



2022 Effective Development Cooperation
Global Synthesis Report

GRASSROOTS & GOALS

Country-level Civil Society
Actions for Effective
Development Cooperation

CSOPartnershipCOO
for Development Effectiveness



A DECADE OF CSO SOLIDARITY
ON EDC ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE

2022 Effective Development Cooperation Global Synthesis Report
GRASSROOTS AND GOALS
Country-level Civil Society Actions for Effective Development Cooperation

Published by:



CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness
3/F IBON Center
114 Timog Avenue
Quezon City 1103
Philippines

This report would not have been possible without the guidance of CPDE and the country focal members who contributed their case studies.

Editorial Consultant: RC Asa
Managing Editor: Sarah Torres & Clarice Canonizado
Layout and Cover Design: Andrew Zarate

CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness

Phone: +63 28 9277060 to 62 Local 202

December 2023

This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Commission, Austrian Development Agency, and IrishAid.



This book may be reproduced in whole or in part with proper acknowledgement to CPDE.

2022 Effective Development Cooperation Global Synthesis Report

GRASSROOTS AND GOALS

Country-level Civil Society Actions for Effective Development Cooperation

CSO Partnership 
for Development Effectiveness



A DECADE OF CSO SOLIDARITY
ON EDC ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Introduction Multiple Crises, Development Cooperation and CSO Development Effectiveness: CPDE in 2022	9
Albania Annual Progress Report 2022	27
Philippines Pushing Forward to Advance Effective Development Cooperation and Development Effectiveness: Reclaiming Democratic Spaces and Advancing People Economics to Realize the People's Agenda in 2022 and Beyond	41
Tanzania Annual Progress Report on Effective Development Cooperation	57
India Nurturing the Seeds of Effective Development Cooperation	73
Argentina Annual Progress Report	79
Zimbabwe Nurturing the Seeds of Effective Development Cooperation	89
Palestine Annual Progress Report 2022	99
Conclusion CSOs and Effective Development Cooperation in 2022	111



Executive Summary

This report contains a collection of seven (7) reports submitted by country focal points of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) for the year 2022: Albania, the Philippines, Tanzania, India, Argentina, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

It features an introduction that provides a context to the country reports and a conclusion that synthesises the reports and connects them with CPDE actions and initiatives at the global level, as well as effective development cooperation (EDC) in general. This report seeks to assess CPDE's work in various countries in 2022, the synergy of the platform's country work with the global level in the same year and how CPDE's country work relates to EDC.

The report shows that CPDE's country focal points contributed to three (3) work areas, classified according to advocacy priorities: (1) Effective Development Cooperation (EDC) commitments and Agenda 2030, (2) CSO development effectiveness (DE) and accountability and (3) CSO enabling environment (EE).

This set of priorities by CPDE country focal points mirrors that of the CPDE at the global level. The actions and initiatives in various countries exhibit a level of synergy with CPDE's actions and initiatives at the global level. This report also shows that CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives in 2022 contributed to advancing EDC.

CPDE carried out its work in 2022 amidst the following context:

- The multiple and intersecting crises that the world faces continued and were aggravated by new ones, the most prominent of which is the Ukraine war which erupted in February 2022.
- These crises have led to the slowing down, if not reversal, of progress achieved towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030).
- Development cooperation, which is supposed to support the advancement of Agenda 2030 and people-centred and sustainable development in developing countries, continues to face numerous challenges.
- Civil society, an important pillar of EDC, continues to face the challenge of shrinking civic spaces around the world.

Amidst these challenges, CPDE has persevered alongside the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) in pushing for effective development cooperation and CSO development effectiveness in seeking to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

CPDE's work in 2022 was guided by its Theory of Change and Strategic Plan for 2020-2023. The initial accomplishments guided by the strategic plan are contained in CPDE's Report to the Public for 2020-2021.

At the global level, CPDE has contributed to the three (3) work areas mentioned above.

- Concerning advancing EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, the most number of actions and initiatives at the global level pertain to monitoring SDG progress, climate finance, development effectiveness and women's rights and gender equality.
- With regard to CSO development effectiveness and accountability, CPDE held sets of training and workshops for its members that discussed the Istanbul Principles and certain skills and best practices. It also held organisational meetings in order to ensure the platform's development effectiveness. Most CPDE regional formations contributed to the training and workshops.
- With regard to CSO enabling environment, while the global actions and initiatives are few, they include an engagement with the GPEDC 3rd High-Level Meeting (HLM3) and a collective statement of global civil society. These high-impact activities attained milestones in commitments from governments and development actors.

CPDE has intervened in important issues in the SDGs, development cooperation and CSO development effectiveness. In particular, it has been vocal in speaking out on commitments on official development assistance (ODA) by developed states, climate financing and Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs).

At the national level, CPDE country focal points also contributed to the three (3) areas mentioned above.

With regard to advancing EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, CPDE country focal points engaged in monitoring progress in the SDGs and contributing to the National CSO Aid Observatorio, conducting campaigns and advocacies that promote the rights of marginalised communities — usually in relation to research on progress in the SDGs, and undertaking country outreach to social enterprises (SE).

- CSOs continued to strengthen and enrich the National CSO Aid Observatorio as a monitoring tool and repository of evidence-based knowledge products on development cooperation. They tracked country progress in attaining SDGs even as many among them focused on development issues affecting either particular localities or the entire country. They were able to forge and strengthen partnerships with government agencies, within civil society and with other development actors.
- Through campaigns and advocacies, CSOs also continued to advance the rights of marginalised sectors of society, particularly in relation to immediate

issues that they face – calling for the protection of human rights, higher wages, better social services and lower taxes.

CPDE country focal points undertook country outreach to SEs and were able to forge links with them and other development actors. Most research found an SE sector at an incipient stage but with considerable potential to contribute to progress towards the SDGs, amid a lack of a defined regulatory framework for an enabling environment for SEs and the need for greater partnerships.

Concerning CSO development effectiveness and accountability, CPDE country focal points held CSO training and workshops – some in conjunction with the CSO effectiveness review, multistakeholder dialogues and dialogues particularly with development partners. These alternately discussed necessary CSO actions to improve effectiveness and accountability, and necessary government actions to improve CSO enabling environment.

- Training and workshops among CSOs centred on a range of topics – from being knowledgeable about government regulations that govern CSO legal status to evaluating adherence to the Istanbul Principles, and from developing a shared standard of conduct among CSOs to opposing shrinking civic space.
- Some of the multistakeholder dialogues on CSO development effectiveness emphasised the need for CSOs to become accountable and transparent to themselves and the constituencies that they serve. The majority of these dialogues resulted in pledges from the government and, in one, from donors to work for enhancing CSO enabling environment.

With regard to CSO enabling environment, CPDE country focal points continued to identify policies and laws restrictive of CSOs and to strengthen campaigns and advocacies against these, gaining modest positive outcomes.

- While some countries cite CSO-specific regulations that are restrictive, most attribute the difficult conditions faced by CSOs to national policies and laws. Many restrictive laws centre on CSO legal requirements, tax payments and CSOs' alleged alignment with various political forces.
- Various forms of publicity were utilised by CPDE country focal points in contributing to the campaign.
- Notable engagements against shrinking civic spaces for CSOs include those with government agencies – particularly agencies focused on finance, human rights and civil society – and international bodies like the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (UN OHCHR) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
- Apart from raising consciousness among CSOs and other stakeholders about shrinking civic spaces, some positive outcomes resulted from the actions and initiatives of CPDE focal points. Among these pertains to removing taxes on non-profit organisations' receivables, countering government disinformation and removing restrictions in the registration of non-profit organisations.

Comparing the set of actions and initiatives carried out on each of the three (3) work areas by CPDE at the global level on the one hand and CPDE country focal points on the other hand, it is clear that each set is unique according to the level of operations – global or national – and can be seen as exhibiting a level of synergy.

- CPDE at the global level provides the frameworks, capacities and other forms of support to CPDE country focal points in monitoring SDG implementation. CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, provide the realities on the national ground that serve as evidence for CPDE's global engagements on SDG monitoring. At the same time, CPDE at the global level leverages its unique role as a global platform of CSOs to intervene in the issues of climate finance, development effectiveness and ODA commitments by developed countries in ways that seek to enhance CSO enabling environment around the world.
- CPDE at the global level provides the framework and capacity for CSO development effectiveness and accountability to its member CSOs with the help of its regional formations. CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, promote the framework, largely contained in the Istanbul Principles, and localise this in confronting local challenges and seizing local opportunities. They then feedback to the global level to enhance future training and workshops.
- CPDE at the global level called for national campaigns against shrinking civic space for civil society, and country focal points responded with various actions and initiatives. CPDE at the global level brought the campaigns to a high-level engagement, thereby achieving milestones there.
- This report shows that CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives for 2022 (1) advanced most and all the primary objectives of the CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023, (2) continued the accomplishments of the CPDE contained in its Report to the Public for 2020-2021 and (3) contributed to achieving all the target outcomes of the CPDE Theory of Change, even as delivery of outputs were uneven. Overall, CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives in 2022 contributed to advancing effective development cooperation.



Introduction

Multiple Crises, Development Cooperation and CSO Development Effectiveness: CPDE in 2022

This report contains a collection and synthesis of seven (7) country reports for the year 2022 submitted by country focal points of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE), a global platform for CSOs engaged in the work of effective development cooperation (EDC). The reports contain country-level actions and initiatives undertaken to advance the Agenda 2030 and EDC.

This report seeks to assess primarily CPDE's work in said countries in 2022 and secondarily, its synergy with the platform's work at the global level in the same year. It shows that CPDE at both the global and country levels contributed to three (3) areas based on advocacy priorities, arranged in descending quantity of actions and initiatives: (1) advancing EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, (2) CSO development effectiveness and accountability and (3) CSO enabling environment. These three (3) work areas are drawn from CPDE's strategic plans and programmes of action and CPDE's core advocacies, and have been reflected in CPDE's global synthesis report for 2017-2018. This report also shows that actions and initiatives undertaken by CPDE at the global level exhibit a level of synergy with those its country focal points undertook at the national level.

This introduction provides a context to the country reports. It briefly discusses the multiple crises that the world faced, the status of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the state of development cooperation in 2022. It then presents the actions and initiatives taken, as well as major statements made by CPDE at the global level in the same year.

This introduction draws mainly from the United Nations' *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022*¹ and *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition*;² other UN documents; the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation's (GPEDC) *Rebuilding Trust through Effective Development Co-operation*³ report published in December 2022; CIVICUS' *People Under Attack 2022: A Report*⁴ based on Data from the CIVICUS Monitor; and publications, statements and announcements of CPDE contained in its website.

As will be shown, CPDE's key messages in the year,⁵ reflected the following priorities in three work areas: advancing EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, CSO development effectiveness and accountability and CSO enabling environment. It also shows that CPDE has intervened in important issues in the SDGs, development cooperation and CSO development effectiveness.

¹ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>.

² The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition. (2023). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/>.

³ Rebuilding Trust through Effective Development Co-operation. (2022). Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. <https://www.effectivecooperation.org/SummitReport>.

⁴ People Under Attack 2022: A Report based on Data from the CIVICUS Monitor. (2022). CIVICUS Monitor. <https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings/>.

⁵ As contained in, and gathered from, the CPDE website: www.csopartnership.org.

MULTIPLE AND INTERSECTING CRISES

In 2022, the multiple and intersecting crises continued and were aggravated by new ones.

In 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic entered its third year. While its worst destructive and disruptive effects are over, these continued to wreak havoc on peoples and economies, especially in developing countries. Not only has it caused the death of approximately 15 million people around the world, it has also worsened hunger and poverty. Aside from overwhelming health systems and deflecting resources from the fight against other deadly diseases, it has also caused a major disruption in economic activities. The supply of COVID-19 vaccines, a crucial component of the response to the pandemic, has been unequal among countries in the world, prompting the UN to warn about a “two-tiered recovery.”

The war in Ukraine, which escalated to new heights when Russia invaded the Eastern European country in February 2022, worsened already existing crises around food, energy, humanitarian actions and refugees all over the world. It aggravated the cost-of-living crisis faced by the poor in many countries, increasing the prices of food, fuel and fertilisers. Through its effects on supply chains, trade and financial markets, it has reduced the world's projected and actual economic growth in the year. As early as May 2022, around 6.5 million refugees have already fled Ukraine.⁶

Other conflicts continued, and the UN declared 2022 as the year with the most number of violent conflicts since 1945. More than 2 billion people, or one-quarter of the world, live in conflict-affected areas and the number of refugees reached the highest level in 2021 and continues to grow. Thousands of people continue to die every year because of these conflicts, most of whom are civilians. Needless to say, these conflicts, like the war in Ukraine, result in rampant violations of human rights and disregard for international humanitarian law. As of May 2022, 100 million people have been forced to leave their homes, also a record high. Most of these, amounting to 41 per cent, are children.⁷

The climate crisis continues to worsen, with an increasing number of people experiencing abrupt changes in weather patterns, heatwaves, wildfires, droughts, floods and other weather-related disasters. Sea levels continue to rise, and ecosystems continue to be imperilled. The UN describes the climate crisis as a “crisis multiplier,” and has increased hunger, poverty and various kinds of instability in many countries. Instead of greenhouse gas emissions declining by 43 per cent in 2030 and reaching zero in 2050 to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius higher than pre-industrial levels, under current conditions, it will likely increase by 14 per cent in 2030. As a result, the world has recorded the seven warmest years from 2015 to 2021. While the pandemic caused a drop in carbon dioxide emissions in 2020, the increase in 2021 immediately wiped out the gains of this temporary reprieve.⁸

⁶ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, pp 2, 26-29.

⁷ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 58.

⁸ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 52.

The economic crisis continues. The COVID-19 pandemic caused the worst economic crisis in decades after World War II. Despite talks about post-pandemic recovery and a slight rebound of the global economy, economic growth has been uneven across regions, countries and sectors of the economy and unsteady over time. Many countries face various challenges such as the rise of new COVID-19 variants; major disruptions in supply chains; and increases in inflation, unemployment, debt and interest rates. More developed countries are seeing a rebound, while less developed countries are not, facing higher unemployment amidst continued closures of workplaces. Small businesses in low and middle-income countries have been disproportionately affected. Informal employment and child labour are seeing increases. The worst sectors affected by the crisis – women, children and persons with disability – are last in attaining recovery.⁹

Needless to say, these crises are closely interrelated, intersecting even, with intensification in one compounding the problems caused by the others and making other crises even worse. The newest crisis in 2022, the Ukraine war not only increased the effects of the economic crisis, for example, but even intensified the crisis itself, with the multiplier effects of its impacts on supply chains, trade and financial markets.

AGENDA 2030 OFF TRACK

The multiple crises have led to the slowing down, if not reversal, of advances in attaining the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

The SDGs remain the internationally agreed-upon embodiment of aspirations for people and the planet, especially the developing and least developed countries (LDCs) and their marginalised populations. The SDGs are considered a universal roadmap towards reducing inequality, exclusion and division in society, as well as their negative consequences and stopping the destruction of the planet. The multiple crises hitting the world have set back the early advances in attaining the SDGs, proving that the early progress has been weak and slow.

The COVID-19 pandemic alone, in 2020, rolled back four years of advances in poverty reduction and increased the extremely poor by 93 million. It has adversely affected health services, resulting in a drop in immunisation and an increase in malaria and tuberculosis deaths. Education was disrupted, and 24 million learners faced the risk of not returning to school. The effects on children and women have been detrimental. Children suffered disruptions in their education and well-being, and child labour increased. Women, meanwhile, suffered from the loss of jobs and wage cuts, increase in care work and rise in vulnerability to domestic violence.¹⁰

The trends described in 2022 persisted into the next year, so much so that the 2023 SDG Report: Special Edition, sounded the alarm¹¹ on the lack of progress in the SDGs. It states that half of the world is being left behind, 50 per cent of the goals have seen weak and insufficient progress, while advancements for 30 per

⁹ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 43.

¹⁰ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, pp. 26, 30, 34, 43.

¹¹ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition. (2023). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/>.

cent of the goals have remained stuck or were reversed. It called for nothing less than a “Rescue Plan for People and Planet,” involving an SDG Stimulus.¹² Without drastic action, the report warns that “the 2030 Agenda could become an epitaph for a world that might have been.”

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND CHALLENGES

Development cooperation, which supports the advancement of Agenda 2030 and people-centred and sustainable development in developing countries, continues to face numerous challenges.

Development aid and cooperation can provide important support to developing countries against the multiple crises and their consequences, and for advancing the SDGs, and sustainable and equitable development in general. With Official Development Assistance’s (ODA) original mandate of using public resources to address poverty and inequalities and with effective development cooperation’s role of correcting historical imbalances wrought by colonialism, unequal North-South relations and neoliberalism, development aid and cooperation in their various forms can help developing countries achieve the SDGs and development. The goal of revitalising development aid and cooperation provided an impetus to the creation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2001, the predecessor of the present-day SDGs.

Development aid and cooperation have become even more important now, given how the multiple crises have increased the financing needs of developing countries, even while decreasing their fiscal space to address their populations’ basic needs.

Global development finance trends show the challenges. The pandemic has increased the debt burden borne by developing countries, which rose to USD 8.7 trillion in 2022, or by 5.3 per cent. A large part of this is an increase in long-term debt, which increased to USD 6.3 trillion or by 6 per cent. An increase in long-term debt has overtaken the growth of export earnings. The total public or publicly-guaranteed debt service-to-export earnings ratio increased from an average 3.1 per cent in 2011 to 8.8 per cent in 2020 – with the worst debt-to-GNI and debt-to-export ratios being recorded in Sub-Saharan Africa. Financial markets add to the debt burden of developing countries by increasing interest rates by eight times more than developed countries.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) rebounded in 2021 from the onslaught of the pandemic in 2020, but increases have been highly uneven among most developed (USD 746 billion, more than double of 2020), developing (USD 837 billion, 30 per cent) and least developed countries (13 per cent). The portion of FDI received by LDCs even decreased in proportion to the total, from 3.5 per cent in 2020 to 2.5 per cent in 2021.

Responding to their families’ economic needs amidst the pandemic, migrants sent a record-high remittance of USD 605 billion in 2021, an 8.6 per cent increase from 2020. This is the second year in a row that migrants’ remittances exceeded the total of ODA and FDI. The increase in the remittances is partly

¹² United Nations Secretary-General’s SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030. (2023). United Nations. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/SDG-Stimulus-to-Deliver-Agenda-2030.pdf>.

fuelled by economic activity and employment in migrant-receiving countries that implemented fiscal stimulus programmes in response to the pandemic. While migrant remittances are expected to grow in 2022, its growth rate is expected to be lesser as a result of the war in Ukraine, as Central Asian countries that are dependent on Russia will see a decline in remittances.¹³

In 2020 and 2021, it was reported that ODA, which constitutes the biggest section of development aid, reached record-high levels. Official Development Assistance from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) member countries was USD 177.6 billion, consisting of an increase of 3.3 per cent in 2020-2021. While this amount reached 0.33 per cent of the donors' combined gross national income (GNI), it was still far from the 0.7 per cent target and commitment and is surely insufficient to help developing countries meet their SDG targets. The increase is attributed to increased aid for COVID-19 recovery – USD 6.3 billion for vaccines and USD 18.7 billion overall. Even ODA funding for data dropped by more than 20 per cent from 2018 to 2020.¹⁴

CPDE immediately cast a critical eye on ODA's record levels in 2020-2021, pointing out that “the figures have been inflated with the costs of in-donor refugee and student costs, as well as in-excess vaccine donations, which were not purchased in the interest of development partners.” It asserted that the 2021 ODA is part of the trend of donor countries “reneging on ODA commitments,” which is “unacceptable, especially as humanity continues to hurdle the impacts of the pandemic on top of the existing socioeconomic crises.”¹⁵ The UN's 2023 SDG report further clarified that the record increase and record amount of ODA is largely due to in-country spending for refugees and aid for Ukraine, with countries reducing their spending on COVID-19 activities. The war in Ukraine has also meant increased military spending and aid, which could reduce aid for developing countries.¹⁶

At the same time, climate finance delivery is not reaching its target. Developed countries have not lived up to their pledge of USD 100 billion per year by 2020, which was extended to 2025. Data shows that developed OECD countries have delivered USD 79.9 billion in 2018, USD 80.4 billion in 2019 and USD 83.3 billion in 2020.¹⁷ And the USD 100 billion is actually just a portion of the funds needed to transition to a low-carbon economy, which is estimated at USD 1.6 trillion to USD 3.8 trillion each year until 2050.

In the face of huge challenges to achieving progress in the SDGs, especially in time for 2030, the UN in 2023 proposed an SDG Stimulus,¹⁸ which includes the

¹³ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 61.

¹⁴ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 60.

¹⁵ CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (2022, April 19). “Aid far from enough amid Covid recovery – CPDE”. <https://csopartnership.org/2022/04/aid-far-from-enough-amid-covid-recovery-cpde/>.

¹⁶ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition. (2023). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/>, p. 47.

¹⁷ OECD (2023), Climate Finance Provided and Mobilised by Developed Countries in 2013-2021: Aggregate Trends and Opportunities for Scaling Up Adaptation and Mobilised Private Finance, Climate Finance and the USD 100 Billion Goal.

¹⁸ United Nations Secretary-General's SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030. (2023). United Nations. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/SDG-Stimulus-to-Deliver-Agenda-2030.pdf>.

following: increased development finance on the basis of reforms in the business model of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs); a new debt initiative where short-term debt can be swapped with long-term instruments with lower interest rates; and an increase in contingency financing for countries that need it. It also called for “a new Bretton Woods moment,” or a “deep reform of our outdated, dysfunctional and unfair international financial architecture” in favour of a greater voice from developing countries and prioritising people and the planet – in short, potential key reforms in the international debt and financial system.

The UN SDG reports for 2022 and 2023 mention many challenges to attaining the SDGs and advancing EDC – from the need for improved data and statistics and therefore funding for these, to the roles of the private sector and government, to rising geopolitical tensions and the resurgence of “nationalism”, or right-wing politics in many countries. These challenges adversely affect, to varying degrees, the content and conduct of partnerships between CSOs, the government, the private sector and other development actors.

LATIN AMERICA: CHALLENGES TO ATTAINING THE SDGS

In a November 2022 study on “The Reality of Effective Development Cooperation in Latin America,” a CPDE task force covering the region – especially El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua – reported about the state of SDGs and challenges to attaining these.

