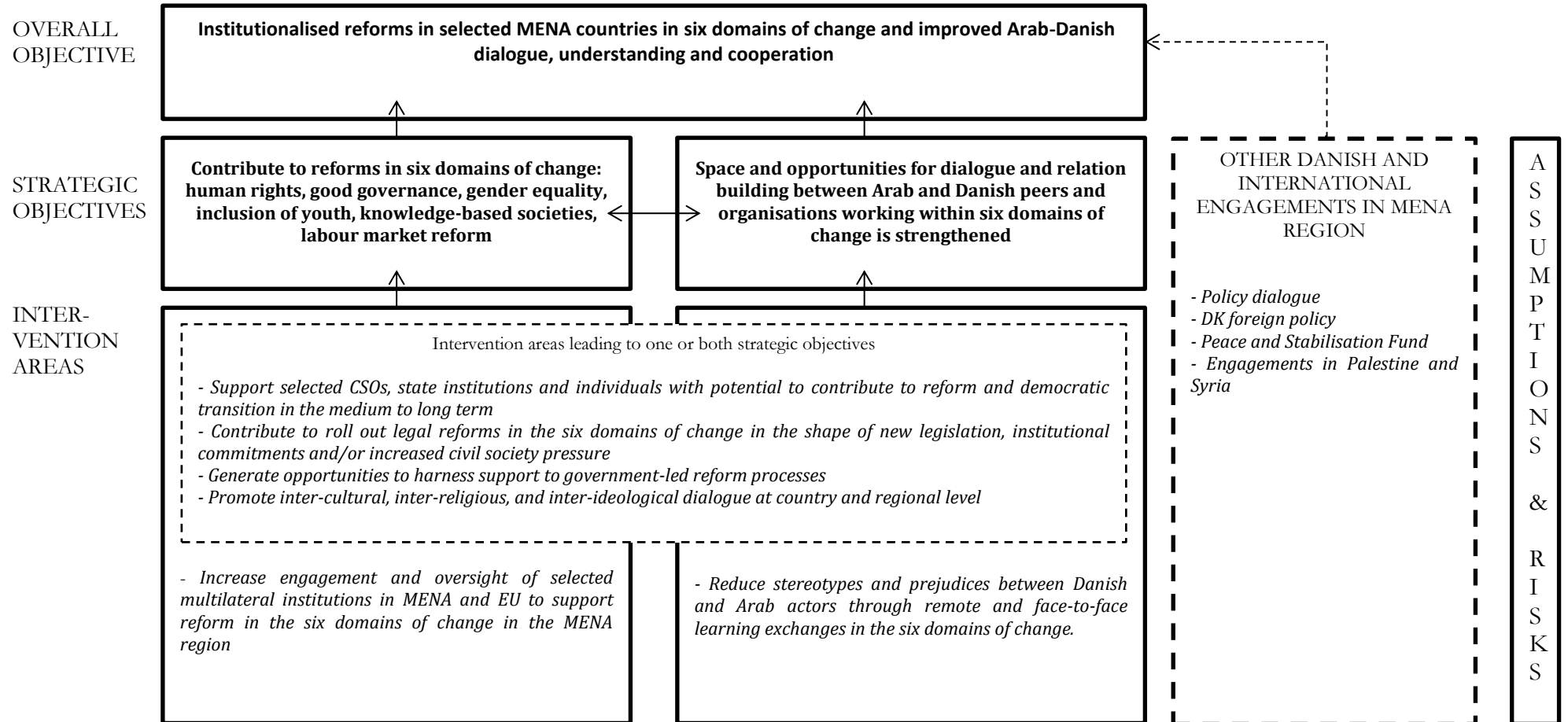


Annex E: Draft Theory of Change



Description of the Theory of Change

The evaluation suggests that a detailed Theory of Change for DAPP is developed. The aim of the ToC is to explain the logic of the programme and how the envisaged pathways are assumed to affect the environment DAPP is operating in and produce the desired change. ToCs can be developed at various levels of the programme such as at a strategic, sector, programme or project level. The purpose of this annex is to present the evaluation's suggestion of how a ToC could be structured for DAPP at a strategic level. The suggestion builds on evaluation findings, including interviews and ToC workshops with Danish and MENA DAPP partners and MFA staff. The evaluation intends the proposed ToC to serve as inspiration in the continued strategy process.

Rationale for this ToC: The current DAPP programme logic is quite broad in scope at strategic objective and thematic area level and also at the immediate objective level (as described in Chapter 3 and 4). Without defining focused pathways of change, it is difficult to measure how DAPP interventions impact on both these levels of objectives. Furthermore, it is also observed that partners often work across the parameters of not only the immediate objectives but also the thematic areas. Therefore it is challenging to harness and measure the synergies of activities working across the currently defined thematic areas. The final challenge with the existing programme logic is determining how increasingly important issues such as youth participation can be addressed with a clear focus when it remains an immediate objective rather than a thematic area of intervention. Therefore the point of departure for this new ToC is to encourage greater practicality, flexibility and importantly, measurability for DAPP.

The rationale for an overall objective: The evaluation suggests introducing an overall objective that joins together the two SOs. The reasons for having two strategic objectives are not argued sufficiently in the DAPP SFD (2013). Introducing an overall objective to the programme logic would allow for a logic possibility to explain the interrelatedness and synergy of the two strategic objectives. This is the long-term DAPP goal, directly contributed to by strategic objectives 1 and 2, which can add political vision to the programme logic. This overall objective serves to unite (and give parity) to both strategic objectives.

The rationale for the strategic objectives: The strategic objectives proposed by this ToC are more tightly defined than in the existing DAPP logic. The key domains of change that are perceived (by this evaluation) as needing to be addressed to generate meaningful reform in the MENA are situated in strategic objective 1. Strategic objective 2 focuses on creating tangible spaces and opportunities for Danish-Arab dialogue and improve capacity of Danish foreign policy. Therefore both strategic objectives are aimed to actionable goals rather than aspirational objectives.

The rationale for the intervention areas: Currently DAPP initiatives are expected to tangibly contribute to very broad immediate objectives and this contribution can be hard to measure. The adoption of intervention areas introduces a range of practical strategies that can be implemented to reach the strategic objectives. This approach is a departure from using broad thematic areas as objectives and instead introduces a focus on implementation and action. For example, the issue of combating violence against women (currently the third immediate objective in Thematic Area 2) has been a particularly challenging area to show results in because it requires change across different political, legal and social areas (described in Chapter 4). However, in the new logic, partners can develop strategies to operationalise a practical intervention area that will contribute to achieving the desired strategic objective.

The rationale for aligning DAPP to other Danish and international policies and engagements in the MENA region: The need to align, or at least situate DAPP's objectives and interventions with other Danish and/or international instruments has been highlighted in Chapter 3. Defining these relationships within a ToC-building exercise will help to define potential areas of synergy and maximising DAPP approaches with others.

Risks and assumptions: A ToC is usually used as an iterative tool to review progress towards objectives and review strategies in light of changing events. Therefore the intervention logic requires grounding in a set of assumptions and risks that can be reviewed and adjusted in light of the dynamic context in the MENA region.