Some progress in the region was achieved before the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly with regard to reducing extreme poverty, hunger, child and maternal mortality. Most countries also have regulatory frameworks in place that would enable them to achieve the SDGs. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, pushed back the little progress that has been achieved. Even before the pandemic, Latin America was already the most unequal region in the world, with a large population in the informal sector, poverty and extreme poverty. The region also contends with the climate change crisis, the HIV-AIDS pandemic and the deleterious impacts of hurricanes Eta and Iota in some countries.

The following are proving to be challenges in attaining the SDGs: lack of political will among the countries’ governments, lack of permanent funds and corruption that render ineffective legislation that can facilitate advances in attaining the SDGs, closure of democratic spaces and obstacles to the rule of law and promotion of human rights, humanitarian emergencies caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters, and the war in Ukraine that is exacerbating existing crises.

The majority of countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region are considered low or high-middle-income countries, according to Gross National Incomes (GNI) per capita thresholds by the World Bank: out of the 33 countries in the region, one is considered low-income, 28 are middle income and four is considered high income. Those classified as high-middle-income countries received decreased ODA. However, the region suffers from rates of poverty and economic exclusion that are more than 65 per cent.

Despite its need for development finance, Latin America and the Caribbean ranks fourth among the world's continents in the amount of ODA received, with little variation in amounts received yearly in the period of 2010 to 2021.

Notable is the large amounts of ODA sent by the United States (US) to Colombia and Haiti. While ODA to Haiti is intended to address poverty and other development needs, ODA to Colombia is dictated by US geopolitical interests, supporting the fight against drug trafficking and terrorism and supporting the peace process in the country. The two countries are followed by Brazil and Mexico in terms of aid received from the US. While collectively, the European Union is the biggest donor in Latin America, the single biggest donor country remains to be the US.

In Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador, the majority of ODA goes primarily to social infrastructure and services, especially water and education and secondarily to economic infrastructure and services, especially energy and transportation-communications.

While Nicaragua and El Salvador saw a drop in ODA starting in 2011 and Honduras and Guatemala saw regular financial flows, all four had a significant increase in ODA in 2020, largely because of infusion from regional financial institutions for COVID-19 purposes. Apart from ODA from the US and other European countries, the four countries receive a diverse array of funds from private foundations and UN agencies.

ODA and development cooperation are considered important to addressing the development gaps in the region, as many countries lack stable sources of financing and are saddled by corruption in government. The little progress that has been achieved before the COVID-19 pandemic lies visibly in areas that were targeted for development cooperation.

SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society, an important pillar of EDC, continues to face the challenge of shrinking civic spaces around the world.

An enabling environment for CSOs is implicit in the SDGs, especially under SDG 17 (Global partnership for sustainable development), both as a goal and a means to achieve other development outcomes. In 2021, there were 320 deadly attacks on human rights defenders, trade unionists and journalists in 35 countries.¹⁹ The UN SDG reports for 2022 and 2023 call for ending armed conflicts, choosing diplomacy and peace and protecting the human rights of people and human rights defenders, all of which are preconditions of people-centred and sustainable development.²⁰

CIVICUS has been monitoring the enabling environment for civil society – particularly policy and legal commitments to, and actual respect for, freedoms of association, assembly and expression. In its 2022 report, it says that almost one-third of the world's population lives in highly repressive conditions or closed civic

¹⁹ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>, p. 58.

²⁰ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 and The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition. (2022). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>.

spaces, which is the highest in recent history. These data mark the continuation of the civic space crisis, a regressive trend which has been taking place in recent years.²¹

In 2022, civil society enabling environment in 15 countries worsened: Tajikistan, Russia, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Lesotho, Guatemala, United Kingdom, Greece, Ghana, Cyprus, Suriname, Dominica and Antigua and Barbuda. It improved only in 10 countries: South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the United States of America, Chile, Armenia, Latvia, the Czech Republic and The Bahamas.

The majority of countries – 117 out of 197, or almost 60 per cent – witnessed severe restrictions on basic freedoms. This means 85.5 per cent of the world's population faces significant restrictions to civil society, while only 14.5 per cent live in countries that have relatively open spaces. Most populations live in less developed countries, where EDC which includes an enabling environment for CSOs can play an important role in furthering people-centred and sustainable development. Most violations of the freedoms mentioned above take the following forms: harassment of civil society activists, detention of protestors, intimidation, imposition of restrictive laws, attacks on journalists, disruption of protests, censorship, prosecution of human rights defenders, detention of human rights defenders and detention of journalists.

The table below shows not only that the majority of countries in each global region witness significant restrictions to civil society, but especially so in regions with the most number of less developed countries – Africa, the Americas, Asia Pacific and the Middle East and North Africa. It is worth noting that the countries in Asia Pacific that have relatively open civic spaces are the island countries of the Pacific.

Region	Significant Restrictions*	Relatively Open*	Total Countries
Africa	44	5	49
Americas	14	21	35
Asia Pacific	25	15	40
Europe and Central Asia	15	39	54
Middle East and North Africa	19	0	19

*Significant restrictions -- obstructed, repressed, closed. Relatively open -- narrowed and open. These are CIVICUS' categories.

Not all news in 2022, however, is bleak. Despite the general negative trend in civic spaces, some countries experienced improvements. Civil society attained victories even in countries where repressive conditions prevail. Victory for civic spaces includes protests leading to the resignation of a repressive ruler (Sri Lanka); arrest, prosecution and other government actions against those responsible for attacks against human rights defenders (Thailand, Indonesia, Iraq); boycott of referendum on anti-LGBTQI measures (Hungary); and dropping of charges against a whistleblower (Australia). Imprisoned human rights

²¹ CIVICUS (2022). People Power Under Attack 2022: A Report Based on Data from the CIVICUS Monitor. <https://civicsmonitor.contentfiles.net/media/documents/GlobalFindings2022.pdf>.

defenders were released and acquitted in cases (Honduras, Iran, Kuwait, Rwanda), while courts in some countries handed down rulings in favour of civic spaces (USA, Ecuador).

In a session at the Global People's Assembly (GPA) in September 2022 co-organised by CPDE and ChristianAid, CIVICUS said that CSOs have persisted in working for the SDGs, sustainable development and EDC – responding to higher prices of fuel, food and basic goods; seizing opportunities for greater engagement in countries that offer these; challenging exclusion by conservative forces and claiming rights, especially for women, LGBTQI people, migrants and refugees; pushing for decisive climate action; and battling for changes in the international governance system. CSOs also sought to create online civic spaces while acknowledging problems of access and participation for the digitally excluded.²²

CPDE AND CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS 2022

Amidst the challenges, CPDE has persevered alongside the GPEDC in pushing for EDC and CSO development effectiveness in seeking to attain the SDGs.

In its Special Report for the EDC Summit held in Geneva, Switzerland in December 2022, the GPEDC affirmed the importance of development cooperation amidst changes in the landscape since the Busan Partnership agreement of 2011.²³ It therefore sought to improve, adapt and update development cooperation in the face of these changes. It recognised the limited advances made by development actors towards upholding their development effectiveness commitments, resulting in the reduction of trust and accountability to each other and the undermining of capacity to improve partnerships. Based on its research, the GPEDC forwarded the following ways to advance the four development effectiveness principles enunciated in Busan:

- Country ownership – a synergy of “policies, strategies and systems”.
- Focus on results – improving data systems, monitoring and evaluation and reporting on and integration of SDGs.
- Inclusive partnerships – national-level leadership in mechanisms for reporting and dialogue.
- Transparency and accountability – carrying out changes in laws, building more inclusive partnerships and strengthening effectiveness tools.

The GPEDC pushed for its new monitoring exercise, which is aligned with these four (4) development effectiveness principles, and will start to be used in 2023. The monitoring exercise, which has greater focus on “reflection, dialogue and action” and will generate data and evidence on SDG pledges, aims to promote behaviour change in all development stakeholders towards upholding commitments.

²² CPDE (2022). CPDE co-hosts session on civic freedoms and civil society participation at the Global Peoples' Assembly 2022. <https://csopartnership.org/2022/09/cpde-co-hosts-session-on-civic-freedoms-and-civil-society-participation-at-the-global-peoples-assembly-2022/>.

²³ Rebuilding Trust through Effective Development Co-operation. (2022). GPEDC. <https://www.effectivecooperation.org/SummitReport>.

For its part, CPDE continued to work with CSOs as well as other development stakeholders globally for development effectiveness and EDC. Its work has been guided by the many international agreements, statements and declarations on EDC, but primarily the following:

- The Busan Principles for Effective Development Cooperation, which embodies the global consensus on the principles of EDC and mechanisms for monitoring EDC commitments, and stipulates the respective roles of governments of both donor and recipient countries among developed and developing countries, as well as the private sector and civil society in development.
- The Istanbul Principles, which guide CSOs in improving their development effectiveness and accountability mechanisms, and recognise the importance of their role in empowering marginalised sectors and grassroots communities and of their transparency and solidarity with each other.
- A human rights-based approach (HRBA) to development, which mandates that development cooperation be guided by international human rights standards, both in its envisioned ends and in the processes and means employed to achieve those ends, thus highlighting the right to participate in decisions on development, empowerment of rights holders, non-discrimination and accountability of duty bearers.

The CPDE's global synthesis report for 2017-2018 titled *From the Ground Up: Assessing Country-Level CSO Actions and Advocacies for Effective Development*,²⁴ showed that its actions and initiatives in 2022 are informed by three advocacy priorities namely, (1) EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, (2) CSO development effectiveness and accountability and (3) CSO enabling environment. The global synthesis report for 2017-2018 takes off from the CPDE strategic plan for 2016-2019 which was largely continued by CPDE's strategic plan for 2020-2023 and maintained CPDE's advocacy priorities. While each action and initiative may have overlapping advocacy priorities, they are classified based on their main priority.

The table below lists the advocacy work areas carried out by CPDE in 2022, as reflected in the following entries from the CPDE website:

Work Areas	Global Activities	Regional-National Activities
EDC Commitments and Agenda 2030	Launch of 6th progress in national SDGs implementation (February 4) Book: Monitoring private sector engagement in development cooperation (February 21) 13 CSOs launch report on SDGs implementation (February 24)	Asia constituency launches fresh data on the CSO Aid Observatorio platform (February 14)

²⁴ *From the Ground Up: Assessing Country-level CSO Actions and Advocacies for Effective Development*. (2019). CPDE. <https://csopartnership.org/2019/07/from-the-ground-up-assessing-country-level-cso-actions-and-advocacies-for-effective-development/>.

Work Areas	Global Activities	Regional-National Activities
EDC Commitments and Agenda 2030	CPDE launches 2022 VNR survey on SDG implementation (March 28) CPDE-ActionAid's side event on climate finance at Stockholm+50 People's Forum (June 1) CPDE's learning session on dialogue with development partners (June 9) UN HLPF side events: (1) A look into Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) (June 29) (2) Financing women's rights and gender equality (3) Towards a resilient recovery and leaving no one behind in the VNR (4) The People's Perspective on SDG 17 and Agenda 2030 (July) CPDE's 2022 study on implementation of the SDGs (July 13) Global People's Assembly: peace, climate and justice (September 8) CPDE Feminist Group's position paper on gender equality, women empowerment indicator (October 19) COP27: CPDE calls for scaled up climate finance commitments (November) CPDE policy brief on effectiveness in climate finance (November 15) CPDE Private Sector Watch (November 23) CPDE review of UN guidance on INFFs (November 28) EDC Summit: push actors to deliver on DE promises (December)	The Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) leads regional workshop on CSO – private sector engagement in development partnerships (March 8) BCSDN's research on civil society and private sector cooperation (November 7)

Work Areas	Global Activities	Regional-National Activities
CSO Development Effectiveness and Accountability	Webinar on the state of Istanbul Principles implementation among CPDE members and partners (January 26) CPDE Feminist Group's discussion on best practices in increasing rural women's economic empowerment (March 14) CPDE Capacity Development materials for CSOs (April 18) CPDE All Secretariats Meeting 2022 (May 12) European Development Days 2022: CPDE to advocate for civil society partnerships for an effective COVID Recovery (June 23) CPDE January-June 2022 Newsletter release (July 1) CPDE's 2022 Communications Workshop Sessions (November 2) 21st CPDE Coordination Committee Meeting (December 8) CPDE holds policy conference and global assembly, elects new leaders (December 12)	BCSDN's workshop on promoting resilience of Balkan civil society (May 27) CPDE Asia Regional Meeting and Workshop (August 4) CPDE Africa Secretariat's network management and project management training for CSOs (August 12) CPDE-LAC holds Regional Meeting and Assembly in Mexico (October 16) CPDE-LAC's training on network and project management (November 20)
CSO Enabling Environment	Global People's Assembly: CPDE's sessions on civic space, youth participation in climate action (September 22) HLM3 News: Development stakeholders to discuss building trust for enabling civil society (December 6) Geneva declaration: Geneva Declaration: Building trust important for enabling civil society (December 11)	CPDE Mexico's DECA Equipo Pueblo launches national campaign against shrinking civic spaces (January 24)

For EDC commitments, the most number of actions and initiatives at the global level pertain to studies on SDG implementation and SDG monitoring, climate finance, development effectiveness and women's rights and gender equality.

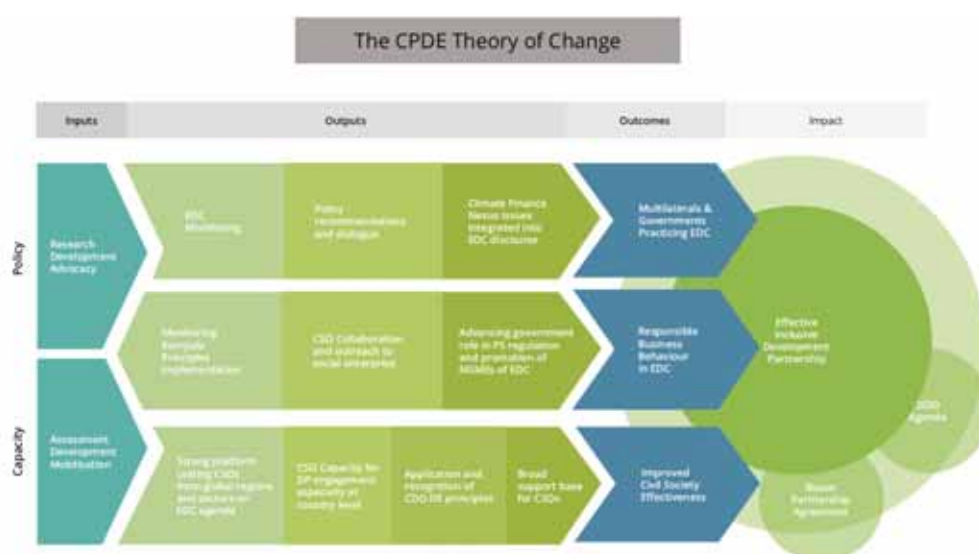
For CSO DE, CPDE held training and workshops that discussed the Istanbul Principles as well as their application and some best practices, even as it also conducted organisational meetings that ensured its own development effectiveness.

Through CSO forums and capacity building, CPDE regional formations contributed training and workshops to this work area. Global actions and initiatives in CSO EE are fewer. Nonetheless, these include engagements during the GPEDC HLM3 in addition to a high-impact collective statement from global civil society directed to the important meeting that is one of CPDE's main engagement arena. Furthermore, CPDE attained some milestones in commitments on the effectiveness agenda, building trust and multi-stakeholder dialogues from governments, GPEDC and other development actors.

CPDE THEORY OF CHANGE, STRATEGIC PLAN AND INITIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The CPDE's Theory of Change, Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 and accomplishments early in the timeline of the plan also contextualise the work at the global and the national level, as reflected in the country reports contained in this collection.

The CPDE's theory of change is illustrated below. It shows how outputs such as research, development and policy advocacy, as well as assessment, development and mobilisation in the area of capacity, yield various kinds of outputs that result in the following outcomes: multilaterals and governments practising effective development cooperation, responsible business behaviour in EDC and improved civil society effectiveness. The overall impact being envisioned is effective and inclusive development partnership which aims to positively influence 2030 Agenda and the Busan Partnership Agreement.²⁵



²⁵ CPDE (2020). Strategic Plan 2020-2023: Leveraging Effective Development Cooperation for Inclusive Partnerships to Deliver the 2030 Agenda. <https://csopartnership.org/2020/05/the-cpde-strategic-plan-2020-2023/>.

The CPDE Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, which has the title Leveraging Effective Development Cooperation for Inclusive Partnerships to Deliver the 2030 Agenda, meanwhile, enumerates the following objectives:²⁶

1. Advance the implementation of effective development cooperation commitments as a contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,
2. Promote accountability and development effectiveness of private sector engagement in development partnerships,
3. Contribute to reversing the pattern of closing and shrinking space for civil society in development partnerships,
4. Promote the development effectiveness agenda in financing climate action for the SDGs and
5. Ensure that the nexus of humanitarian, development and peace issues (or the “triple nexus”) advances effective development cooperation and the human rights agenda.

The CPDE’s 2020-2021 Report to the Public titled Development Effectiveness Responding to the Challenges, meanwhile, presented the following programme results of CPDE’s actions and initiatives during the time period:²⁷

1. Strengthened country-level mechanisms for EDC engagement: sustained campaigns and achieved gains,
2. Reinforced the application and recognition of CSO development effectiveness principles: 70 members reflected on their implementation of the Istanbul Principles, serving as a baseline for future action for CSO members and the entire platform in this area of CSO effectiveness,
3. Increased the awareness of development actors on the application of effective development cooperation principles in crisis situations: through evidence-based advocacy and engagement in relevant advocacy arenas and official processes of the OECD and Agenda 2030, the CPDE helped raise the profile of its CSO members as thematic issue experts and paved the way for future collaboration and significant policy-advocacy work in humanitarian, development and peace nexus issues and climate finance work.
4. Improved the engagement of CPDE members in development partnerships: CPDE reached around 42 global policy-makers through advocacy activities related to effective development cooperation in different relevant global policy arenas as well as regional and sectoral policy spaces.
5. Increased the support of other development actors (private sector especially social entrepreneurs, country governments and non-CPDE members) to civil society and its positions: The Private Sector Watch was initiated, which is an online repository of information in monitoring private sector engagement in development cooperation. The Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia

²⁶ CPDE (2020). Strategic Plan 2020-2023: Leveraging Effective Development Cooperation for Inclusive Partnerships to Deliver the 2030 Agenda. <https://csopartnership.org/2020/05/the-cpde-strategic-plan-2020-2023/>.

²⁷ CPDE (2021). 2020-2021 Report to the Public: Development Effectiveness Responding to the Challenges. <https://csopartnership.org/report-to-the-public/>.

(ISEA) was tapped in late 2021 to work with priority countries in conducting Action Research on Social Enterprises and Outreach with Social Enterprises.

A study of CPDE's work with its CSO members in 2016-2018 and released in 2019 gives an insight into how CPDE's theory of change and strategic plan are put into practice. The CPDE Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) shows that amid an increase in CPDE's outreach, it was able to boost member CSOs' capacity in the areas of (1) research, advocacy and monitoring development cooperation policies, (2) networking, mobilisation and generation of an enabling environment for CSOs and (3) unfolding and practising the Istanbul Principles on CSO development effectiveness. The survey among CPDE member CSOs revealed significantly more areas of strength than areas for development in 52 aspects of development cooperation work.²⁸

The following relations between CPDE at the global level and its CSO focal points at the country level constitute and contribute to the synergy between their actions and initiatives:

1. Based on development cooperation principles, CSO development effectiveness principles stated in the Istanbul Principles, among other principles of development cooperation, CPDE at the global level creates its strategic plan and builds the capacity of its CSO focal points.
2. With increased capacity, CPDE focal points carry out research, advocacy and monitoring of development cooperation policies; network, mobilise and generate a CSO enabling environment; and unfold and practice Istanbul Principles.
3. In various ways, CPDE brings up national and regional issues to the international level. Constituents participate in high-level meetings, CSOs have collaborated and come up with joint position papers and advocacy, and CPDE itself has raised various issues at the national and regional levels to the international level.²⁹

CPDE KEY MESSAGES IN 2022

CPDE has intervened in important issues in the SDGs, development cooperation and CSO development effectiveness.

Chief among these areas of CPDE's interventions are ODA commitments by developed states, climate financing and Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs). The following are CPDE's major statements in 2022 with their main messages.

Effective private sector engagement in development cooperation, March 7 – all development actors must ensure that the private sector upholds development effectiveness principles, international standards on human and labour rights, as well as transparency and accountability. The state must be the primary provider of social services and protection, and development financing must not be provided to efforts to privatise social services, as well as to businesses that

²⁸ CPDE (2019). Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA).

²⁹ Ibid.

undermine people's livelihoods and that increase inequality. Communities' right to development must be upheld and small and medium-sized enterprises must be supported.

Aid amidst COVID-19 recovery, April 19 – ODA must be increased. While the 2021 ODA figures saw an increase, the change was mainly due to expenses related to the pandemic, non-programmable expenditures, excess vaccine donations, in-donor refugee expenses and student costs – not wholly in the interest of development partners. Higher levels of aid, the terms of payment of which are unconditional and flexible, are needed to recover from the pandemic. The DAC-CSO Reference Group's call for fresh aid and unconditional grants is just. No one must be left behind in the pandemic.

The precarity of ODA amidst crisis, June 24 – ODA budgets are facing inflation and diversion. Inflation because COVID-19 response and distribution of excess vaccines are being counted as ODA. Diversion because funds are being reallocated, instead of being increased, as a result of the war in Ukraine. ODA is still the most stable form of financing for developing countries and its integrity must be protected. Donor governments, however, are suggesting that support to refugees fleeing Ukraine will mean a reduction in ODA. Another possible cause of ODA reduction resulting from the Ukraine war are future reconstruction efforts and higher defence spending.

World Humanitarian Day, August 22 – There is a need to address the halt in the increase in humanitarian aid; humanitarian workers and volunteers deserve support amidst attacks on them. Greater cooperation between humanitarian and development actors must be undertaken to promote welfare, human rights and long-lasting and just peace.

Climate justice at COP27, November 10 – World leaders must increase and deliver on commitments to climate financing. Climate finance must uphold development effectiveness principles and must involve civil society. COP26 saw the participation of more representatives of the fossil fuel industry than grassroots organisations of marginalised communities. Egypt also served as host, which is repressive to CSOs. Climate finance must be decolonised according to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) – with increased commitments from developing countries and action for climate mitigation and loss and damage. There is a need to properly finance climate-induced migration, increase development country access to financing and technology transfer, prioritise grants over loans and stop counting climate finance as ODA. Climate response and resilience policies must be in line with just transition.

Making climate finance effective, November 13 – While the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that climate change is fast getting worse, humanity can still do something about the climate crisis with urgent action. Developed countries who are mainly responsible in the fight against climate change, however, do not deliver on commitments that will result in a limiting of global warming to 1.5 degree Celsius. They are even pushing for new fossil fuel infrastructure, increasing arms spending and watering down commitments to the

USD 100 billion climate financing target. The lack of clarity about “new and additional” climate financing in COP27 has resulted in confusion about ODA and climate finance, to the detriment of both. Financing for climate change adaptation continues to lag behind targets, and in comparison, with climate change mitigation, and donors are overstating financing for the first. This is aggravated by the lack of a monitoring and evaluation system, where Japan for example can report climate financing without clarifying which funds are for adaptation and which are for mitigation. There is a need for a new financing architecture that adheres to effective development cooperation, human rights and inclusive decision-making so that climate aid and reparations will enable people empowerment.

Building trust for CSO enabling environment, the “Geneva Declaration,” December 11 – To successfully face the multiple crises besetting the world, and to bring the development agenda back on track, development actors must uphold effective development principles. Commitments to CSO enabling environment must be supported by mutual trust which can be built by working with each other and sharing policy spaces and resources for a common agenda that has lasting and meaningful results. Capacity and collective action must be increased to improve trust and energy in the partnerships. Civic space for CSOs must be protected and expanded to achieve effective development cooperation.

Milestones achieved during the Third High-Level Meeting (HLM3) of the GPEDC, December 15 – These milestones are the following: broadly represented participation which may reflect renewed support for the effectiveness agenda; emphasis on building trust, especially in relation to civil society; and inauguration of a new delivery model based on a revised monitoring framework that aims to ensure multi-stakeholder dialogue and action at the country level. CPDE aided in bringing about these milestones by calling on development actors to uphold the effectiveness agenda, provide an enabling environment for CSOs, hold the private sector accountable in accordance with the Kampala Principles, address systemic causes of conflicts and deliver on commitments on climate finance.

Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) – CPDE also actively intervened in discussions about INFFs. The GPEDC hails INFFs as providing “a holistic, integrated approach” to financing, as “they cover all financing resources, help countries bridge the gap between short- and long-term planning and align public and private finance.”

CPDE held a discussion on July 25 about INFFs, in which the most important points raised were: INFFs can provide a powerful tool to governments, but not much can be expected from it. It will facilitate dialogue for coherence among policies and actors, but will not solve governance problems. INFFs are a work in progress that aim to broaden constituencies involved in finance policy and must involve civil society, contrary to current practice in some countries. They cannot be the sole solution to the systemic problems facing developing countries. Solving these problems must involve rights holders and civil society and must study risks.

In Africa, the INFF process is becoming more inclusive even though much still needs to be done in the entire inception-implementation-review process. Clarity is needed as to how INFFs will lead to behaviour change that will increase development cooperation towards meeting the SDGs. In the Philippines, the INFF implementation lacked democratic ownership as CSOs were not broadly present. INFFs may reinforce risky approaches to private finance, such as uncritical embrace of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and blended finance, rather than enable systemic change.

On November 28, CPDE also released a critical review of the UN's guidance on the INFFs, which shows their limitations amidst rhetoric that they are the "shining light" for countries seeking to strategise financing for national priorities for sustainable development. The paper is a follow-up to an earlier study published in July 2021. It shows that INFFs may embody a false dawn and may even further increase the darkness – distracting global processes from addressing economic justice, undermining peoples' ownership of development processes and causing countries to carry out risky reforms. Discourse about INFFs' role in development must be changed and the role of representative CSOs and people's movements must be increased. Guidelines on INFFs must also enable choices of whether to implement INFFs or not, how to implement them, and how to move away from risky reforms.

THE PLAN OF THIS REPORT

This introduction sets the context of the country reports contained in this publication. In the following pages, CPDE country focal points from Albania, the Philippines, Argentina, India, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Palestine report on actions and initiatives that they carried out in 2022.

The conclusion synthesises the country reports and seeks to establish their contribution to advancing effective development cooperation, particularly on EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, CSO development effectiveness and accountability and CSO enabling environment. The conclusion ends with a reflection on the relationship between CPDE's actions and initiatives at the global level and the actions and initiatives of CPDE country focal points. It shows that a level of synergy exists between actions and initiatives carried out by CPDE at the global level and those carried out by CPDE country focal points.



Albania

Annual Progress Report 2022

Partners Albania

INTRODUCTION

Effective development cooperation (EDC) in Albania is linked with developments and transformations that the country underwent during the last 30 years. Civil society sector involvement in Albania and presence on public issues have been increasingly visible, providing a diversity of services for social, economic and humanitarian solutions; participating in and influencing policymaking through dialogue and advocacy; and promoting and protecting human rights, civic space and democratisation. CSOs have also played an important role in the development of cooperation with development partners. Apart from its independent role since 2001, the sector has implemented sub-granting schemes on behalf of development partners.³⁰

CSOs have strengthened and increased their role in monitoring the enabling environment for their operation at the local, regional and global levels. Since 2013, the annual Monitoring Matrix Report on Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development, prepared by Partners Albania (PA), presents the findings from monitoring the legal frameworks for the development of civil society and their practical implementation. The report is part of a series of reports covering seven (7) countries in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia) and Turkey. A Regional Report is prepared by the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN), summarising findings and recommendations for all countries.

CSOs have been actively involved in monitoring the implementation of conventions and global commitments at the country level, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC), the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation,³¹ among others.

Despite the challenges in meaningful participation and consultations in policy and decision-making, CSOs have played an important role in this regard. Some recent initiatives include:

The debate on the law “For registration of non-profit organisations” in 2021. This government initiative came as an effort to address one of the recommendations of the MONEYVAL Report, “Anti-Money and Counter-

³⁰ The first sub-granting scheme was the Social Development Grant Fund (2001-2004), funded by United State Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered by Partners Albania, aiming to build the Albanian NPOs' capacities in the services-providing area.

³¹ CSOs have participated in the second round and third round monitoring processes of The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) in the implementation of Busan commitments for more effective development co-operation. The CSOs have provided their feedback to the indicator 2: Civil society operates within an environment which maximises its engagement in and contribution to development.

terrorist Financing Measures, Fifth Round Mutual Evaluation Report”,³² which required the establishment of an electronic register for Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs). The process for this legal initiative was accompanied by a heated debate between the non-profit sector, on the one hand, and the Ministry of Justice and the Parliament, on the other hand. Criticisms from the non-profit sector have been two-fold. First, related to the consultation process and transparency, particularly by the government, and secondly related to the content of this law, as described in the Monitoring Matrix Report 2020.³³ As a result of the wide mobilisation of the non-profit sector led by Partners Albania and the legal analyses and proposals submitted, 32 articles of the draft law were changed, including the affirmation of the right to association without the obligation to be registered.

The establishment of the Supervisory Group with representatives from public institutions and civil society organisations to prepare the Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) Risk Assessment Methodology on Terrorist Financing. The NPO Risk Assessment Methodology is part of the international response of NPOs to protect civic space and avoid over-regulation of NPOs in the name of Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism AML/CFT, in line with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendation 8 on NPOs. The purpose of the methodology is to help the Financial Intelligence Unit of Albania (FIU), the General Directorate of Taxation, public institutions in charge of regulations of NPOs, Law Enforcement Agencies, the NPO sector, as well as financial institutions, understand the risks of terrorist financing in the NPO sector. Through the methodology, said actors are guided in assessing how effectively these risks are mitigated, and for them to be able to demonstrate how they have achieved this understanding.

The VAT reimbursement of grants awarded in compliance with the financial agreements ratified by the Parliament or grant agreements approved by the Council of Ministers. Four (4) projects submitted by CSOs have been already refunded in 2021, and this is the very first time NPOs have been successful in being refunded since the instruction was introduced.

EDC ACTIVITIES PLANNED AND IMPLEMENTED IN 2022 – SUMMARY OF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING OBJECTIVES, PROGRAMME, ATTENDEES AND OUTCOMES

1. National Observatorio

In December 2021, PA started to implement at the country level the National Observatorio, which aims to strengthen mechanisms for EDC engagement. The objectives were:

- To facilitate the gathering of information and to overcome language barriers;
- To support national EDC monitoring efforts;
- To ensure the quality of the collected data; and
- To provide monitoring data on EDC implementation at the country level.

³² MONEYVAL, 2018 “Anti-Money and counter-terrorist financing Measures, Fifth Round Mutual Evaluation Report, Albania”. <https://rm.coe.int/committee-of-experts-on-the-evaluation-of-anti-money-laundering-measures/16808ff138>.

³³ Monitoring Matrix on Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development. (2020). National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania. https://resourcecentre.al/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/MM-Albania-Country-Report-2020_FINAL.pdf.

PA implemented a series of interventions to achieve these objectives. Initially, PA translated and adapted the CSOs Aid Observatorio Questionnaire to the Albanian language. During the same period, PA started identifying sources of data and gathering data, both primary and secondary, to prepare for the National Observatorio. Due to the lack of publicly available data available on foreign aid and cooperation, PA sent a request for information to the Ministry of Finance and Economy. The request consisted of a list of projects and other forms of support provided by development partners in Albania. In response to the request, the Ministry of Finance and Economy provided PA with a list of programmes (including both grants and loans) of foreign aid and partnership contributing to development projects in Albania. As of 28 January 2022, the financial assistance provided through Official Development Assistance (ODA) and by International Finance Institutions (IFIs) for development projects in Albania amounts to around EUR 2,098 million³⁴ for the period 2010-2028. Also, PA directly contacted some of the donors/institutions to obtain primary data in line with the CSO Aid Observatorio Questionnaire. National Observatorio questionnaires were answered by Swisscontact, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Food4Health – a programme implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Data gathered through the National Observatorio was utilised in all advocacy efforts organised by PA.

2. National CSO Forum on EDC

On 7 October 2022, PA organised the CSO Forum, “Accountable CSOs for Effective Development Cooperation” in Tirana. The objectives of the event were:

- To engage with CSOs and CSOs networks on the strategies and advocacy efforts on EDC; and
- To build consensus around the approach and implementation of strategies and advocacy efforts.

The event was organised as part of the Global Accountability Week 2022, during which NPOs and their platforms shared experiences, good practices and success cases on how NPOs are increasing accountability, legitimacy and transparency towards their beneficiaries and society. It was organised into two main sessions, as follows:

The first session was the national workshop, “Effective Development Cooperation and CSOs Development Effectiveness”. This session discussed the principles of effective development cooperation (EDC), the Istanbul Principles for CSO development effectiveness, and the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE). Designed as a discussion forum, this session was organised into four (4) main sub-sessions that brought together over 50 national CSOs from all over Albania.

The first part, “Introducing Effective Development Cooperation and the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness” moderated by PA’s Director of Programmes, Ms. Klotilda Kosta, briefly introduced EDC principles, as well as the Albanian monitoring results on EDC and infographics prepared with the data on financial assistance provided by development partners. Furthermore, the PA

³⁴ Infographic-on-development-projects-in-Albania.pdf.

action plan on CPDE was presented and shared with participants, followed by a short session of questions and answers on the presented materials.

The second session, "CSOs Development Effectiveness in Albania" was moderated by Ms. Xhoana Zeqo, Project Manager at PA. She gave a short presentation on the Istanbul CSO Development Effectiveness Principles followed by the preliminary results of the CSO effectiveness review self-assessment. The review was conducted by PA in July-September 2022, through a national online self-assessment questionnaire filled out by 62 CSOs in Albania.

Structured in six (6) sections, the questionnaire aimed at guiding CSOs through a self-assessment of their work based on the Istanbul Principles for CSO development effectiveness. The results of the CSOs' self-assessment review show that there is a general understanding among the non-profit sector in Albania of the basic concepts of the eight (8) Istanbul Principles. CSOs recognised the importance of engagement and implementation of such principles to increase the effectiveness of their work and impact thus contributing to increasing public trust. Furthermore, internal practices and mechanisms based on, and in compliance with the eight (8) principles have been established and implemented by CSOs.

Practicing transparency and accountability turned out to be the principle with the highest level of implementation according to the CSOs who participated in the self-assessment, while promoting environmental sustainability was assessed to be at the lowest level of implementation. For a minority of the CSOs participating in the self-assessment, the principles and their implementation are considered as aspects that do not affect their organisation's work and activity.

The findings also included some of the identified cases of success with the CSOs' implementation of principles as well as challenges faced. The establishment and implementation of mechanisms and practices based on the eight (8) principles such as the publishing of annual reports, including financial data; the building of long-term partnerships and the implementation of joint advocacy initiatives, such as increasing public and institutions' awareness of the human rights of vulnerable groups; and the implementation of national self-regulatory initiatives of the non-profit sector, such as the Code of Standards for NPOs in Albania, were among the successes mentioned.

The lack of human resources and capacity to implement and further integrate the Istanbul Principles into organisational practices appears to be the biggest challenge faced mostly by local organisations. More partnerships, sharing of information and good practices within the sector, the lack of financial sustainability, as well as the continuing need to strengthen CSOs-constituency collaborations are some of the additional challenges identified.

The session continued with an open forum and contributions from the participants. They reiterated once more the importance of integrating these basic principles into their organisation's work and procedures, while emphasising the difference between willingness to apply these principles and the great work that these principles required. Some of the participants expressed their

scepticism with the findings of the self-assessment. They recognised that in recent years, there have been several efforts from the sector in improving organisational development and operating standards, but there is much more work needed for improvement.

The path of building strong internal organisational practices in compliance with agreed standards and principles, such as the Istanbul standards, is long and requires experience and continuous investments and energy from the CSOs. Some of the speakers, also members of the Albanian self-regulating mechanism for the non-profit sector, which follow the Code of Standards for NPOs in Albania, mentioned the several challenges and difficulties encountered while going through the process of membership, self-assessing the compliance with a list of indicators, similar with those of the Istanbul Principles and facing the reality that most of the practices required were missing or were not institutionalised in writing by CSOs. They agreed that gender data for example, but also other important documents, are not always published or accessible by the public. They believe that there is still a need for a deeper understanding of the concepts of effectiveness by the sector, and conducting such reviews is important, serving also as a moment of reflection on the organisations' current situation and needs for further improvements.

The third session, "CSO strategies and advocacy efforts on EDC" was moderated by Ms. Ariola Agolli, National Resource Centre Manager at PA. The session further discussed strategies and advocacy efforts on EDC in Albania such as the Code of Standards for NPOs, as a self-assessment and a self-regulatory mechanism undertaken with the free will of NPOs. The Code of Standards aims to improve the effectiveness of NPOs and increase the trust of supporters, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders, by enhancing good governance of the sector, as well as transparency and accountability.

The event contributed to making CSOs more informed about the Istanbul Principles and EDC action at the country level.

3. National Dialogue with Development Partners

In December 2022, PA organised the National Dialogue with Development Partners. The objectives were:

- To conduct a comprehensive and in-depth overview of development partners and donors, with a particular focus on their operations and grant-making programmes implemented and supported in Albania; and
- To ground the EDC advocacy in the country through discussion of development partners and donors on policy issues, influence development partners' country programmes and explore possible CSO participation in these programmes which can result in grants for their EDC projects.

To achieve the first objective, PA conducted desk research to draft a list of all major development partners and donors operating in Albania and their main development strategies and assistance provided in Albania. The list provided the

name of the programmes/strategies, their aims and areas of intervention anticipated for support from them.

Following the desk research, PA organised a discussion meeting with all identified development partners operating in the country. The meeting aimed to discuss and highlight the current agenda of development partners operating in Albania and explore possible CSO participation in these programmes, considering their important role in aid management and delivery, shaping development policies and partnerships and overseeing their implementation. The event also invited representatives of public institutions and CSOs with expertise in different fields of EDC, covering the eight (8) major sectors of the OECD-DAC (social infrastructure & services, economic infrastructure & services, production sectors, multi-sector / cross-cutting, commodity aid / general programme assistance, action relating to debt, humanitarian aid and unallocated/ unspecified).

The event was perceived as important by the participants, since they recognised the meeting as a crucial and valuable forum to address pressing issues that the participants face in the context of the development landscape in Albania, particularly in the absence of unifying data systems and coordination challenges with government and donor communities. Facing the lack of a unified data system on development aid, on ODA and on coordination between the government and donors and the type of assistance offered to Albania, the research work was carried out and gave systematic information on the interventions that development partners have in the country.

Below are some of the comments from the participants at the event:

- Most development partners do provide financial support to project-based interventions and thus the results do not provide holistic and integrated solutions.
- The presentation from development partners signalled the demand to organise joint meetings to better coordinate their assistance in line with country priorities.
- There is a need for greater transparency and accountability from all stakeholders (government, public institutions, development partners, CSOs) focused on results and impacts.
- CSOs need to increase their accountability toward their constituencies as well as their proactive engagement in the achievement of Agenda 2030 and to the negotiation process for membership in the European Union.

The participants at the National Dialogue with Development Partners meeting reconfirmed their willingness for more proactive engagement in dialogue and partnerships with CSOs, especially considering the process of negotiations for membership in the EU.

4. Other activities

National Campaign Against Shrinking of Civic Space. The National Campaign Against Shrinking of Civic Space had the following objectives:

- To identify progress or lack of thereof in the implementation of national and international commitments to promoting CSO enabling environment, including overall climate, legislation and its effective implementation for the operations of CSOs in Albania;
- To inform different stakeholders (CSOs, donor community, international organisations, European Union Delegation to Albania, media) with evidenced-based data on the progress or lack of thereof related to the implementation of national and international commitments; and
- To conduct campaigns on shrinking civic spaces.

From March to June 2022, PA prepared the MM Report. The MM Report included monitoring of the legal and regulatory framework regulating CSOs' operation in the country and its practical implementation in 2021. It also monitored the Roadmap of the Government Policy Toward a More Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development 2019-2023, and the international commitments to create an enabling environment for CSOs.

On 13 July 2022, PA organised a roundtable discussion to present and validate the findings of the MM Report. The discussion was attended by around 36 participants, who were representatives from CSOs, the donor community, public institutions and the media. In line with the main recommendations of the report, the attendees emphasised among others the need for more transparency and a proactive approach to the sharing of information by public institutions, which would contribute to effective mechanisms of CSO participation in policy and decision-making, and the need to raise the awareness of CSOs, tax authorities and foreign donor institutions regarding the effective implementation of the VAT refund procedure for grant activity expenses.

PA increased awareness of different stakeholders and the general public by posting on its social media the findings of the MM Report, including the VAT reimbursement procedure for project activities funded by international donors, changes in legal regulations that affect volunteering and the new law on the registration of NPOs, among others.

Concerning campaigns against shrinking space and based on the findings of the MM Report, PA prepared a shadow report in response to the presentation by the government about the monitoring of the Albanian Government Roadmap for an Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development, the main strategic document of the Albanian government for civil society. Based on this presentation, the government claimed to have achieved most of the indicators of the roadmap, while according to PA monitoring, the information provided was not accurate. The shadow report was shared widely with the government, the donor community, CSOs, etc. PA also provided this document to members of the National Council for Civil Society in Albania.

CSO Effectiveness Review. In June-September 2022, PA implemented the CSO Effectiveness Review. The objectives of the activity were:

- To increase awareness and interest among CSOs regarding the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness;

- To increase CSOs' information on the CSO Effectiveness Review and the online self-assessment; and
- To provide monitoring data on EDC implementation at the country level.

In the first phase, PA translated the Istanbul Principles and self-assessment questionnaire into the Albanian language. For the self-assessment questionnaire, CPDE provided its support by designing the questionnaire for this purpose. In July 2022, PA launched the call for proposals for Albanian CSOs to participate by answering the online self-assessment questionnaire related to the implementation of the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness. The questionnaire was administered through the Survey Monkey Platform.

After the launch, PA organised three informative meetings on the Istanbul Principles. The meetings were held on 7, 13 and 14 September 2022. They aimed to inform CSOs about the Istanbul Principles and to give an orientation on how to answer the self-assessment questionnaire step by step. Around 48 CSOs participated in these meetings. Based on the request from the organisations, PA provided technical assistance to 14 CSOs that faced difficulties in answering the questionnaire. In addition, through the National Resource Centre for Civil Society, PA encouraged CSOs to participate in the CSOs Effectiveness Review.

Country Outreach to Social Enterprises. The country outreach to social enterprises was organised in May-September 2022. Its objectives were:

- To conduct a comprehensive and in-depth overview of social enterprises and other development partners;
- To discuss the increasing role of CSOs, social enterprises and other development actors as development partners in building a sustainable national economy; and
- To identify possible synergies between CSOs, social entrepreneurs and other key development actors.

This activity consisted of the creation of a database of CSOs, social enterprises and development partners (including public institutions and government representatives) and their respective roles with the purpose of strengthening development partnerships toward the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The information identified and collected through the mapping process served to create a better understanding of the roles of all stakeholders involved in the process.

Following the mapping activity, PA organised three (3) regional roundtable discussions with the identified CSOs, social enterprises and other actors. The roundtable was organised in Fier on 8 July 2022, Elbasan on 15 July 2022 and Tirana on 20 July 2022. The 38 attendees were representatives from social enterprises and CSOs. The discussions in the roundtable were focused on hindrances and opportunities for their increased role as development partners in developing a sustainable national economy, as well as on identifying possible synergies between CSOs, social entrepreneurs and other key development actors. Following the event, PA prepared a policy brief reflecting the discussions and relevant information on challenges and opportunities and shared it with the stakeholders of the SE ecosystem. Two of the main outcomes of the activity were

enhanced discussions among SEs and CSOs on bottlenecks and opportunities to develop social enterprises in Albania and leveraged advocacy actions and engagement among CSOs, SEs and other stakeholders to create an enabling environment for social enterprise and ecosystems.

Action Research on Key Actors in the Social Enterprise Sector. In March-October 2022, PA carried out action research on key actors in the social enterprise sector.

The objectives of the activity were:

- To conduct a comprehensive and in-depth overview of major SE stakeholders;
- To collect information regarding SE development in Albania and challenges and opportunities for SE operation;
- To identify the development stage of SEs in Albania through caselets;
- To identify potential for CSOs and SE collaboration;
- To understand the level of development of SEs in Albania and determine the challenges and opportunities they face; and
- To provide recommendations on the potential of CSOs and SE collaborations.

Based on the planned activities, and in consultation with CPDE and the relevant staff of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA), the following activities took place:

- Identification of all relevant stakeholders that have an impact or are impacted by the social enterprise sector in Albania, categorised based on the instructions provided for the development of the action research in nine categories. A database of stakeholders was created with specific roles appointed.
- Development of interviews. For the first category, significant SE leaders and 11 stakeholders were identified and contacted to be part of the interview. Out of these, five (5) have received the “Social Enterprise” status issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, while the rest are social enterprises identified by other projects and that operate in the SE sector. From the Multilateral Development Agencies supporting SEs, representatives from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Minister of State for the Protection of Environment, Municipality of Tirana; experts from the academia at Metropolitan Tirana University and Polis University; representatives from Financial Institutions (Tirana Bank and Credins Bank), representatives from capacity development institutions such as BC Consulting; multi-stakeholder platform promoting SE such as Yunus Social Business Albania and RISE Incubator, representatives of multilateral development agencies supporting SEs such as UN Women and UN Development Programme were contacted to become part of the interview. From these categories, there is a total number of 19 contacted representatives.

- Interviews were conducted in the premises of the representatives of selected institutions/entities or, due to the distance, held online, using Zoom. Each interview lasted about 45 minutes, while with the SE leaders, each had a duration of one hour. Recorded materials were transcribed and data were processed for further analysis. Three (3) of the SEs that were part of the interviews were selected as caselets and included in the report.
- Preparation of the report. The report was shared in the roundtable organised on 28 October 2022 in a hybrid format in partnership with the Institute for Social Enterprises in Asia (ISEA). The roundtable served as a take-off point for a country-level dialogue between CSOs and key SE actors to understand and appreciate the state of the SE sector and its potential contribution in enhancing the development cooperation advocacy agenda per country. Specifically, it enabled the participants from CSOs and SEs to:
 - Level off on the results of the country action research on the state of the SE sector and its potential role as a key actor in sustainable and equitable development.
 - Consider how the current development cooperation advocacy agenda of CPDE in the country may be enhanced based on the results of the action research.
 - Draw lessons and insights from a Philippine case study on CSO-SE development cooperation advocacy in pursuit of Poverty Reduction through Social Entrepreneurship.
 - Identify possible elements of a CSO-SE development cooperation agenda supportive of the SE sector as key actors in sustainable and equitable development.
 - Agree on ways forward to advance CSO-SE collaboration in pursuit of an enhanced development cooperation advocacy agenda supportive of the SE sector in the country.

The roundtable was organised in a hybrid form and 32 attendees discussed the importance of such studies and explored ways to improve cooperation among SEs and CSOs.

Multistakeholder dialogue on CSO Development Effectiveness. On 21 November 2022, PA organised the multistakeholder dialogue on CSO Development Effectiveness. The objective of the activity was to discuss and promote CSO development effectiveness and an enabling environment for civil society. The multistakeholder dialogue brought together around 50 participants from development partners/donor communities such as UN agencies (UN resident coordinator in Albania, UNDP, UNOPS), SIDA (Head of Development Cooperation), EU Delegation to Albania, US Embassy to Albania, GIZ, etc., state institutions (prime minister office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, etc.) and civil society organisations.

Some of the main tasks that were carried out in this activity were as follows:

- Increased concerted actions among governments, development partners and CSOs to improve the environment for CSOs to engage in and to contribute to sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs.

- Discussed the role of the donors' coordination meetings to promote CSO development effectiveness and an enabling environment for civil society to contribute to achieving sustainable development.
- Highlighted the importance of developing partnerships in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and the contribution of UN agencies in Albania to strengthen these partnerships and to ensure the effective contribution of CSOs.
- Implementation of the Albanian Government Roadmap for an Enabling Environment for Civil Society and the contribution of the development partners.
- Engagement of CSOs in the implementation of national strategies and plans.
- Dived into best practices of CSOs' contribution to the implementation of national development plans and SDGs.
- Discussed among participants on challenges in enabling environment for CSOs and strengthening collaboration among all stakeholders to increase their effectiveness on the country development agenda and the achievement of SDGs.

All participants (state institutions, development partners, CSOs) agreed that dialogue and cooperation with civil society are important, CSOs have an important role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and they provide experience and knowledge to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The meeting reconfirmed the role and importance of multistakeholder dialogues in achieving participatory and good governance, the 2030 Agenda and the integration of Albania into the EU.

From the donor perspective, there is a forum called "donors coordination meetings for civil society support" which is currently co-chaired by the EU and SIDA. As shared by donors, the meetings are not conducted regularly and effectively to produce the needed support and results for CSOs. Donors have different approaches to working with civil society, and not all of them provide financial support to civil society and as a result, there is confusion among donors and unrealistic expectations of the work of CSOs.

Some recommendations on donor roles related to development effectiveness are:

1. Give more credit and space to CSOs for the promotion of their work results. Donors should understand the country context and how civil society in the country works, particularly its development and changes through the years. Civil society has changed, and donors should understand the dynamics of change to avoid unintended consequences of different donor approaches. Development partners should increase their engagement with civil society in formal and informal ways because the experience has shown that CSOs bring experience and knowledge to the process.
2. Donor coordination meetings should be open to CSOs. The donor community should frequently invite CSOs to their coordination meetings and listen to them and consider their feedback in their programmes of support to the country. Donors should show increased support for CSOs in their advocacy efforts with their government on issues that affect the CSO

enabling environment. For example, donors should have done more to listen to and support CSOs with regard to the new Law on NPOs' registration, which was approved despite many concerns raised by CSOs.

3. Donors should be flexible to reduce the burden of extensive reporting for CSOs. They should increase their requirements for state institutions to involve civil society in development programmes and to have a similar understanding of the context and perspective of CSOs.

Some recommendations for the government:

1. The government should be more transparent and open to the participation of CSOs in consultation processes. Albania has a good legal framework for notification and consultation processes, but the government should ensure effective implementation of the legislation, to avoid problematic issues in consultation processes. In most cases, consultative processes are ineffective. The main problematic issues remain:
 - a. Neglecting CSOs' feedback and recommendations provided during consultation processes. Similarly, the role of CSOs representatives in joint structures (like the National Council for EU Integration) is underestimated and their voice is not heard.
 - b. Lack of feedback on results of consultations. The law on consultations requires public authorities to provide feedback on the results of consultations (what recommendations were provided, how many of them were considered and how many not and the reasons why). This information and feedback is lacking in almost all cases of consultations undertaken by different state institutions.
 - c. The government should make public the report produced regarding the "Roadmap of the Albanian government measures and policies for an enabling environment for civil society 2019-2023."
2. The government should include CSOs in monitoring the "Roadmap of the Albanian government measures and policies for an enabling environment for civil society 2019-2023," as requested by the document.
3. Increased dialogue between state institutions and CSOs on the implementation of this important strategic document is important to carry out the measures outlined in the document.
4. Inter-institutional collaboration between state authorities and between state institutions and NPOs towards an enabling environment for civil society should be increased, through the institutionalisation of collaboration and increasing mutual trust.

Some recommendations for Civil Society Organisations:

1. Equal partnership requires NPOs to be more active in their efforts to attract donors/development partners to support the attainment of the country's development priorities. They should also advocate with them so that they are part of the process of setting priorities in collaboration with state actors. NPOs should be aware of the CSO Development Effectiveness principles and engage in their implementation in their everyday operations.

2. NPOs effectiveness in development cooperation increases by starting from themselves. NPOs should take responsibility for their actions, should increase their transparency and should be proactive in providing information to other actors (mutual exchange of information). There should be better coordination and joint actions among CSOs to increase the effectiveness of their involvement in development cooperation. They should come together to discuss what should be done differently from current practices.
3. More sharing of information not only among donors, but also between donors and CSOs so that CSOs know who is working with whom, to avoid duplications and increase the impact of their operations. This requires more joint roundtables and meetings.

LESSONS LEARNED AND NEXT STEPS (FOR 2023 AND BEYOND)

From the interventions carried out, the following lessons are drawn:

- Country ownership, focusing on results, inclusive partnership, transparency and shared responsibility are important principles to be followed and implemented to advance SDGs in the country. From the activities implemented in the “Framework of Country Programming,” there is a need for more proactive communication and meaningful consultations among public institutions, civil society organisations, development and assistance partners, to align intervention with Albania’s priorities, particularly concerning the EU integration process.
- Transparency and shared responsibility should be increased by all stakeholders to inform the public of the results and impacts of the strategies, programmes and projects that have been implemented.
- It is important to foster civil society engagement with sustained investment by the public authorities and development partners to achieve greater sustainability and impacts for their constituencies.

“Enabling Environment for Civil Society towards Sustainable Development” is one of the main programmatic areas of PA. The organisation will continue, through research, monitoring, leading debate and cross-sectoral dialogue, in its work for the development of policies in support of the sector based on the best international standards. At the beginning of 2023, PA engaged with the preparation of the Monitoring Matrix Report on the Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development, by tracking the developments of the legal and practical aspects that affected the operation of CSOs in 2022. Through the National Resource Centre for Civil Society, PA will support CSOs in developing performance standards and increasing the credibility, transparency and public image of the sector, in strengthening democracy, advancing development, and moving forward with Albania’s integration into the EU.



Philippines

Pushing Forward to Advance Effective Development Cooperation and Development Effectiveness: Reclaiming Democratic Spaces and Advancing People Economics to Realize the People's Agenda in 2022 and Beyond

Council for People's Development and Governance

INTRODUCTION

The year 2022 was a challenging year as ever for Philippine civil society and their stakeholders in pushing forward the Filipino people's aspirations for a people-centred, ecologically sustainable Philippine economy where people's participation in governance and policy making are recognised and encouraged.

The Council for People's Development and Governance (CPDG) is in solidarity with civil society and development actors in pushing back against attacks on people's economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights.

The challenges towards realising the people-centred development and democratic governance Filipinos aspire to remain, as the current structural system persists and democratic spaces for civil society engagement in governance and policy-making remain constricted amid worsening impunity.

In 2022, CPDG and its broad membership of more than 70 CSOs, people's organisations (POs) and individuals continued to carry out its campaigns on reclaiming democratic spaces to counter policies that further shrink civic spaces. It promoted People Economics (PE) which serves as an alternative to the overly market-oriented and profit-biased development policies the government continues to implement despite decades of failure in addressing poverty and inequality and worsening jobs crisis. It also pushed for the People's Agenda in the 2022 Philippine national elections and beyond.

CPDG coordinated CSOs in engaging with other development actors, including the Commission on Human Rights and the UN OHCHR. It also coordinated the Philippines UPR Network in engaging the UPR process.

The national action culminated in a diplomatic dialogue with state representatives where 23 representatives of the diplomatic community received the Joint Priority Stakeholders' Recommendations for improving the Philippines' human rights situation.

In partnership with IBON International, CPDG also worked towards promoting CSO development effectiveness. Together with other CSOs, CPDG drafted a manifesto that contains civil society's three (3) key asks to strengthen and enable

civic spaces in the country. CPDG also brought together broad network of CSOs in pushing the Philippine the government and other development actors both at local and international levels to advance effective development cooperation (EDC).

CPDG advanced PE in its engagements mainly through the sustainable development goals or SDGs and critiquing the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) as the Philippine government's blueprint for achieving Agenda 2030. In the May 2022 national elections, PE helped in articulating the People's Agenda in CPDG's sectoral campaigns and lobbying.

The potential of people-led community-based social enterprises (SEs) in advancing sustainable agriculture for food sovereignty and contributing to the SDGs in resolving hunger and contributing to poverty alleviation and jobs generation was explored. CPDG also looked into the prospects of initiating partnerships to support people-led community-based SEs.

CPDG's actions in countering shrinking civic spaces contributed to countering disinformation on martial law and anti-terrorism laws. CPDG also advocated against legislations largely directed at activists and organisations openly critical of government policies that worsen people's conditions and contribute to greater plunder of the country's economy and the wasting of its resources.

The general membership meeting in November 2022 reaffirmed CPDG's contributions to strengthening and asserting CSOs development effectiveness and in promoting EDC.

The following narrative summarises CPDG's actions in realising effective development cooperation between and among development actors and reclaiming democratic spaces by pushing back against constricting civic spaces.

CPDG's work on effective development cooperation and CSOs' development effectiveness involved four (4) components: (1) education and information activities through discussions, forum and consultations; (2) lobbying and dialogues with development partners and actors; (3) mobilizations for solidarity and amplifying campaigns; (4) network and capacity building on development issues and alternative economic development framework.

These activities concluded on unities on how to push back against attacks on civil society, human rights defenders and on communities. Priority policy recommendations and CSO key asks to address long standing issues resulting from violations to economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) and civil and political rights (CPR) were put forward in dialogues with development partners and the diplomatic community. Local actions were amplified with advocacy and lobbying at the international level.

Raising awareness on discrimination and the need for the comprehensive anti-discrimination law helped stakeholders understand the multifaceted and cross-cutting impact of discrimination that worsens the adverse impact of poverty and inequality on the most vulnerable.

Meanwhile, advocacy and coordination work also maximised speaking engagements and media interviews that promoted the analysis generated by research of CPDG members on various development issues. The analysis is shared with civil society partners to both enrich the knowledge base generated by the CPDG membership as well as contribute to CSOs' capacities and build a larger base of advocates on key development issues and more importantly on embracing the alternative People Economics.

RECLAIMING DEMOCRATIC SPACES

The year 2022 was a crucial year for Filipinos. The whole nation looked forward to the changing of leadership with the May 2022 national elections. It was significant because the son of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, Sr., ousted in 1986, has made a bid for the presidency in tandem with the daughter of the outgoing authoritarian and self-declared anti-human rights President Rodrigo Duterte.³⁵

The common and overwhelming opposition against the return of the Marcos-Romualdez family in power and continuing impunity as well as the current worsening conditions on the violation of the Filipino peoples' ESCR and CPR provided the impetus and window for joint actions among civil society actors and their stakeholders to reject any abusive actions and manoeuvrings of the powerful political families and their political allies to disregard the rule of law and further plunder the country's resources.

CSOs came together on the common goal of ensuring that the human rights atrocities of the past dictatorship and the vicious attacks on the Filipino people by the authoritarian leadership of the Duterte administration will not be repeated. It is also in 2022 that the country's human rights situation was reviewed in the 4th cycle of the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the UN Human Rights Council.

The push back to reclaim democratic spaces is necessary to assert and ensure that development effectiveness is upheld and that communities can claim their stake at democratic governance and their right to genuinely sustainable development.

To carry out this campaign more effectively, CPDG partnered with its member organisations and other networks such as the Philippines UPR Watch, the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) Presence in the Philippines and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to contribute to the campaign against shrinking civic spaces to achieve the objectives for reclaiming democratic spaces. The campaign's objectives are: (1) raising awareness on importance of asserting civic spaces and advancing human rights towards development effectiveness; (2) raising awareness on the Philippine government's commitments on international covenants to promote human rights and eliminate discrimination and inequality; and (3) raising awareness on importance of forging peace based on justice to resolve long standing problems of poverty and inequality.

³⁵ "I don't care about human rights,' Duterte says, urging cops to 'shoot first'". (3 December 2022). Philstar Global. Retrieved .

The activities were a combination of internal discussions and forums, lobbying and solidarity mobilizations. These included:

1. Global Day of Action – International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2021
2. Internal Discussion on the ATL and UNJP: “The Supreme Court Decision on the Anti- Terror Law: Implications on Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the Philippines”, on 27 January 2022
3. Training on the Universal Periodic Review on 19 March 2022 in collaboration with the UN OHCHR presence in the Philippines
4. CSOs Workshop / Consultation on the UN Universal Periodic Review of the Philippines Human Rights Situation June 22 and 23 on the ESCR and CPR with the UN OHCHR Philippines and the CHR
5. CSOs Workshop / Consultation on the UN Universal Periodic Review of the Philippines Human Rights Situation on August 3 and 4, 10 and 11, 2022 with the UN OHCHR Philippines and the CHR
6. Joint Stakeholders Dialogue with the Diplomatic Community for the UPR Fourth Cycle Review of the Philippines HR Situation on 27 September 2022 mainly organised by the UN OHCHR presence in the Philippines in cooperation with CPDG and the CHR
7. Stakeholders’ Watch on the United Nations’ UPR of the Philippines, 14 November 2022
8. “Prospects for Peace after the 2022 Elections, A Call for Just Peace and End to
9. Tyranny” on 23 February 2022, co-organized with the Campaign Against the Return of the Marcoses, Youth Action Against Tyranny, Ecu-Voice, PCPR
10. “Prospects for People-centred Development and Human Rights After the 2022 Elections” in 24 March 2022 co-organized with IBON International
11. Post Electoral Forum: Forging Unities for a Rights-Based People-Centred Development, 23 July 2022 with Panay Centre for People’s Development
12. Leave No One Behind: Ending Discrimination and Inequality towards Agenda 2030: A Report back to Stakeholders on Strengthening LGUs Response during the COVID-19 Pandemic and beyond) with the Commission on Human Rights Education and Promotions Office.

These activities informed civil society on the following:

1. What to expect with the final decision of the Supreme Court declaring the Anti-Terror Act (ATA) 2020 as constitutional and therefore, can already be implemented. In addition, the activities also informed about actions that CSOs can unite on to counter the more intensified state attacks and continue with their development work, including legal remedies that can be utilised.
2. Provide evidence on how the Philippine government fulfils its commitments in adhering to the OECD-DAC recommendations on EDC, as well as to UN Human Rights statutes. Furthermore, the activities aimed to give insights into how the government applies the EDC Principles, its human rights approaches, and correspondingly their impact on CSOs as development actors, and particularly the vulnerable and marginalised sectors’ ESCR and CPR.

3. Prospects of attaining just peace, respect for human rights and people-centred development should authoritarian rule and neoliberal authoritarianism continue under a government led by families with historical records of unresolved cases of human rights violations, plunder and no respect for the rule of law.
4. What can be done further to push back and uphold people's rights and welfare, assert civil society's legitimate role as genuine actors and partners in development and nation building. This includes identifying and maximising available mechanisms which can be created to enable and strengthen genuinely democratic people's participation in governance including development planning and implementation.

LOBBYING FOR ESCR AND CPR AT THE UPR

The 4th UPR of the Philippines was an important moment of focus for lobbying on the state of the country's CPR and ESCR. It provided an opportunity for focused lobbying and dialogues with the UN system and the diplomatic community. Partnership with the UN OHCHR presence in the Philippines and CHR was an important opportunity to draw in more CSOs in the consultations (about 100 CSOs and people's organisations participated in the various consultations) which culminated in the Joint Stakeholders Dialogue with the Diplomatic Community for the UPR Fourth Cycle Review of the Philippines HR Situation on 27 September 2022, about two months before the actual UPR in Geneva, Switzerland on 14 November 2022.

A total of 25 delegates from the offices of member states in the Philippines participated in the diplomatic dialogue. Meanwhile, 39 delegates are from the UN OHCHR Philippines, the CHR and CSOs representatives. The representatives of member states agreed to support the recommendations, especially those pertaining to education, gender equality and rights of vulnerable sectors. The joint recommendations and series of CSO workshops and consultations was, according to the UN Philippines OHCHR, is a first globally and may be considered as a best practice for cooperative stakeholders' review of the Philippine human rights situation and corresponding joint recommendations with the Philippine's CHR. It provided an additional layer of lobbying for alternative policies by CSOs led by the Philippines UPR Watch which has been actively engaging in the UPR process since 2008.

FORGING PARTNERSHIPS, BUILDING SOLIDARITIES FOR PEOPLE-CENTRED DEVELOPMENT

Building solidarity and forging partnerships among development actors and partners are important in advancing the alternative people-centred development, i.e., People Economics. CPDG together with its membership organised major activities on advancing EDC to strengthen people's claim on their democratic spaces and right to development. These include:

1. National Forum on Effective Development Cooperation and CSO Effectiveness: "Forging Partnerships, Building Solidarities for People-Centred Development" on 28 to 30 November 2023 which is a back-to-back action that combined three country actions:

- a. National CSO Forum on EDC
 - b. CSO Effectiveness Review
 - c. Multistakeholder dialogue on CSO Effectiveness
2. Strategising meeting for Effective Development Cooperation and Development Effectiveness on 25 to 26 October, 2022
3. National CSO Strategy Workshop on Enabling Civil Society on 29-30 August 2022
4. Multistakeholder Dialogue on Enabling and Strengthening Civic Space in The Philippines on 13 October 2022

Specific activities include the following:

1. CPDG General Membership Meeting – first general assembly since CPDG's revitalization in 2019 held on 28 November 2022
2. Workshop on Effective Development Cooperation towards People-Centred Development on 28 November 2022
3. Rising above crises: Advancing People-Centred Development towards Agenda 2030, A Forum on 29 November 2022
4. Forum on Philippines CSOs Effectiveness: Enabling and Strengthening Civic Spaces on 29 November 2022
5. Solidarity Action on 30 November 2022

The CPDG general membership meeting on November 2022 affirmed the role of CPDG in facilitating engagement between civil society and development partners in government, local government units (LGUs), institutional development actors in the UN, as well as diplomatic states representatives to forge partnerships and build solidarities for effective development cooperation towards advancing people-centred development.

Key to the success of the general membership meeting of the CPDG on 28 November 2022 is the conduct of the strategy meeting on 25 and 26 October 2022 where CPDG's steering committee members reviewed the CPDG's vision, mission and goals and correspondingly its possible actions in the midterm from 2023 to 2025 according to strategic goals and objectives of the platform. The group reviewed CPDG's actions from 2019 to 2022 and identified the platforms' strengths and weaknesses. CPDG identified ways how it can further serve the needs of its membership and contribute to the overall struggle to reclaim democratic spaces and people-centred development towards national industrialization.

The back-to-back activities gathered more than 80 delegates, including representatives from the LGU and the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) SDGs Stakeholders' Chamber and the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC). Important results of the actions include:

- The validation of the results of the CSO effectiveness survey vis-à-vis CPDG members' adherence to DE principles and the challenges they faced in advancing their work.
- The formalisation of the CPDG coordinating group. A coordinator for each of the eight (8) thematic groups was identified. The coordinating group which comprises the former members of the CPDG steering committee and the

thematic group coordinators will oversee the cooperative actions to promote the alternative development framework of People Economics.

- A new organisational structure was adopted to better implement CPDG programs and corresponding campaigns.
- The formal adoption of the CSO Manifesto for Strengthening and Enabling Civic Spaces, with a pledge to amplify the manifesto to strengthen and enable civic spaces in the country.

The CSO Manifesto was drafted at the National CSO Strategy Workshop on Enabling Civil Society on 29-30 August 2022 which CPDG co-organized with IBON International. It was presented in a Multistakeholder Dialogue (MSD) on Enabling and Strengthening Civic Space in the Philippines on 13 October 2022. It gathered various development stakeholders from the government, diplomatic community and development agencies, and CSOs to present the CSO Manifesto and secure the support of development actors on protecting civil society rights and civic spaces. The MSD explored the possibility of an engagement mechanism for effective and sustained coordination on civic space among CSOs, the government and other relevant stakeholders towards strengthening and enabling civil society participation in important spaces.

The forum on the SDGs and Advancing People-Centred Development, which both happened on 29 November 2022 provided an overview of the multiple crisis besetting the global economy and impacting underdeveloped economies like the Philippines, which continue to implement overly market-oriented and profit-biased neoliberal development framework. Reactions and recommendations from CSOs were presented with focus on urban development, sustainable mass transportation, climate crisis and water for the people. The forum stressed on the importance of genuine democratic governance which encourages partnerships with stakeholders especially among CSOs and POs and their partners in realising the SDGs.

EXPLORING THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISES (SES) AS POTENTIAL PARTNERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION ADVOCACY

The CSO dialogue on social enterprises CPDG co-organized with the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA) on 1 December 2022 discussed the findings of the country action research conducted by CPDG in cooperation with the Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER). EILER spearheaded the Philippine action research on people-led community-based social enterprises.

Cooperation with ISEA and the PRESENT Coalition in the Philippines in advancing People Economics can contribute to broadening of CPDE's development cooperation advocacy to the private sector in support for people-centred development, advancing the Kampala Principles in private sector engagement to achieve effective development cooperation and development effectiveness towards achieving the SDGs.

The country-level action research conducted by EILER, and the case study of the PRESENT Coalition provided CPDG members with a better understanding of the SE landscape and vice versa. It explored how the existing SEs and people-led

community-based initiatives of CPDG members can collaborate to support and develop each initiative to become key players in equitable and sustainable development with potential support from the government and the private sector based on the actual needs of communities.

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL OBSERVATORIO FOR MONITORING EDC AND CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS

As a way of gathering and consolidating information and evidencing EDC and CSOs development effectiveness, CPDG conducted capacity building training on research and indicators monitoring among CPDG members and network organisations.

The activities had the following objectives:

1. Build capacity and skills of participants with understanding of macroeconomic concepts of poverty, inequality, jobs, income and growth, trade and investments and the political economy of Philippine society to better monitor relevant issues including policies that impact people's welfare.
2. Understand the principles of effective development cooperation and development effectiveness in the context of advancing People Economics.
3. Inform on available mechanisms for participation in governance and development planning to assert their rights as development actors.
4. Assist in identifying indicators for assessing current conditions towards determining appropriate steps and recommendations to improve their respective stakeholders' welfare, and development through access to sustainable livelihoods, land and production support subsidies, access to basic social services, among others.
5. Identify indicators that will ensure the implementation and monitoring of the CSO Manifesto for enabling and strengthening civil society for advancing development effectiveness and effective development cooperation.

There was a specific training on development effectiveness and alternative economic policies including discussions on People Economics and a large multi-sectoral seminar with Southern Tagalog region CSOs. To wit:

1. The Research Training for Advancing Development Effectiveness advocacies was in partnership with the regional secretariat of the National Federation of Peasants in the Philippines (*Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas*) in Southern Tagalog Region – KASAMA-Timog Katagalugan, and IBON Foundation on 24 and 25 September 2022.
2. The workshop on Identifying Indicators for Enabling and Strengthening Civil Society for Advancing Development Effectiveness and Effective Development Cooperation was held on 12 October 2022.
3. Series of discussions on People Economics with IBON Foundation in April through June 2022.

The Research Training for Advancing Development Effectiveness (DE) Advocacies includes the discussion on DE principles and mechanisms for advancing civil society development effectiveness to provide additional context

for the conduct of the various research the participating CSOs and POs will undertake in 2023 through 2024.

The participants for the 24 and 25 September, 2023 training fully appreciated the DE principles especially as these principles are already well entrenched in their development work and advocacies including advancing People Economics.

The action, “Identifying Indicators for Enabling and Strengthening Civil Society for Advancing Development Effectiveness and Effective Development Cooperation” was held on 12 October 2022. It is a continuation of the activity, “National Forum Workshop on Enabling and Strengthening Civic Spaces” co-organised with IBON International on 29 and 30 August 2022, which produced the CSO Manifesto for Enabling and Strengthening Civic Spaces in the Philippines. The Manifesto contains three (3) key asks and particular sub-asks to realise CSOs development effectiveness and EDC.

The indicators identified by the stakeholders (in a hybrid workshop) will provide a basis for gauging an enabled and strengthened civil society in their capacity to perform their development effectiveness through the various advocacies and services to their stakeholders.

Some of the delegates that participated in the workshop joined in the multi-stakeholder dialogue the following day on 13 October 2022.

A CSO Monitor which CPDG worked on together with IBON International was also cascaded to CPDG membership to evidence their development effectiveness and help assert their role as development actors contributing to the overall Philippine national development.

The participants for the workshop training for Economics 101 and PE lecture series are dedicated staff – researchers, writers and administrative staff of IBON Foundation; as well as network coordinators and project implementers of CPDG actions for the CPDE country action for 2022 to 2023.

Meanwhile, to help amplify specific development issues, speaking engagements in many forums were held together with various NGOs and POs. Their participation can be considered important moments for capacity building. Aside from these, CPDG worked closely with specific organisations on specific issues:

- On wages with labour group *Kilusang Mayo Uno* or KMU
- On the environment and climate change with environmental groups Centre for Environmental Concerns (CEC) and Kalikasan People’s Network for the Environment
- On prices with consumer group *Samahan at Ugnayan ng mga Konsyomers para sa Ikaunlad ng Bayan* or SUKI
- On free trade deals with No to RCEP Coalition
- On the Green New Deal, national budget and various alternative economic policies with the Makabayan Bloc, a group of progressive lawmakers in the Philippines Congress

There were also many meetings held to try and develop a New Economics Forum composed of professional economists and prominent private sector personalities as a platform to push alternative social and economic policies.

In all these actions, CSOs found common ground for uniting in asserting their rights as development actors and effectively the right of their stakeholders to development and genuine participation in governance. The participants comprise members and non-members of the CPDG but have been engaged with by CPDG and previously attended CPDG actions supported by the CPDE and co-organised with the Commission on Human Rights and the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights presence in the Philippines.

NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON ENGAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND ELECTORAL HOPEFULS TO ADVANCE PEOPLE'S AGENDA IN THE 2022 NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Significant to the CPDG actions in 2022 is advancing the People's Agenda through People Economics in various forums and dialogues with electoral hopefuls at the LGU level. People Economics (PE) is an articulation of the people's aspirations for a genuinely people-centred, ecologically sustainable national industrialization towards eradication of poverty and inequality. Likewise, several voters' and poll-watchers' capacity building training were also carried out to help in raising people's awareness on choosing the right candidates that would carry the People's Agenda in their mandate should they win in the elections. The objectives set for the actions are:

1. To develop the mechanisms at the country level to build the capacity of national CSOs to contribute to the discussion and influence policy;
2. To collaborate and engage with other CSOs and development cooperation actors, including governments, private sector and development partners, (especially) at the national and local levels; and
3. To promote PE as the alternative development framework to the profit and wealth biased neoliberal development framework.

Specific activities undertaken for this specific country action are:

1. RTDs and public forums on specific people's (sectoral) agenda.
 - a. Gumaca-wide summit on food health and security in Quezon Province
 - b. People's food summit in Agdangan, Quezon Province
 - c. People's summit in Lucena, Quezon Province
 - d. Mindoro Province
2. Voter's and pollwatchers' education
 - a. Workers
 - b. Women's agenda
3. Reproduction of People Economics briefer in Filipino, English, Hiligaynon and Ilocano
4. Translation of People Economics video to Hiligaynon and Ilocano

There were in all a total of five (5) mayoral candidates, one (1) councilor, six (6) candidates for barangay captain, one (1) senatorial and one (1) congressional candidate lobbied and engaged with. The candidates were in solidarity with the

calls of farmers, fisherfolk and urban poor communities for food security, liveable wages, job security and affordable and adequate social services. They also pledged to pursue resolutions that are in line with the principles of PE.

CPDG provided inputs on PE including on PE materials i.e., PowerPoint presentations in English and Filipino, PE videos and PE briefers for distribution to participants and electoral hopefuls. The PE brochures and videos were translated in Ilocano and Hiligaynon. These helped in simplifying the discussion on the PE pillars which advances specific sectoral advocacies and policy recommendations.

CPDG collaborated with its members, including EILER, the Assert Socio-Economic Initiatives Network (ASCENT) and the Centre for Women's Resources (CWR), as well as the regional peasant network Association of Farmers' Organizations in Southern Tagalog Region (KASAMA-TK) in the conduct of voter's education and the various people's summits spearheaded by KASAMA-TK. The people's summits were attended by rice and coconut farmers, fisherfolks, LGU representatives, as well as electoral hopefuls. PE was likewise lobbied for by KASAMA-TK chapters in various provinces to the LGU electoral hopefuls.

LESSONS

Cooperative partnerships with people's organisations and CPDG members helped in cascading the actions including raising awareness on PE as an alternative to the current market-oriented and profit-biased neoliberal development policies. The translation of the PE briefer and video to the local languages (Hiligaynon, Ilocano, Filipino) helped in easier understanding and appreciation of the alternative development framework by the communities.

The national elections provided opportunities for reaching out to prospective partners among LGU officials to advance peoples' welfare through policy reforms under the PE development framework.

Campaigning for the local and national elections also provided opportunities to reach out to stakeholders, development partners and actors to advance the people's agenda and build alliances and partnerships that can be maximised for broadening and solidarity building.

Dialogues and lobbying with development actors together with communities provide venue for greater understanding and appreciation of people's needs and concerns towards advancing people-centred development. Alliances and broadening of these can be maximised during electoral campaigns which later can be utilised for advancing policy reforms and advocacies.

In future actions, more engagements at the local levels are useful to widen support for and advance people-centred development.

Meanwhile, the relationship built with the UN and the CHR through the series of collaborative actions contributed to achieving the objectives and slowly realising the desired outcomes for meaningful engagement between development actors and the organisations representing vulnerable sectors. Clear objectives and

target audience, and well-planned programs for the activities with the partners also helped in achieving the desired results and outputs.

Furthermore, CSOs of different political orientations can come together for a common goal of asserting rights for genuinely democratic and participatory governance and development.

Existing government and UN mechanisms for engagement can be maximised for policy reforms and lobbying. Partnerships with the UN, the CHR and other government offices can be maximised to expand reach to broader networks including engagement with key government offices and agencies to present policy reforms and recommendations to advance people-centred development.

Lastly, forging effective partnerships and unities with various development actors are essential for building solidarities in countering attacks against civil society, and effectively advancing people's legitimate struggles and aspirations.



Photo: In June and August 2022, more than 100 CSOs gathered together in hybrid consultations in partnership with the UN OHCHR Philippines and the Commission on Human Rights to discuss the human rights situation in the Philippines and of various vulnerable groups to put together priority recommendations for the 4th Cycle Universal Periodic Review of the Philippines in November 2022



Photo: At the conclusion of a series of consultation-workshops on the state of human rights in the country, over 100 civil society organizations (CSOs) noted continuing rights violations and impunity in the new administration of Pres. Ferdinand Marcos Jr.



Photo: Stakeholders gathered in person and online to listen to the Universal Periodic Review as it happened in Geneva, Switzerland last November 14, 2022. The action aimed to amplify awareness on the Universal Periodic Review as a mechanism for holding government and duty bearers accountable.



Photo: CSOs lobbying at the international level to bring civil society voices to the UN Human Rights Council. Since the first cycle of the UPR, CSOs led by the Philippines UPR Watch have been submitting independent reviews on the Philippines HR situation, holding dialogues and lobbying at the national and international arena.



Photo: CPDG and IBON International co-organized the National Forum Workshop on Enabling and Strengthening Civic Spaces in August 2022. The CSO Manifesto on Enabling and Strengthening Civic Spaces was the outcome of this national gathering.



Photos: In October 13, 2022 the CSO Manifesto was presented by IBON International and CPDG to government agencies, diplomats and institutional funding agencies who manifested their commitments in supporting the CSO Manifesto.



Photos: Voters' education on choosing the right leaders who would carry the People's Agenda is an enabling action for people's participation in national development.



Photo: In July 2022, the Panay Center for People's Development gathered its network members to discuss the prospects after the May 2022 elections.



Photo: Among the capacity building actions in 2022 is identifying Research Needs Towards Advancing Development Effectiveness Advocacies with multisectoral participation from the Southern Tagalog Region, Philippines, in partnership with IBON Foundation, Philippines.



Photos: The CPDG general membership meeting last November 2022 affirmed the role of CPDG in facilitating engagement between civil society and development partners in government, local government units (LGUs), institutional development actors in the UN, as well as diplomatic representatives to forge partnerships and build solidarities for effective development cooperation towards advancing people-centered development. The two-day activities culminated in a solidarity action with multisectoral organizations during the nationwide mobilization for living wages and job security.



Photos: December 1, 2022 CSO-SE Dialogue on Social Enterprises themed “Social Enterprises as Essential Partners in Development Cooperation Advocacy” with Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia and Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER).

Tanzania

Annual Progress Report on Effective Development Cooperation

Tanzania Coalition on Debt and Development

INTRODUCTION

The United Republic of Tanzania is among African nations that have experienced the shrinking of civic space in recent years. It has seen attacks on human rights defenders, undermining of political participation and media closure, among others.

In January 2019, the Parliament passed amendments to the Political Parties Act which creates a very restrictive operating environment for political parties, undermining freedom of association.³⁶ The legislation gives very broad powers to the Registrar of political parties, including the power to demand any information from parties without a warrant which creates a loophole for surveillance of the parties' operations.

These provisions are an affront to freedom of expression and association. They limit political activity and give the Registrar excessive powers to interfere with the internal operations of a political party. The excessively discretionary powers of the Registrar seriously affect the autonomy of political parties as associations and breach their privacy.

Since 2015, several laws and regulations have provided authorities with overboard powers to restrict, with little judicial oversight and inadequate legal safeguards, citizens' exercise of their human rights. Repressive laws include the 2015 Cybercrimes Act, which restricts free expression online; the 2015 Statistics Act, which, until its amendment in June 2019, criminalised publishing statistics without government approval and blocked the publication and dissemination of independent research; the 2018 amendments to the 2010 Electronic and Postal Communications Act that subject bloggers to excessive licensing fees; and the 2016 Media Services Act, which gives government agencies broad powers to censor and limit the independence of the media by creating stringent rules for journalist accreditation and creating offences and oversight powers that are open to abuse by the government; as well as the Access to Information Act (2016).

Human rights defenders (HRDs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), journalists, bloggers and other independent or critical voices have been charged with vaguely-worded offences. Several of the above-mentioned laws were rushed through Parliament, adopted without meaningful consultations and quickly implemented by law enforcement authorities.

³⁶ Political Parties Act. (2019). Ofisi ya Msajili wa Vyama vya Siasa. <https://www.orpp.go.tz/uploads/publications/sw1565156103-Sheria>.

The CSO working environment in Tanzania has not been conducive due to state interference in the actions of activists. As of March 2021, the situation has worsened after the government actively enforced repressive laws that undermine independent media, political opposition and civil society. CSOs therefore see campaigns against the shrinking civic space in the country as very important.

There are over 5,000 registered NGOs in Tanzania working on different areas of human development, economic development and environmental protection (as per the 2020/21-25/26 Development Plan).

In Tanzania, CSOs have legal recognition for they are officially registered and operate at different levels based on their registration status from the community, district, regional, national to international level. CSOs are considered as innovative drivers of change for they play a significant role in the social and economic development of the country. The CSO sector in Tanzania has been growing both in terms of number and contribution to socio-economic development.

With the multiple roles that civil society organisations undertake – from service delivery, community organising, information and education, resource mobilisation, monitoring and evaluation, to research and policy advocacy – it is indeed a huge challenge and an enormous pressure to become effective development actors. Civil society acknowledges that these actions for development will only be effective if it brings about sustainable change that addresses the root causes, as well as the symptoms, of poverty, inequality and marginalisation.

Despite the cultural, political, social and economic challenges facing CSOs in Tanzania, their interventions have made an impact. They have made substantial contributions to social, economic and environmental development as mentioned in the National Five-Year Development Plan III. They are delivering quality social services, especially in education and health to citizens. Therefore, CSOs' work must be respected by giving them a good working and enabling environment.

An enabling environment for civic participation is what CSOs and human rights defenders demand in Tanzania, along with the formation of a new constitution.

In this context, CPDE has been very instrumental in supporting CSOs, including the Tanzania Coalition on Debt and Development (TCDD), as the focal point in the country to support grassroots communities engaged in development efforts, promote development knowledge and innovation and seek out inclusive policy dialogues with governments and donors to work together for development.

IMPLEMENTING EDC COMMITMENTS AND THE AGENDA 2030

1. National CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation (EDC)

TCDD organised a CSO forum on effective development on 20 January 2022 at Luther House, Dar es Salaam. The forum was attended by 29 participants from CSOs and five (5) media firms.

This forum discussed the contributions of Tanzania CSOs to effective development cooperation, particularly in relation to the current Five-Year National Development Plan III 2021/22 – 2025/26.

- The event discussed the Plan's objective of consolidating the contribution of non-state actors on economic development through appropriate institutional arrangements.
- It also promotes not-for-profit social enterprises catering to women, youth and people with disabilities, groups in food processing, handicraft industries, agricultural business, social and environment sectors, education and health sectors and climate change and environmental protection.
- CSOs realised that it is important to strengthen citizens' civic competence and confidence by enabling them to know their rights and obligations and to support them to organise national platforms through which they would be able to assert those rights and engage in development issues.
- CSOs must ensure that there are citizen-centred policy development and implementation at the national and regional levels with regards to democratic governance, peace and security, social and economic justice, agriculture, natural resources, environmental protection and climate change and mainstreaming science and technology.
- The government must remove the restrictive environment to enable the active participation of CSOs and citizens, remove state control over CSOs and remove all bureaucratic requirements for NGOs and threats to deregister them for non-compliance. These will ensure the effective contribution of CSOs in development.



Photos: Participants during CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation (EDC) conducted on 20 January 2022, Luther House, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The following are the outcomes:

- a. Currently, there is an increased number of newspapers reporting on the issue of shrinking space and human rights issues in the country.
- b. Substantial rise in knowledge awareness among civil society organisations on the status of shrinking civic space and deterioration of human rights in Tanzania.
- c. Increased participation of activists responding to the current closing civic space. This is encouraging. Increasing voices against the closing of civic space will push the government to make amendments, especially to laws that are seen to be oppressive to CSOs, media and political parties.

2. National CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation (EDC)

TCDD has successfully undertaken an action research on social enterprises in Tanzania. The study took place between March to August 2022 which began with selection of the research team with five (5) members. This task was done by the TCDD Secretariat in February 2022 and then followed by capacity development of the research team on understanding social enterprises, their features, growth and developments, contribution to sustainable development, opportunities and challenges. The training was conducted by a pool of experts from the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA) from 7-11 March 2022. The training was closely monitored by CPDE to ensure standards, quality and delivery of relevant materials. The online training via Zoom was interactive, educative, interesting, thought-provoking and practical.

The research was able to identify the key actors in the Social Enterprise sector who are or could be potentially engaged in development cooperation. Below are the key stakeholders that were identified by the research, most of whom attended the dialogue meeting:

- Government of Tanzania
- Local government authorities
- National Economic Empowerment Council or NEEC
- NGOs and other CSOs
- Development partners
- Financial institutions both private and public
- Research and academic institutions
- Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO)
- Private sector
- Community members

The following are some of the challenges that social enterprises face in Tanzania as collected by the research team during the data collection in the field:

- No stand-alone policy on social enterprises in Tanzania. There are multiple policies on social enterprise development in Tanzania that allow the allocation of the same resources (funds) in different ministries for doing the same thing. Experience teaches that when the same amount of resources is distributed in different ministries it becomes difficult to assess its impact on the community.

- Poor infrastructure, especially roads and railways. Many social enterprises are challenged to access markets for their products because of impassable roads.
- Shortage of capital among social entrepreneurs for expanding their social businesses.
- Low awareness of social enterprises in Tanzania. Many stakeholders are not aware of the concept of social enterprises and social entrepreneurship.
- Lack of reliable markets for goods and services produced by social entrepreneurs.
- Low standards of goods and services produced by social entrepreneurs.
- Lack of support from other stakeholders especially the business/private sector
- Climate change. Many social enterprises have invested in livestock, poultry, agriculture, food, nutrition and fishing sectors which depend on nature, therefore the abnormalities in climate result in negative impacts on social enterprises.
- Limited knowledge of social enterprise in Tanzania which led to the confusion between the social enterprise and other business enterprises.
- Limited write ups and research conducted on social enterprise, and even the few available experts are not well-utilised to boost the sector.
- Limited CSOs practice on social enterprise, and those practices lack support from the government.
- The dominance of static character to our CSOs, government leaders, politicians and private sector. Most of our character is not for changing society but rather for personal gains.
- Lack of organic relationship between CSOs, government and private sector in strengthening social enterprise sector for poverty alleviation.

3. National Dialogue Report Between CSOs and Key Social Enterprise Actors in Tanzania

The dialogue between the social enterprise (SE) actors in Tanzania took place on 25 November 2022, after the completion of the Action Research on Social Enterprises.

Issues raised during the dialogue between CSOs and social enterprise actors:

There are three 3 Ps that were considered important when understanding the concept of social enterprise. These are; (1) P-people, (2) P-planet, (3) P-profit. SE does generate profit, but it is not the primary focus. Instead, SE is primarily focused on people and preserving the planet to advance environmental sustainability.

Social Enterprise as a Change Agent

- As a change agent, the SE sector helps address social problems at the community level and the country at large. The first objective of social enterprises is not the maximisation of the profit, but rather, helping the community. Any business that involves the community must benefit the community. And for CSOs, social enterprises remain very important in

Tanzania despite amendments in NGOs Act 2002 that do not express much regard for them.

- In implementing the 2030 Agenda, social enterprises are fundamental actors in addressing social, economic and environmental issues. They can be alternative solutions to alleviate poverty in communities. Climate change is not effectively fought if social enterprises in addressing emerging challenges are neglected.
- Participants realised that social enterprises have existed for quite a long time. CSOs in Tanzania have been implementing activities in the country that carry social enterprise components but were never directly realised as related to social enterprises.
- Those who write about social enterprises in Tanzania remain to be few. Therefore, there is a need to be more informed by incorporating them in many interventions.

Ways Forward

- Advocacy and lobbying for having an enabling environment for social enterprises in Tanzania.
- Capacity building of social enterprises on financial management skills, market analysis, value addition, climate adaptation mechanisms and other areas of concern.
- Establishing and running social enterprises as effective means of reaching out to the communities and addressing their problems.
- More training to help direct focus towards social transformation instead of personal gains. For instance, looking at Istanbul Principles they demand NGOs to use their platform to enhance changes in communities. There must be a strengthened mentality to promote community welfare, not profit accumulation.
- There is a need to organise CSOs and community members together and increase their capacities through training.
- Utilise the few available expertise to insert social enterprise knowledge to CSOs which is good for CSO sustainability. There is also a need to raise awareness in communities about the power of togetherness through groups to tackle poverty through social enterprises as there are many local problems that need localised solutions.
- Advise the government to have meaningful and coherent policies related to social enterprises rather than scattered ones.
- TCDD and a few other experts have paved the way, but more studies are needed about social enterprises and through these studies, social enterprises will be better understood and well-practiced.

4. National Observatorio

TCDD conducted a National Observatorio activity on the Gas Pipeline Project (Mtwara - Dar Es Salaam). The project has impacted many people's lives and properties due to violence enacted on the people of Mtwara where the gas is produced and taken through the pipeline to Dar es Salaam, the business centre and the largest city of Tanzania.

Conflict around the use of natural resources was raised at the end of 2012 in the Mtwara Municipality in Tanzania. Mtwara residents started to show opposition to the extraction of natural gas. More than 12 residents were murdered, properties were destroyed, women were sexually abused and others were tortured as citizens were opposing the project.

Why Now?

- The political atmosphere of the last seven years was threatening both CSOs and opposition political parties. All those who dared to report against the government were jailed or abducted.
- Billions of cubic metres of gas have been discovered in the Mtwara Region, and the government is about to construct a huge liquefied natural gas industry in Mtwara. The Observatorio report will enable CSOs to conduct advocacy campaigns to the government and development partners to alleviate the possibility of reprisals happening again.



Photo: Gas Pipeline Project, Mtwara, Dar es Salaam

PROMOTING CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Dialogue with Development Partners on CSO effectiveness

TCDD conducted a multistakeholder dialogue on the topic, “Civil society as drivers of change in Africa: Tanzania case: What are the challenges and opportunities available for its growth.” The dialogue aimed to discuss and promote CSO effectiveness in Tanzania. The meeting was held on 07 April 2022 at Royal Village Hotel, Dodoma. The dialogue was attended by 52 participants representing CSOs, religious leaders, government, media and international organisations.

CSOs' contribution in Tanzania

- The participants recognised that the CSOs in Tanzania have been playing a historically important role in supporting the delivery of many key social services, particularly health, education and training, awareness raising on climate change, environment, democracy, human rights and transparency and accountability. As of 2020, the CSO sector owns approximately 50 per cent, 40 per cent and 25 per cent, respectively, of higher learning institutions, primary health and education facilities in the country.
- Considering the state of education in Tanzania since independence, there are scores of CSOs doing amazing work in this crucial sector whose work includes creating awareness of the importance of having adequate appropriate infrastructure in the education sector.
- The participants' discussion viewed that, despite the significant roles of CSOs in the country, in bridging the development gap between the government and communities, the Tanzania government does not always see it that way, and has, over the last few years, come up with policies and regulatory frameworks that have severely constricted CSOs' working space. This makes it difficult for CSOs to comply as most grassroots CSOs' awareness is still low and there are not many awareness programmes in the civic space. Because of a lack of awareness of the laws and regulations governing the sector, CSOs have found themselves in constant challenges. These challenges range from coordination, regulation (compliance issues), funding and sustainability issues in the sector.
- The meeting requested the government to view CSOs no longer as a "third sector" but rather, as development partners, as the glue that binds public and private activity together in such a way that strengthens the common good.

Legal challenges observed

- The NGO legal framework in Tanzania has undergone some significant changes since 2019. The NGOs Act has been amended to ensure that CSOs in the country are able to smoothly work. However, the amendment of the NGOs Act has narrowed the definition of NGOs, though it recognised NGOs working on human rights. The amendment has scrapped the certificate of compliance, put excessive powers to the Registrar, and limited the time for certificate validation of registrations.
- In general, the amendment has put the existence of NGOs into the hands of the Registrar on unclear and undefined terms, which threaten the survival of NGOs.
- Furthermore, the participants observed that there is ill will in screening and monitoring of NGO activities which resulted in the deregistering of some organisations without due process of the law, as some were not given any notices, warnings, or were not summoned for hearings.

Opportunities observed

- The willingness of the government to interact and dialogue with the CSOs. There is a political will from the government to interact with CSOs through the NGO Council in Tanzania, NGO Registrar and the Minister responsible for the sector. This could be an important opportunity to table CSO agenda, especially on the legal matters that limit the performance of the CSOs.

- The conducive political environment. The president of the United Republic of Tanzania has recently allowed her government to be criticised constructively. This could be a very important chance for CSOs to keep arguing through media, social media and other platforms on issues concerning limited civic spaces.

Ways Forward

- Use the current political will of the government to advocate for a conducive working environment for CSOs in Tanzania.
- Strengthen CSOs' advocacy through social media and other media to convey key messages to the government, especially on legal issues that hinder the operation of CSOs in the country.
- Strengthen CSOs unity through the Tanzania NGOs Council (NACONGO) and other networks e.g. Policy Forum, TCDD, TenMET, etc. Our unity will amplify our voices and make it easier to reach to policy and decision makers.



Photo: GIZ representative, Mr. Richard Shaba spoke during the dialogue meeting with development Partners on CSOs Effectiveness in Dodoma, Tanzania.



Photo: Mr. Samweli Simon, who is eyes-impaired, was among the participants of the dialogue meeting with development partners on CSO Effectiveness in Dodoma, Tanzania.



Photo: Participants during the dialogue meeting with development partners on CSO effectiveness in Tanzania



Photos: A religious leader speaking during the meeting (right).

2. CSO Effectiveness Review in Tanzania

The 2011 Busan High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) marked a landmark for a new and more inclusive arena for civil society engagement worldwide and Tanzania in particular. It provided a new platform for partnership among different stakeholders and explored the possibilities of what may be achieved in a continuing process of dialogue among governments, parliament, private sector, international institutions, development agencies and civil society, as co-equal partners in development.

TCDD, in collaboration with CPDE, conducted a review of the application of Istanbul Principles in Tanzania entitled, “Analysis on CSO Effectiveness in Tanzania and Application of Istanbul Principles”. This report helped TCDD convene the multistakeholder dialogue at the country level that discussed and promoted CSO development effectiveness in Tanzania.

It has been more than 10 years since these principles were endorsed, but slow progress in meeting the commitments made in Busan has been undeniable. Commitments to a human rights-based approach to development, inclusive partnerships and mutual accountability among stakeholders have been side-lined and even violated at different times.

Tanzania has seen the violation of freedom of expression and suspension of media outlets, as well as the amendments of laws governing freedoms of assembly, freedom of association and enabling environment for NGOs denied. These steps, among others, prove that the momentum achieved in Busan has not been sustained in most African countries, including Tanzania.

Evidence on the implementation of the CSO DE Principles in Tanzania (based on the CSO review report and the multistakeholder dialogue)

- The CSO effectiveness review report and the dialogue TCDD conducted on 24 November 2022 show that there are many CSOs which have been implementing these principles for a long time even before 2010 when the resolution was made.
- Tanzanian CSOs are working in response to Istanbul Principle 1, on human rights and social justice. CSOs empower people to find their voice and secure their rights using holistic approaches, including holding governments accountable to respect, protect and fulfil rights for all people.
- CSOs also work with people to exercise their right to peaceful demonstration and rallies to protect their property and demand social services.
- However, it was advised that to overcome the tendency of “imposed transparency”, it is necessary to continue strengthening self-regulation and internal transparency exercises and mechanisms of institutions that reinforce democracy and an enabling environment to safeguard institutional actions.

Challenges raised as result of the review

- Though the elements of Istanbul Principles have been implemented by CSOs in their daily programmes knowingly and unknowingly, these are not well known to most CSOs in Tanzania. Therefore, they requested TCDD to continue to raise awareness on these principles among all CSOs to have better understanding, and to chart ways in integrating these to their programmes and projects. Resources need to be allocated in order that awareness raising and information sharing may continue at the national and sub-national levels.
- There are no clear guidelines on how to integrate the Istanbul Principles into practice. There is also a relative lack of donor commitment in support of the implementation of these principles in Tanzania making it harder for CSOs to put them into practice.
- Most of the CSOs working in Tanzania are either still project-based or issue-based, making it hard to integrate all Istanbul Principles into their projects because of the need to fulfil donor requirements, especially with regards to outputs and outcomes.

Ways Forward

- Participants requested CPDE, in partnership with TCDD, to continue to raise awareness on the Istanbul Principles across all CSOs. Resources need to be allocated so that information sharing may continue at the local, national and sub-national levels.

- During the dialogue with key stakeholders, CSO needs to reflect on Istanbul Principles and make improvements on their implementation.
- Dialogues among CSOs are needed to raise awareness of CSOs and on how best to implement the principles.
- Development partners should implement what they have committed to, and continue to support CSOs at the country level in implementing the principles.

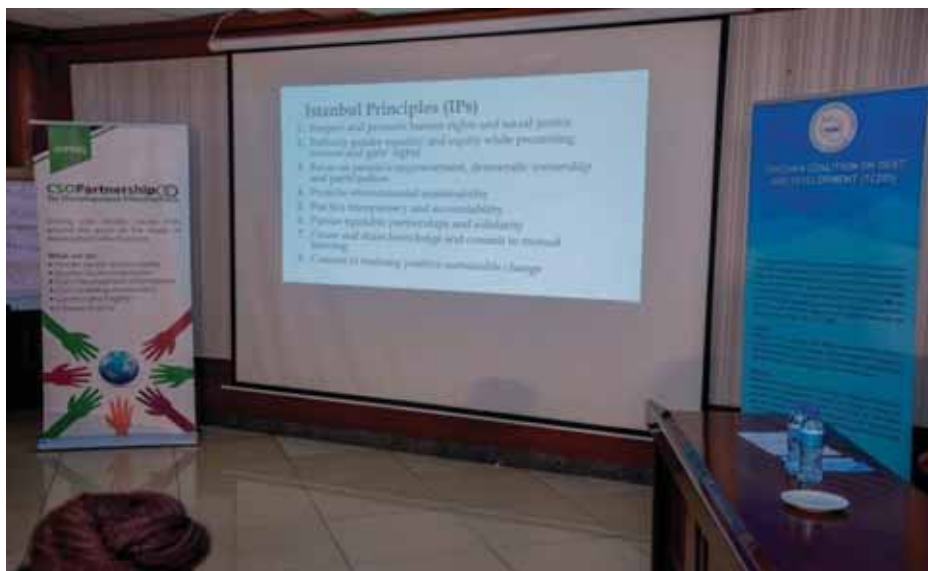


Photo: The multistakeholder dialogue on CSO effectiveness in Tanzania, 24 November, 2022

3. Multistakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness in Tanzania

TCDD organised a multistakeholder dialogue at the country level to discuss and promote CSO development effectiveness and enabling environment for civil society in Tanzania following the review on CSO effectiveness, which was billed as “Analysis on CSO Effectiveness in Tanzania and Application on Istanbul Principles.” The activity was conducted on 24 November 2022, at Peacock Hotel, Dar es Salaam. The dialogue was attended by 45 participants from CSOs, religious leaders, media and other development partners.

Challenges facing CSOs in Tanzania

- Unsatisfactory transparency and accountability among CSOs themselves.
- Shrinking civic space in government-related arenas.
- Red-tapism and excessive bureaucracy for compliance (e.g. tax compliance, financial reporting, narrative reporting and other legal issues).
- Dependency on foreign aid (grants) and change of donor priorities.
- Implementation of short-term projects (1-3 years) which do not generate impact.
- Negative perceptions/mistrust from the government. CSOs are sometimes likened to opposition political parties. In some cases, they are demanded to brand themselves as foreign-funded organisations and disclose the sources of funds they have received.

- Unsatisfactory capacity (technical skills) for designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating development projects.
- Compromise -- some CSOs speak the language of donors. Sometimes CSOs implement projects that do not build on country strategies, priorities and objectives.
- Unfavourable tax regimes in Tanzania especially for those conducting advocacy work in the country.
- Lack of reliable sources of funding.
- CSOs' funding was reduced by the Russian and Ukraine war.
- Questionable integrity – sometimes CSOs just complete the process to satisfy donors.
- Climate change impacts that affect mobility and resources of CSOs

Ways Forward

- The government through the National Five-Year Development Plan 2021/22-2025/26 recognises civil society organisations as essential partners in development endeavours. Therefore, the participants requested the government not to leave CSOs as orphans, to be adopted by the donor community; instead, the government should establish a mechanism to finance CSOs in order to promote meaningful partnerships for development.
- CSOs should strive to improve their financial capabilities by considering other alternatives for fundraising like the establishment of business ventures and thus overcome severe dependencies on donors.
- CSOs should work to improve their internal transparency and accountability within their institution as they advocate to the government.
- The dialogue identified that shrinking civic space and limited interaction with formal government structures limit the growth and participation of many CSOs in Tanzania. These organisations are still too easily dismissed in the country because of a lack of strong, effective lobbying networks that can interact with government structures on an equal footing. Therefore, ongoing efforts are needed in Tanzania to build CSOs' capacity to engage the government in a safe and effective manner.



Photo: Mr. Uzima Milele, facilitator of the multistakeholder dialogue on CSO effectiveness in Tanzania, 24 November 2022

PROMOTING CSO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

1. National Campaign Against Shrinking Civic Space

CSOs in Tanzania, like in other African countries, have experienced serious restrictions and pushbacks when they promote democracy, good governance and human rights, or engage in advocacy and exercise accountability, compared to when they function as agents of service delivery, in which they face no problem with the government.

In this context, the 10 days of action for human rights and civic space campaign on 10-19 December 2021 served a huge purpose in pushing for human rights and civic participation in Tanzania.

On International Human Rights Day, 10 December 2021, TCDD, in collaboration with other CSOs, raised a voice against the restrictions, minimised working and civic spaces and harassment of human rights defenders through the enacted laws and regulations. It led discussions on laws that have negatively impacted citizens' rights to freedom of expression, privacy, assembly and access to information.

The activity was attended by 26 participants, including 20 CSOs, and six (6) media representatives from the following media houses: The Citizen Newspaper, Star TV, Upendo TV, Tumaini TV, Mwananchi Newspaper and Mlimani Radio.

CSO Enabling Environment in Tanzania

- The enabling environment for CSOs in Tanzania is mostly provided by the government. An enabling environment means that there is the presence of legal recognition, political will, civic space for dialogues and involvement in decision-making, support for CSOs from national and local governments.
- As of November 2022, the CSO enabling environment in Tanzania has not changed in terms of legal and policy frameworks. However, there is political will demonstrated by the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan as opposed to the fifth phase government (2015-2021). For example, CSOs are now free to meet and discuss their issues without fear and intimidation from the government. Government officials are also free to attend CSO events- the President was the Guest of Honor during the CSO week in 2021, and Prime Minister Hon .Kassim Majaliwa during CSO week in 2022.

Some issues

- The campaign called on CSOs to start building people's confidence in questioning the government as long as their agenda is one and clear, and their communication is open to the public.
- CSOs called on the Government of Tanzania to take action to remove all barriers that restrict respect for human rights in the country and to restore all human rights in accordance with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

- Urged the people to continue to pressure stakeholders including the government to rewrite the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania in compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

THE BIGGER PICTURE OF EDC IN TANZANIA

The myriad of activities implemented by TCDD, together with other CSOs, is a manifestation of the active role of CSOs in ensuring that EDC is upheld in Tanzania. More importantly, their influence on the government to amend policies concerning the work of NGOs shows how many Tanzanian CSOs are effectively and systematically raising their voices to ensure that they are heard by political and development actors. Notwithstanding the reality that more work still needs to be done when it comes to calling on the government to do its mandate of respecting and protecting CSOs, civil society in Tanzania have made significant leaps in upholding EDC.

As ways forward, it is crucial for CSOs to continue working with each other systematically. There is a need to better cascade information and best practices when it comes to upholding the Istanbul Principles. Enhancement of CSO alliances should be pursued so a stronger rank of civil society voices can be amplified towards achieving development demands. Broadening understanding of social enterprises and their effective engagement with communities must also be strengthened. This comes at a time when private sector engagement needs to be rethought towards seeking alternatives from traditional and large-scale profit-seeking endeavours.

From the side of the Tanzanian government, they must continuously work hand in hand with CSOs through active multistakeholder dialogues, knowledge-sharing initiatives and effective allocation of relevant support (e.g. financial, technical), among others. At the same time, CSOs are called to work closely with communities to make sure that peoples' development demands are heard and sustainably met. In the larger picture, the joint efforts of CSOs and the government must go towards actions that can help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are genuinely responsive to peoples' needs.



India

Nurturing the Seeds of Effective Development Cooperation

CPDE India

INTRODUCTION

India, often called the world's biggest sovereign, secular and democratic republic, faces significant challenges in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which lie at the core of Agenda 2030. Its people's enjoyment of human rights is hampered by widespread poverty, lack of adequate education, restrictions on the right to freedom of expression, the clamp down on civil society organisations (CSOs), violence against religious minorities and the strong sense of hate towards and criminalisation of peace workers. These factors, in recent years, have changed the nature of the nation and the quality of the constitution.

In India, like in many countries, development cooperation, a potent weapon to attain the SDGs, is being utilised to serve economic and political elites, not the people, especially the marginalised. India is witness to how international public finance, including aid, has been increasingly used to attract private investments, instead of directly reducing poverty and inequality. Public finance is being used to advance donor interests, bring in corporations and strengthen the power of international financial institutions. With the growing private sector rhetoric dominating development discourse, India has been slowly abandoning its responsibility to provide public goods, welfare and services, and uphold the rights of its people.

Therefore, there is a need for India to revisit and uphold the principles of effective development cooperation as stipulated in the Busan Partnership agreement:

- Country ownership of development strategy and priorities
- Focus on results
- Inclusive partnerships among development actors and CSOs
- Transparency and accountability

The country's development strategy should be open to dialogue, if not debate and contestation. Results of development cooperation should be evaluated based on sustainability and positive impacts on the poor. Development partners should be engaged and venues for partnership should be created. And lastly, mechanisms for transparency and accountability should be rejuvenated and expanded.

At the theoretical level, civil society, which seeks to represent, give voice to and empower grassroots communities, is crucial to all these principles. It is even more

crucial in light of the historical dominance of the private sector, especially big foreign and local corporations, and the government controlled by political and economic elites, and the marginalisation, if not exclusion, of civil society from development processes.

Many experts and observers assert that the essence of effective development cooperation principles is partnership, a focus on processes that will yield progress towards the SDGs and development. While this emphasis on procedure is open to many criticisms, it is also immediately observable and measurable: without civil society, there can be no genuine development cooperation, let alone an effective one.

From this perspective, the work of civil society in each country and the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) is crucial in effective development cooperation and attaining the 2030 Agenda. The principles of effective development cooperation is championed by the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) in which CPDE represents the civil society sector. The CPDE as such promotes the accountability and development effectiveness of private sector engagement in development partnerships; contributes to reversing the trend of closing and shrinking space for CSOs; promotes the development effectiveness agenda in financing climate action for the SDGs; and ensures the integrity of the global partnership monitoring framework in order to oversee the effectiveness agenda's implementation. It also upholds the Istanbul Principles to ensure CSO development effectiveness.

INDIA'S CIVIL SOCIETY

Ensuring effective development cooperation and CPDE's work in India means building on the country's long, if fraught, history of civil society work. India has a long history of civil society based on the concepts of daana (giving) and seva (service). Voluntary organisations are active in cultural promotion, education, health and natural disaster relief as early as the medieval era. They proliferated during British rule, working to improve social welfare and literacy and pursuing relief projects.

In recent decades, starting in the mid-1970s, major political issues such as the Bangladesh war, the emergency, the empowerment of Dalits and Adivasis and emerging liberative trends in women's movements gave rise to different types of organisations.

Community participation and human rights started to become focal areas from the mid-1970's to early 1980's. The importance of donor funds increased by the mid-1980's and attracted more bilateral funds. In 1976, the government enacted the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in response to an increase in bilateral funds. Even though there was a demand for rights-based funds, the donor agencies continued on the charity path until the late 1970s and early 1980s.

In the early 80s, non-government organisations (NGOs) were recognised as partners for grassroots interventions, advocacy and mobilisation of the marginalised to attain their rights and occupy their political space. In the second

half of the 80s, NGOs started growing in number with diverse new ideas and new players. In the same way, in Western countries, small foundations and donor agencies started mushrooming to fulfil the needs of the marginalised sections of India.

In the 1990s, the government of India started structural adjustment programmes and a "Shining India" campaign. By then, the donor countries and bilateral agencies started focusing on government to channel funds for India. The major funding went to the government welfare agencies, large NGOs and a network of NGOs. In this situation, the lack of focus on small NGOs and community-level interventions was side-lined.

In the last five decades, all the laws governing civil society have gone through various amendments and several changes. For example, as the political situation has changed with stricter monitoring of contribution funds as well as legal compliance with the regulations, said funds have decreased. Many of the previous donors either left India or were told by the government to leave. The government felt that the rights-based and liberative approaches to funds were the main sources of Dalit, women's and Adivasi empowerment and key demands for social justice.

At present, there are several classifications of organisations belonging to civil society, each of which is covered by a particular government agency: voluntary organisations, voluntary agency, NGO, International NGO (INGO), not-for-profit, CSO, community-based organisation and corporate social responsibility organisations.

1. National Consultation and Training on Effective Development Cooperation

The consultation and training was held on 24-25 February 2022 in UTI Bangalore. More than 25 organisations attended and participated. The general objective is to engage CSOs on development effectiveness work and jumpstart CPDE's India chapter.

Programme

The speakers, led by Mr. Jiten Yumnam of the Forum for Indigenous People of Action and the Indigenous Peoples sector of the CPDE and Ms. Subha Wijesiriwardena of Feminist Watch, discussed the principles of effective development cooperation and the work of CPDE, the Istanbul Principles, CSO development work and overseas funding in India and the legal and financial aspects of the FCRA.

During breaks and activity sections, the participants were asked to reflect on their experiences as CSOs, particularly in relation to the challenges they faced, government regulations and foreign funding.

The participants raised many questions about the legal and financial aspects of the FCRA even before the speaker started his discussion. As a result, his session was converted to a lively question and answer portion.

Outcomes

The consultation and training resulted in an understanding among the participants of the topics discussed, with particular emphasis on the importance of effective development cooperation to grassroots communities of marginalised sectors and the important role of CSOs in this.

The participants arrived at an understanding of the common challenges that CSOs in India face, with regard to getting international funding and complying with government regulations. The most basic questions about government regulations were raised during the discussion on the FCRA, such as about filing of annual returns, renewal of registration, suspension and cancellation of registration and offences and penalties and compounding of certain offences.

The participants also agreed to create working groups and forwarded the following recommendations to strengthen CPDE India:

1. Prioritise SDGs and key SDGs 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and the interrelated nature of Goals for evidence building.
2. Focus on evidence-based research and studies on issues affecting peoples' lives, particularly case examples for evidence of SDG implementation, IFIs role, shrinking civic space and corporatisation and privatisation of development cooperation. Translate and relay findings into local languages.
3. Bring out local community voices in advocacies. Bridge the gap between realities in community and government commitments on development effectiveness. Recount local reality to the global agenda and counter the beneficiaries of injustice in society.
4. Influence and change government policies that are detrimental to the effective functioning of CSOs. Shrinking space of CSOs can be one area of advocacy. Take up the issue of FCRA restrictions.
5. Build capacity on development cooperation and effective development cooperation. Seek help of CPDE Global Secretariat for resource persons.
6. The value added of CPDE India needs to be clearly defined. How CPDE India is going to be different in its engagement, evidence building or in collective advocacy need be clearly defined.
7. Form a coordinating team that will lead in consolidating CPDE India. Develop a one-year work plan of CPDE India. Form working groups for documentation, research and advocacy. CPDE India team should meet annually to track progress and to strategies. Explore support for CPDE India, including raising local support, to sustain its work and functioning. Establish an open forum for information sharing among member organisations on issues of concern. Include all those present in the consultation in the existing WhatsApp group and email list.
8. Link with academics, CSOs and the government on research and advocacy. Establish links and coordination with other formations or networks already working in the area or field identified. Strengthen local, national and international advocacies on issues identified.

9. Expand membership of CPDE India, focusing on sectors and regions, while targeting CSOs that work closely with and among marginalised communities. Establish greater interface of CPDE India with CPDE processes and engagements in working groups, regional formations, research and advocacies. Draw lessons from good and excellent country work of other CPDE country formations.
10. Build the CPDE concept within grassroots communities. Create more awareness on Effective Development Cooperation (EDC) and development effectiveness among community organisations from different sectors and regions in India. Enhance the visibility of CPDE in grassroots communities among other CSO formations in India.
11. Promote social enterprises that contribute to attaining SDGs.



Argentina

2022 Annual Progress Report

PAMPA 2030

INTRODUCTION

The creation of the Argentine Monitoring Platform for the Agenda 2030 (PAMPA 2030) in 2016 is part of the work developed by trade union organisations, non-government organisations (NGOs) and faith-based organisations in the framework of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE).

Based on the development effectiveness work in the global partnership framework, PAMPA 2030 has replicated this work at the national level. Between 2016 and 2019, awareness-raising and training on the principles of development effectiveness were carried out and internalised within the 50 social organisations participating in PAMPA 2030.³⁷ Awareness was also raised on the principles of South-South and Triangular Cooperation. PAMPA 2030 monitors compliance with the Agenda 2030 and adapts the SDGs at the local and provincial levels. These activities promote the capacity-building of social actors following the Istanbul Principles, promote democratic ownership, transparency, accountability and empowerment of communities, particularly women and the most vulnerable sectors and disseminate the global work carried out by CPDE.

IMPLEMENTING EDC COMMITMENTS AND THE AGENDA 2030

1. National Observatorio

Objectives

- To provide an adequate space for the exchange of EDC knowledge.
- Provide tools for joint construction of implementation strategies and discussion of the challenges faced in implementation at the national level.
- Organization of an Observatorio for the Agenda 2030 focusing on development effectiveness.

PAMPA 2030 has launched the National Observatorio on 2 and 3 November 2022. It is currently engaged in more specific capacity-building for our monitoring of Agenda 2030 and in particular, the specific targets for effective development cooperation.

Implementation of the “Situation of Adolescent Labour: Quantitative and qualitative dimension of the problem, current regulations and public policies on the issue”

Adolescent labour poses challenges for development effectiveness. Quantitative and qualitative data gathered from the Child and Adolescent Labor Survey in

³⁷ See members of PAMPA 2030: <https://pampa2030.org.ar/quienes-somos/miembros/>.

2017 showed that the actual situation of adolescent labour lags behind the results of the research. The National Observatorio prioritised the data from the said survey and sectoral analysis on the main branches and sectors where adolescent labour is verified.

The events on adolescent labour were attended by members of civil society organisations (NGOs, faith-based organisations, trade unions, academics, human rights organisations and cooperatives).

The youth event was attended by members of the National State, specifically from the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies, International Organisations (the UN, the International Labour Organisation or ILO) and various young people from civil society organisations, scouts, trade unions and cooperatives, among others.

Results

The activity was enthusiastically received. Although it has yet to secure more extensive funding for continuity, it was one of the activities that generated the most enthusiasm because it presents a possibility to monitor using a specific methodology.

Young people also took it with enthusiasm and commitment, given that they could see practically how the tool allows them to monitor and gather information on an issue that is fundamental to them. Most of them are taking their first steps in activism with more professional features, and they enthusiastically use the tool. They asked for specific training, which we are planning for 2023.

2. CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation

Objectives

- Convene constituencies at the national level to advance effective development cooperation advocacy work.
- Build consensus around the approach and implementation of advocacy strategies and efforts that can be articulated with the sectors involved.
- Provide training experience on issues related to the Agenda 2030/SDGs, the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills to propose solutions to specific problems that arise at the local level, integrating and implementing SDGs, targets, indicators and national priorities.
- To lay the foundations for joint inter-organizational work -- among local government, productive actors and social organisations -- for the identification and resolution of local problems in order to strengthen the dissemination and implementation of the Agenda 2030 and that account for EDC.

Program

The forum was held in different parts of the country at different times. There was a great deal of work aimed at:

- Finding the right partners for the implementation of the activities.

- Holding coordination meetings with representatives of each partner organisation.
- Making an initial approach to the EDC theme so that each partner can identify the concept with practices they already carry out, or with a potential agenda to which they can link it, to be able to organise the forum in their region.

It also took a long time to organise the logistics for the fora because they were paid for from Buenos Aires but executed in the provinces. Each forum had prior training activities that allowed it to unify EDC-related concepts. These trainings required the preparation of specific materials. The media and the press departments of local organisations were called upon to disseminate them.

Attendees

Trade unions, representatives of public bodies, representatives of academia or research centres, members of NGOs or foundations, members of social movements, environmental organisations and other representatives of the sectors of education and health attended.

Results

- Raised awareness of civil society actors and governmental stakeholders on the relationship between the 2030 Agenda, the strengthening of civic spaces, democratic ownership, the right to development and the principles of development effectiveness.
- Creation of multistakeholder spaces made up of provincial government actors and civil society groups to monitor public policies in relation to development effectiveness, based on the dimensions of Agenda 2030.

3. Dialogue with Development Partners in the topic of SDGs and Agenda 2030

Objectives

- Build a conceptual framework on the SDGs and the Agenda 2030, prioritising the goals for the province of Tucumán to serve as a reference and foundation for their implementation.
- Acquire the necessary skills to propose solutions to specific problems at the local level, integrating and implementing SDGs, targets, indicators and national priorities.
- Lay the foundations for joint inter-organizational work -- local government, productive actors and social organisations -- for the identification and resolution of local problems that strengthen the dissemination and implementation of the Agenda 2030 and development effectiveness.
- To present methodological criteria and resources for training on SDGs and constructing a common agenda for trade unions and social organisations.

Attendees

- 13 trade unions
- 14 business chambers
- 5 productive nodes
- 5 educational institutions
- 13 civil society organisations

In total, representatives from 66 institutions were present. At the same time, present were three provincial states, representatives of the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies which coordinates the international agenda in Argentina and members of the United Nations Unified System in Argentina (UNDP, ILO, UNEP).

Results

- The activity was well-received, with many praising the strong coordinated work carried out by our organisation.
- PAMPA2030 was able to bring together trade unions, social economy organisations, NGOs, faith-based organisations, feminist organisations, indigenous peoples, environmental organisations and academia, which set common agendas and challenges. This is astonishing to the point of being taken as a model to be replicated in other countries. The space that enabled the dialogue with development partners generated added value for the organisations that are part of PAMPA 2030.

4. National Outreach of Social Enterprises (including Action Research on SEs)

Objectives

- To clarify the scope of the Social, Solidarity and Popular Economy (ESSP) in Argentina and to address the contribution these social enterprises make to the development model in the country.
- Identify critical actors in the PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) sector that are or could potentially be involved in promoting development cooperation.
- Determine the challenges and opportunities for ESSP organisations taking into account the context and conditions of operation in an area/country.
- Explore strategies and recommendations on how CSOs and key ESSP actors could collaborate to support and further develop the ESSP sector as a key actor in equitable and sustainable development.

Program

The main tasks in carrying out this activity were:

1. Planning the research task and scope.
2. Meetings with Gonzalo Vazquez, the consultant assigned by the AOED (Alianza de OSC para la Eficacia del Desarrollo en ALC), to accompany PAMPA 2030 as a tutor in the research.
3. Definition of the methodology and the set of interviews to be carried out.

4. Hard work to coordinate the interviews due to the profile of the people to be interviewed and their multiple occupations.
5. 22 interviews were conducted.
6. Recording of interviews.
7. Processing and drafting.
8. First submission of draft to obtain comments from the tutor.
9. Final drafting.
10. Public presentation in Mendoza and Buenos Aires.
11. Presentation in Mendoza.
12. Presentation in Buenos Aires.

The network is still evaluating whether the network can publish the output.

Attendees

The report presentations were attended by several members of the companies interviewed (recovered enterprises, cooperatives, etc.), academia, trade union representatives and representatives of other civil society organisations that work with cooperatives.

Description of the activity and the discussions of the participating organisations

- Thirty trade unions and civil society organisations were trained to better understand participatory methodology for strategy building in two areas considered priorities by local participants: eradication of child labour (for SDG 8. Target 8.7), sanitation policy and reversal of water scarcity and pollution (for SDG 6), and mechanisms for monitoring development effectiveness of public policies prioritised by local organisations.
- Participants discussed the role of the Social, Solidarity and Popular Economy (SSPE) within the framework of the ILO mandate to strengthen and consolidate the Organisation's leaderships in promoting SSPE within the UN System particularly through normative action. To this end, the ILO is guided by the normative instruments it has adopted: the Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002 (No. 193), the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), the Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205) and the Resolution concerning decent work and the social and solidarity economy adopted at the 110th International Labour Conference.
- Dialogue with the focal points of the government of the Province of Mendoza and development of a common strategy for the elaboration, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and regulations for the promotion of the Social Economy (social enterprises).
- Promote trust between CSOs, social economy and workers.

PROMOTING CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Multilateral Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness

Objectives

- Convene multistakeholder dialogues nationally to discuss and promote CSO development effectiveness and enabling environment for civil society.
- Promote the strengthening of linkages between multiple development stakeholders to enable the development of joint work in the future.

Participants

Members of national, municipal and other Latin American countries, civil society actors (trade unions, NGOs, faith-based organisations and human rights organisations, among others).

Results

All participants received the activities very positively, and the roundtable was considered relevant for the commitments with conclusions and the follow-up work. Below are some key discussion points:

- PAMPA 2030 must bring proposals from the South to the North to allow it to move an agenda of historical demands to the entities that ultimately make global decisions. PAMPA 2030 must denounce human rights violations and demand that the international commitments of developed or donor countries must be assumed and fulfilled.
- A positive aspect of the Agenda 2030 is its participatory construction. However, there are fundamental flaws in the Agenda. It is focused on the planning part but not on the financial part. There is also insufficient follow-up and monitoring capacity and a failure to ensure participatory processes.

PROMOTING CSO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

1. National campaigns against the shrinking of civic space

Objectives

- Raising awareness among social and government actors about institutional violence and how to reduce, prevent and mitigate them. A national campaign to reduce institutional violence will be developed for the most vulnerable populations. Its primary focus will be on people facing homelessness, migrants and Indigenous Peoples.
- To identify the main barriers to participation in civic space faced by the populations in question.
- To promote the coordination of the aforementioned sectors to strengthen their influence in public debates.

Attendees

- Attended by members of trade unions, representatives of public bodies, representatives of academia or research centres, members of NGOs or foundations, members of social movements, environmental organisations and other representatives of the civil society sector.

Results

In this activity, there was an exchange of experiences and joint projects to achieve an expansion of civic spaces, strengthen transparency and create strong, democratic, participatory and inclusive public institutions (SDG 16) and integrate this into the partnerships necessary to meet the goals (SDG 17) for indigenous peoples, migrants and homeless people in the Patagonian region of Argentina.

There were four panels with a maximum duration of 30 minutes each. The panels had three or four speakers, mostly women. Representatives of PAMPA 2030, the ILO, the National Ministry of Labour and teachers' unions and other organisations participated in the panels, where the SDGs were addressed from a federal perspective and with a focus on migrants and indigenous populations. At the end of each panel, questions were exchanged between speakers and the audience that left essential reflections.

Learning about the role trade unions can play in handling complaints about violence in the workplace, based on Convention 190

- Roadmap for the identification of government agents and spaces for denouncing institutional violence, with special emphasis on gender-based violence.
- Awareness of the role of the UN and in particular, regulations on violence, women and diversity and human rights.
- Map recourse to public bodies, offices, etc. linked to the denunciation of human rights violations, threats to freedom of expression and association.

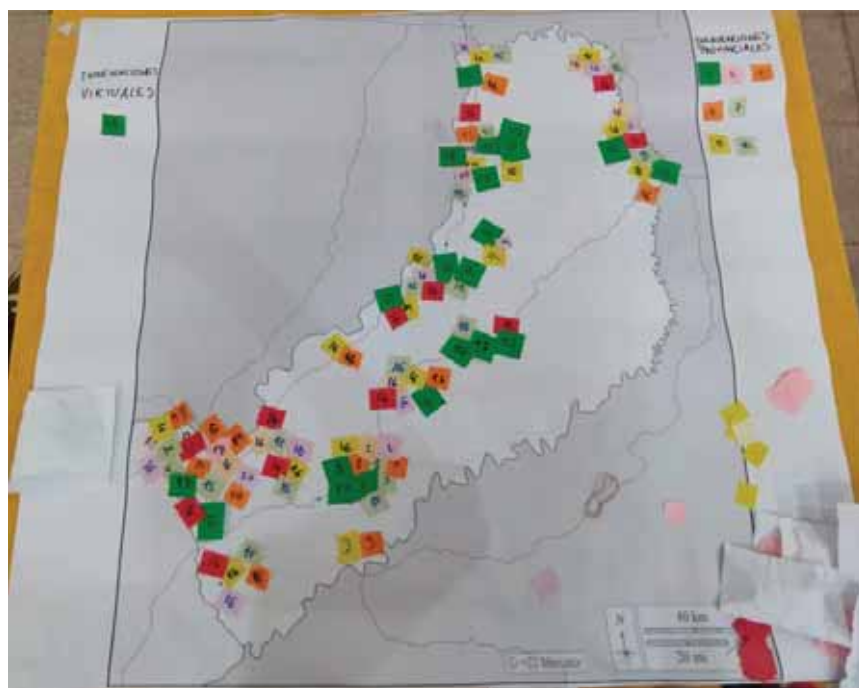


Photo: Participatory Map of CSO territorial interventions to eliminate institutional violence and promote gender equality.

LESSONS LEARNED AND NEXT STEPS (FOR 2023 AND BEYOND)

As expressed in the development effectiveness principles, it is imperative always to seek ownership of the agenda by local actors. Among the lessons learned is the need for prior dialogue on local needs and their possible links with the principles of development effectiveness since for many organisations, these principles are very different from the work on the ground. For this reason, working with partner organisations in the localities (municipalities and provinces) where the fora were held was essential to discovering the specific needs they had for these fora to be helpful.

On the other hand, linking the fora and agenda concepts to local issues was essential to ensure a good turnout and participation. PAMPA 2030 also learned that it needs to budget better, knowing that funds will likely be delayed. Much of the resources that went into localising the EDC agenda were made up of resources borrowed and advanced from Fundación Multipolar. These resources are vital for an organisation working with highly vulnerable people.

Multistakeholder dialogue with development partners

The biggest lesson learned is that when one brings together so many relevant actors in a working and advocacy platform, generating links with development partners is not challenging. Holding a multistakeholder roundtable offers excellent added value for municipalities, governmental states, the national state itself, and the UN system at the national level. It is essential to value the diversity and plurality represented by the platform and at the same time to try to sustain the active participation of its members so that they can also find value in the platform by allowing them to sit down and talk with development partners.

Regarding the elaboration of materials such as roadmaps, declarations and linking with the local authority, PAMPA 2030 have made progress in these areas throughout the work in the localities. Liaison with local authorities and other development partners was effective and efficient due to the country's long history of social dialogue. The construction of a roadmap or declaration still needs to be improved due to the dynamics of local organisations, but PAMPA 2030 has been adjusting the products in this direction. In provinces such as Tucumán, local actors have successfully presented to their local authorities a program for development effectiveness and priorities in terms of public policies for sustainable development. In the case of the province of Misiones, its priorities were more linked to climate and climate finance. During the 2022 period, the network has observed progress in linking with other development actors. This will be followed up with specific climate and gender equality issues.

The great lesson is that the network should generate more spaces like this one in which diverse actors participate in discussions on these transversal issues to nations and organisations. CSOs in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region must continue to work to promote its proposals and demands on the global agenda and, based on existing experience and initiatives, place issues of interest to our peoples at the forefront of development demands.

National Observatorio

PAMPA 2030 has promoted the systematisation of quantitative and qualitative data that it initially published in briefs. The investigation on youth issues is the first implementation of the Observatorio's methodology. The network made progress in the systematisation and dissemination of results on youth issues. This allowed the network to link the objective of the Observatorio to issues of interest that the PAMPA 2030 organisations work on.

The National Observatorio was inaugurated on 2 and 3 November 2022, presenting the first results of the survey on the Social, Solidarity and Popular Economy (social enterprises) and their contribution to development effectiveness. Since its creation, PAMPA 2030 has developed lines of work related to:

- Protected Adolescent Labor. Quantification and Priority Sectors of Youth Labor.
- Diagnostic analysis of the situation of elders in Argentina.
- Institutional Violence.
- Gender Violence and Public Policies – developing interactive maps for CSO interventions to prevent, mitigate and redress gender violence and diversities.

PAMPA 2030 also notes the need to improve the narrative of social networks to convey the results of the Observatorio so that it is effective, efficient and reaches a younger, less specialised audience. A goal is to avoid reproducing the information circuits in a target already involved in development effectiveness, limiting the growth of CPDE and its fundamental role.

RESOURCES:

1. National Observatorio

- a. “Situation of Adolescent Labour: Quantitative and qualitative dimension of the problem, current regulations and public policies on the issue” Programme: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1kxcN94IUCaUKea6uNF5AU1CWNdpHminU/edit#slide=id.p1>
- b. Report on adolescent labour: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ml1riwAXEhfQOZSEoYd9TALbvRxIzWOJ/edit?rtpof=true>
- c. Youth: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Lu4Fj06BLA0KFAZiOmS86j_5bNK7Xy8I/view?usp=share_link

2. National campaigns against the shrinking of civic space

- a. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sY6xOuU_qqSNVqXTvpuusBiRotsly0o/view?usp=sharing

3. CSO Forum on EDC

- a. Buenos Aires: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1v50EKYFDInvtnSJitpV1Tg-kr5uUbrA>
- b. Tucumán: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y5tiOlpsWpODg2wE9snS8p3oNxCAzbAo/edit>
- c. Missions: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1loFhpqlo6yFnHPEyQmVGPaT0YoVXDm6v/edit>

4. Tucumán PAMPA 2030 Workshop

- a. Programme: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1idMLEReh4VUkRZJfOFLCI7yTLfgayglP/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104034754679066549821&rtpof=true&sd=true>

5. Social Entreprises

- a. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ji8ddwPYXPVQIhWWF_IType0UmCBLsDI/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104034754679066549821&rtpof=true&sd=true



Zimbabwe

Social Enterprises and Action Dialogue

National Association of Youth Organisations

INTRODUCTION

Zimbabwe is a lower middle-income country with an estimated population of 14.8 million as of 2020, the majority of whom live in rural areas. Its Human Development Index (HDI)³⁸ of 0.571 placed the country in the medium human development category, ranking 150 out of 189 countries in 2019.

Regarding attaining the Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), progress remains uneven across several sectors, including health and education. While there have been improvements in health outcomes, maternal and child mortality remains high. The literacy rate in the country ranks among the highest in Africa, at 92.1 per cent, notwithstanding the threat posed by an increase in the number of children dropping out of school. Gender inequality remains high, with women lagging in almost every metric of development progress. The country retains little resilience to shocks (economic, climate and health). Cyclone Idai in 2019, coupled with years of successive drought and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, had severe impacts, which have left more than half the population food insecure. These also threaten to reverse fragile but important development gains of the past few years.

Zimbabwe has, in recent years, seen a significant regression in the progress achieved with the SDGs. Poverty has increased dramatically. A serious economic situation combined with a deep political crisis dominated by the succession issue is the insecure and unpredictable context of development challenges. The main development challenges include high poverty levels, increasing food insecurity, lack of democratic governance and respect for human rights, weak public administration, vulnerability to climate change, unsustainable use of natural resources, deep-rooted clientelism, widespread corruption and lack of gender equality. Some commitment to reform is discernible, but what this may mean in practice remains to be seen. The risk of increased political unrest, deepening economic decline and increased poverty is high.

In 2017, the government announced Zimbabwe's Vision 2030³⁹ statement which aims to move the country, "Towards a Prosperous and Empowered Upper Middle Income Society by 2030." The vision represents an overarching framework to achieve the Agenda 2030 and the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063. The vision would be attained through the implementation of the Transitional Stabilisation Programme (TSP) 2018-2020 and two medium-term development strategies. The government has demonstrated its commitment to finance the current National Development Strategy (NDS1) covering the period 2021-2025 (and by

³⁸ The [Human Development Index \(HDI\)](#) is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalised indices for each of the three dimensions.

³⁹ VISION 2030: "Towards a Prosperous & Empowered Upper Middle Income Society by 2030". (2018). Government of Zimbabwe. <https://www.zim.gov.zw/index.php/en/government-documents/category/1-vision-2030>.

extension the SDGs), through budgetary allocations in line with NDS1 priorities, programmes and initiatives, hinged on an Integrated Results-Based Management (IRBM) framework for concrete deliverables. Despite limited fiscal space, this undertaking represents a firm commitment for not only NDS1 implementation but also the environment within which the ZUNSDCF will be implemented.

The 14 thematic areas of NDS1 are premised on, and aligned to the SDGs, with an SDG estimate alignment of 75 per cent, including cross-cutting themes such as gender equality and disability inclusion. The SDGs provide a key component in understanding the country's commitment to the Effective Development Cooperation (EDC) Agenda. Zimbabwe has a well-defined institutional framework for coordinating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating progress towards the SDGs. At the apex of this structure, is a Steering Committee that meets bi-annually to review progress and report to Cabinet. The country's Vision 2030 is anchored on five strategic clusters, namely: governance, macro-economic stability and re-engagement, inclusive growth, social and human capital development and infrastructure and utilities. It provides the overall guiding framework and foundational pillars for the implementation of the SDGs. While the SDGs have been integrated and mainstreamed into the NDS1 and annual budgets, greater effort is required to localise and integrate the SDGs at the sub-national and sectoral levels, including integrating them in dynamic community processes and structures for more effective implementation.

Zimbabwe has prioritised SDGs 2 (Zero hunger), 3 (Good health and well-being), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 13 (Climate action) and 17 (Partnership for the goals) as the most critical, based on the country's national development priorities within the context of available resources. However, the country has remained committed to realising all the 17 SDGs. Zimbabwe considers these priority goals as critical to addressing the most pressing national development challenges and having the potential to generate multiplier effects across many sectors and other goals.

In addition, Zimbabwe has adopted a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to development planning and programme implementation as it recognises that no sector or segment of society acting alone, can achieve the SDGs. Zimbabwe's SDG index score stood at 53.8 per cent in 2020, declining from 56.1 per cent in 2017. Zimbabwe was ranked 125th out of 166 countries. Despite the economy showing signs of improvement, poverty remains high, with extreme poverty increasing from 30 per cent in 2017 to 38 per cent in 2019. In conducting its Voluntary National Review (2021), Zimbabwe found that progress towards the SDGs is mixed.

AID

The government of Zimbabwe continues to receive support from development partners to address some of the core development challenges which the country faces. While the country does not receive direct budget support, aid flows are channelled via alternative mechanisms such as the United Nations (UN) coordinative framework, and CSOs bypassing the government. The lack of

budget support is premised on the need for Zimbabwe to improve its human rights record, meet its obligations with creditors and improve country systems to absorb aid flows.

- Between 2002 and 2012, Zimbabwe received USD 5.6 billion in ODA (28th highest globally) and net ODA of an estimated USD 757.8 million in 2014, which is equivalent to 5.4 per cent of GNP.
- The US Agency of International Development (USAID) has provided more than USD 3.2 billion in development assistance to Zimbabwe since its independence in 1980.
- In 2019, the country received USD 974.89 million, according to the World Bank, an increase from the 2018 figures of USD 794 million.
- In 2021, the country received USD 961 million in special drawing rights (SDR) from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) providing a unique opportunity to fight COVID-19 and work towards achievement of the SDGs.
- In 2019, top donors for Zimbabwe included the United Kingdom (UK), Japan, United States of America (USA), European Union (EU) institutions and Germany (Aid for Trade).
- During the first three quarters of 2022, the country received ODA amounting to USD 638.3 million, of which, USD 402 million was from bilateral partners and USD 236.3 million from multilateral partners. USD 124.2 million is expected to be disbursed during the fourth quarter, bringing the total support for the year to USD 776 million.
- The support was channelled towards funding programmes and projects in various sectors of the economy which include health, agriculture and education.

Sector Distribution	2022 Jan-Sept, Act	2022 Q4 Proj	2022 Proj	2023 Proj
Agriculture	100.1	25.9	33.8	20.2
Education	8.9	7.7	15.1	25.3
Emergency Response	33.6	8.8	119.7	11.6
Energy	13.7	23.9	20.9	13.5
Forestry	0.3	2.0	0.0	5.6
Governance	42.6	16.0	16.1	44.2
Health	408.3	140	496.6	212.9
Manufacturing & Value Addition	1.4	0.3	0.0	5.7
Mineral Resources & Mining	-	-	0.0	0.2
Other Social Infrastructure & Services	14.4	3.9	66.9	4.2
Tourism	2.4	0.1	0.0	0.8
Trade Policies & Regulations	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.4
Transport & Storage	0.2	0.1	1.1	0.6
Water & Sanitation	12.1	5.0	5.7	6.7
Total	628.3	234.0	776.0	352.8

Source: MoFED

The sector receiving the highest aid flows is the health sector which is largely financed through external support as the government grapples with financing the sector that is key to development, well-being of citizens and the achievement of the SDGs. Aid flows within the sector are channelled through various programmes. Key among these are the Global Fund which supports malaria and HIV/AIDS programmes and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which is supported by the American government.

The health sector in 2021 received USD 212.9 million which was directed toward vaccination programmes, maternal health programmes and the fight against malaria and HIV/AIDS. There is an urgent need to capacitate health institutions to have vital equipment to enhance the type of services offered.

The governance sector is the second most supported in Zimbabwe. The focus of this support has been on institutional strengthening to enable improved governance through the establishment of key institutions decentralised to the district level where possible and supporting reforms in the sector that can enable better service provision. The sector is supported to the tune of USD 44.2 million.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The government of Zimbabwe developed an elaborate Development Cooperation Policy Framework which was launched in 2019 to coordinate, support and ensure inclusive participation of diverse actors in development cooperation at the national level. The policy is seen as domesticating several global commitments that relate to effective development cooperation and the Agenda 2030. The policy framework accelerates re-engagement efforts under the 'New Dispensation' with the international community as well as the broader development community in Zimbabwe, reinforces and expands development partnerships, strengthens the development architecture in Zimbabwe and institutionalises both vertical and horizontal mutual accountability.

It compliments "ongoing economic reforms, particularly in fiscal policy and debt management, and enhances economic governance by fostering policy consistency, efficient public sector institutions, transparency and accountability" and clarifies the country's vision of inclusive partnerships and provides a framework for improved management and coordination of development cooperation. The launch of the policy framework under the Second Republic by the government signals improved political will to support the effective development cooperation agenda as it caters for the shift from aid effectiveness to EDC.

SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE

The government of Zimbabwe recently announced its intentions to change the existing Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) Act to limit cases of money laundering and to prevent non-state actors from taking part in political activities. If passed, the Act will negatively affect public sphere activities especially the smaller organisations that are actively involved in community-based charity work in marginalised communities. Some of its aspects have been mooted to be

unconstitutional and arbitrary making it impossible for many organisations to get formally registered and operate. CSOs have helped the government by providing social and economic goods to the affected areas. CSO goals have complimented the government's development goals.

In November 2021, the government of Zimbabwe published the PVO Bill in the Government Gazette. This legal instrument was crafted to regulate the existence and operations of all voluntary organisations. The Bill's scope directly affects organisations focusing on physical and social needs, charity, legal aid, animal welfare and resource mobilisation. Religious bodies, statutory institutions, political organisations and educational trusts are among the entities excluded from the regulations of the Bill.

The government alone cannot reach every household and achieve its development strategy. Governments need non-state actors especially those involved in the delivery of social and economic goods. Thus, the government should work in collaboration with other non-state actors to achieve sustainable development. The adoption of the bill has since been approved by the National Assembly and the Senate. The enactment of the Bill will have a huge adverse effect on the chances of achieving the aspirations of the National Development Strategy One and ultimately achievement of the SDGs.

The PVO Bill negatively affects achievement of several SDG's in the following ways:

- SDG 1 on ending poverty: some organisations working on poverty reduction might permanently lose their legal status and will have to stop their operations.
- SDG 2 on ending hunger: some organisations working on food aid will face restrictions on fundraising and resource mobilisation.
- SDG 4 on providing quality education: this will be negatively affected due to the limitations on resource mobilisation.
- SDG 6 on the provision of clean water and sanitation and affordable and clean energy: organisations criticising the government's service delivery may have their registration cancelled.
- SDG 8 on the creation of decent work and economic growth: will be affected in two ways; on the one hand, the elimination of organisations that criticise government failures in employment creation and economic growth, on the other hand, through the termination of employment of thousands of Zimbabweans employed in the affected organisations.

CSO-donor engagement has come under the spotlight, with interactions between CSO actors and the development partner community being seen as peddling a regime change agenda. Political rhetoric increased between 2021 and 2022 discouraging engagement, with the Patriotic Bill seeking to introduce penalties for CSO actors that engage with development partners from Western

countries. This goes against the provisions of the National Development Cooperation Policy which recognises CSOs as actors in development, with a defined role to play that includes engagement with other development actors, including development partners.

Zimbabwe is regarded as an insecure destination for donor funding. Currently, many donors do not want to bring funds to Zimbabwe. Government rhetoric suggests a donor-led regime change agenda and thus, the government has generally been hostile to donor organisations. However, there is no evidence to support that all donors from all over the world are interested in regime change. There are many well-meaning donor countries and organisations that have continued to work in Zimbabwe despite the uncertainties to do with currency stability, unclear laws and heightened partisan-based polarisation.

The proposed law will bring forth a new wave of donor flight and this will further weaken the national development agenda of opening Zimbabwe for national, regional and international business. Non-state or civil society organisation space is a significant source of income. According to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, in 2021 alone, the income that was channelled into the Zimbabwean economy by NGOs was USD 975.16 million. There is likely going to be a significant decline in mobilised financing if the bill is passed.

The CSO sector is increasingly growing to be a major source of employment for many graduates from universities and other tertiary institutions. This will be negatively affected if NGOs face closure due to the change in law. Furthermore, CSOs are globally recognised as credible sites of innovations and leadership development. Locally, innovations such as Pfumbvudza and rainwater harvesting were first developed and piloted by NGOs before being adopted by the government. Traditional systems such as 'Zunde raMambo/isiphala seNkosi' have been further refined by NGOs to create community resilience. The two were agrarian measures adopted by civil society through its participation in impoverished communities to enhance food security.

CPDE IN ZIMBABWE IN 2022

The National Association of Youth Organisations (NAYO) which serves as country focal point in Zimbabwe for the CPDE under the country initiatives project supported CSO engagement with diverse actors which included social enterprises, development partners, the parliament, the government, fellow CSOs and trade unions. These engagements contributed to various recommendations targeted at different actors within Zimbabwe, constituting the key advocacy issues for local CSOs based on the country context.

The 2022 annual Effective Development Cooperation Report refers to selected initiatives that are seen as advancing the development cooperation discourse in Zimbabwe and that which can accelerate action at the national level to achieve the SDGs and the NDS1 priorities. These include:

1. Social Enterprises Action Research

The action research explored the Zimbabwe context that lacks the legal framework guiding social enterprise (SE) operations in the country has little to no

government support of the sector and very little understanding of the SE concept among key stakeholders. The contextual analysis confirmed that the Zimbabwe SE sector is in its nascent stage of development. The action research was largely qualitative and due to the fluid nature of the SE sector in Zimbabwe, the snowballing sampling technique was employed after a stakeholder mapping exercise was done to identify potential participants. The research utilised key informant interviews, focus group discussions and asynchronous discussions as key data collection methods. Data collected from these approaches were triangulated using desk reviews to validate and improve the quality of the data collected. The presentation of data also utilised case studies drawn from the research respondents to demonstrate results.

The Lupane Women Development Centre which is a women-based enterprise supporting women in craft-making, Binga Craft Centre which also supports local craft-makers in Binga and Money Mart Microfinance which offers financial solutions to emerging enterprises were selected as case studies. These case studies have two common features which are engaging the poor as primary stakeholders (SEPPS) and supporting women's economic empowerment. The action research identified several SE stakeholders including key SE actors and government quasi-agencies that can potentially be engaged in the development cooperation advocacy. These include Money Mart Microfinance, Self-Help Development Foundation, Powerlive Zimbabwe, Binga Craft Centre, Sinethemba Women and Youth Development Trust, Lupane Women Development Centre, Christian Youth Volunteers Trust, Talia Women's Network, Jekesa Pfungwa / Vulingqondo, Tamuka Foundation, Zimbabwe Women's Bureau, Zimbabwe Youth Council, Empower Bank, Zimbabwe Association of Microfinance Institutions and Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises.

The identified SE actors and stakeholders provide the basis for SE engagement in development cooperation advocacy in Zimbabwe. The action research identified potential opportunities for SEs in Zimbabwe on SE legislation, policy framework advocacy and formalisation of SEs. The SE sector in Zimbabwe has the potential to leverage national development plans such as the Zimbabwe National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1), Development Cooperation Policy Framework (2020) and the SDGs among others. These emphasise the need for multi-stakeholder and inclusive collaboration to drive development and growth in Zimbabwe. The action research noted the glaring absence of policy and legal framework to support the work of SEs and shifts within the legal framework for non-state actors. The proposed Private Voluntary Organisations Bill before the Parliament seeks to limit the powers of non-state actors in areas such as fundraising.

The SE research made these key recommendations key to setting the tone for the EDC agenda in Zimbabwe:

- The government of Zimbabwe must ensure an enabling environment for positive enterprise development through the development of a clear policy and legislative framework that recognises and sets out the parameters of the sector. This will enhance the visibility and growth of the sector and allow for stock-taking of the sector's contribution to sustainable development.

- SEs must partner with local universities, such as the Midlands State University's Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and access incubation services that may help to transform their enterprises. Incubation services will help them to solve the challenges of infrastructure as well as advisory services.
- The government must provide tax relief and roll out education programmes for social entrepreneurs on tax knowledge. SEs in Zimbabwe require a lot of assistance to grow their businesses due to the volatility of the macro-economic environment and tax reliefs can incentivise the SE actors.
- The government must enhance better coordination between the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises, and the Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation to ensure uniformity in the regulation of the SE sector.
- SEs operating in the country must collectively self-organise and create a representative body that can drive SEs advocacy issues, engage relevant authorities and potential partners, and represent SEs in policy-making fora. The sector can benefit greatly from speaking with a coordinated voice which comes from immense organising.

2. Action Dialogue

In the context of the action dialogue, several commitments were made by development actors to enhance action at the national level to ensure the achievement of Agenda 2030. Commitments are seen as critical as part of a national multi-stakeholder process as they provide important benchmarks on which to assess progress. These include:

The Parliament

- The Parliament committed to initiate the formation of a Parliamentary Caucus that focuses on Effective Development Cooperation at the country level that will have closer insight into the practices of development actors and flows of ODA. Currently, the Parliament's oversight role is limited as there is no specific focus on development cooperation.
- The Parliament committed to working with CSO actors to advance laws that create an enabling environment for all development actors to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. There is an urgent need to raise awareness of the importance of development cooperation.
- The Parliament committed to strengthening its collaboration with CSOs to gain insights on effective development cooperation and champion the agenda at the national level.

The Government

- The government committed to engaging the Executive on prevailing legal, regulatory and administrative practices with a view of creating an enabling environment of non-state actors that fosters dialogue, mutual accountability and transparency.
- The government committed to advance the Youth and Child indicator elements adopted in the review of the monitoring rounds of the Global Partnership and to take active participation in the 2024 Monitoring Round.

- The government committed to the inclusion of CSOs in existing development cooperation coordination architecture. In making this commitment, the government noted the need for CSOs through their national apex umbrella organisation (NANGO) to enhance the flow of information as the government might not be able to include and involve directly all the CSOs.

Civil Society Organisations

- CSOs committed to developing shared standards (code of conduct/self-regulation mechanism) that will set minimum standards by which CSOs must be guided in the conduct of their work. These will ensure CSOs are transparent, practice accountability across the different levels, allow for locals to own development initiatives and ensure alignment with national development plans. Currently, there is no such mechanism in place and on several occasions, the transparency and accountability practices of CSOs have been questioned by the government.
- Initiating through the apex organisation for CSOs in Zimbabwe, the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) dialogue that is CSO led which engages the government on issues of Development Cooperation, guided by the prevailing National Development Plan (NDS-1).
- CSOs committed to aligning their work with the National Development Strategy (NDS-1) and liaising with government line ministries on reporting on the SDGs and pillars of the development plan that they feed into.

Development Partners

- Committed to deepening dialogue and engagement at the national level in the context of development cooperation.
- Committed to supporting the efforts of CSOs toward enabling the CSO environment by availing funding modalities that allow for CSOs to dialogue, engage citizens and work with existing structures created by the government to ensure sound laws are enacted.
- Committed to dialogue and engaging with CSOs on the predictability of funding directed to CSOs.

3. Policy Prescriptions

Trust Building between the Government and CSOs

In light of the continuing shrinking of civic space, there is an urgent need to foster government and CSO collaboration based on international commitments on CSO Enabling Environment and the Busan Partnership Principles.

- Promotion of dialogue and the direct interface between CSOs and the government in the context of development cooperation.
- Bi-annual open dialogue forum that is convened by the government and CSOs to focus on issues of Development Cooperation.
- The meaningful inclusion and participation of CSOs in government processes. The tendency promotes the tokenistic participation of CSOs in government-led processes.

- Active uptake of the international commitments on CSO EE that have been agreed upon in Outcome Documents at the national level by the government.
- A strong conflict management and resolution framework must be put in place to identify, address and solve the conflicts that currently exist between the two parties. A mediator can then thresh out issues of focus allowing for both parties to move toward a more constructive and open relationship.
- Development of laws, guided by international and regional law that respect the fundamental freedoms of association, expression and assembly key to the work of the diverse actors in the Global Partnership at the national level. There is a need for effective legal guides in both the government and civil society, which gives room for free operation between CSOs and the government.
- Donors should desist from attaching conditionality to development cooperation and allow developing countries to take ownership of the development process.
- The government should guarantee civic space for all and see civil society and the donor community as allies in development initiatives and not enemies.
- Facilitation of trust building through building more transparent and accountable governments that hear the voices of citizens by decentralising power and resources to local communities that allow citizens to participate in government and multilateral decision-making.

Strengthening partnerships (action) to meet the SDGs at the national level

- Localising the SDGs. The government undertook this process, there is a need for information dissemination on the outcome of the process.
- Creation of an Enabling Environment for CSOs that respects and recognises CSOs as independent development actors, with a voice in national processes. The PVO Amendment Bill must not be enacted in its current format. A new process to develop the Bill must be initiated by the government.
- Strengthening the ability of the national statistical agency to interpret data from CSO actors. The data generated by the agency only captures information related to government agencies and excludes all other actors. Data for non-state actors are not considered official. This creates challenges in the interpretation of the development context by actors.
- The government is called to relax administrative practices at the local level, which makes communities inaccessible for CSOs and other actors.
- Greater CSO inclusion in the government-led SDG implementation matrix and coordination. Thematic meetings are no longer being held by the government lessening learning, exchange and coordination at the national level on SDG implementation.
- Promotion of citizen-centric collaborative governance.

Palestine

Annual Progress Report 2022

Social and Economic Policies Monitor - Al Marsad

INTRODUCTION

The Social and Economic Policies Monitor (Al Marsad) was founded in 2012 by a group of young activists and researchers who came together to protect the social and economic rights of the Palestinian people. It is a Palestinian research and campaigning civil society organisation (CSO) specialising on monitoring the Palestinian government's socio-economic policies and holding them to account to ensure social justice for all Palestinians, particularly the most vulnerable. To that end, Al Marsad employs a combination of evidence-based research and a platform for social engagement, working alongside other Palestinian and regional CSOs to advocate for equitable social and economic policies.

Al Marsad has extensive experience in the area of social, economic and cultural rights. It co-led and executed a number of national studies and used them as basis for mobilising nationwide advocacy campaigns on development issues, women, refugees, social security, informal labour, persons with disabilities (PWD), right to education, right to health, social security and tax justice (examples include The National Campaign for Social Security in Palestine⁴⁰, Bloody Basil⁴¹).

Al Marsad has been working on shrinking civic space and held several workshops on this issue such as the one focused on "The Shrinking Space of Palestinian NGOs and Means of Resistance"⁴². Al Marsad holds an annual international conference that focuses on social movements: 2016, Right to Health in Times of War⁴³; 2017, Social Movements⁴⁴; 2018, Food Sovereignty.. Colonisation and Borders (in partnership with UAWC and La Via Campesina⁴⁵). In addition, Al Marsad took the lead in coordinating the production of regional studies and took part in the working committee of a number of regional initiatives.

Moreover, they are representing both the Secretariats of the Social Security National Campaign and the Palestinian Coalition for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Adaleh). Adaleh is a social alliance of around 65 Palestinian CSOs that was co-founded by Al Marsad in 2017. Both bring together diverse civil society actors in unified and organised efforts to defend the social, economic and cultural rights of the Palestinian people.

Al Marsad adopts all principles of effective development cooperation in its research and advocacy work, ensuring national ownership of priorities, transparency and shared responsibility, inclusive partnership and focus on

⁴⁰ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQVcD2_r4vI.

⁴¹ <http://www.almarsad.ps/archives/835>.

⁴² <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=187499886643802>.

⁴³ <https://www.facebook.com/Social.and.Economic.Policies.Monitor/photos/a.880219468759021/1392298154217814>.

⁴⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/Social.and.Economic.Policies.Monitor/photos/a.880219468759021/1774628299318129/>.

⁴⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/Social.and.Economic.Policies.Monitor/videos/460390894686236>.

results. Al Marsad monitors donors' funding strategies in Palestine, which, in many cases, do not respond to national priorities and are not developed through consultations with Palestinian national actors, and advocates for more responsive funding to Palestinian priorities. Al Marsad also monitors the Palestinian government's policies and spending in Palestine through regular reviews and analyses of public budgets and development priorities as well as the government's investment and budget allocations for different sectors. The organisation has produced several critical policy recommendations demanding fair public budget allocations and spending in the social sector (health, education, empowerment, etc.). It also ensures inclusive partnerships with all relevant stakeholders.

In 2016, Al Marsad initiated and led the landmark National Campaign for Social Security, which represented a significant step in the history of the Palestinian social movement. The campaign, the first of its kind in Palestine, brought together workers and trade unions, women's and youth organisations, NGO networks and experts, in an organised effort to fight the injustices⁴⁶ that shaped the Social Security Law drafted by the Palestinian Authority, and to ensure the interests and aspirations of Palestinian workers and employees are integrated in the law.

An important context to this report is the internal divide in 2007. Since that year, the Palestinian Executive Authority, particularly the president, has seized the Palestinian Legislative Council's (PLC) legislative and oversight functions. This violates the Palestinian Basic Law (Constitution) and denies the PLC its capacity to ensure the balance of power and defend the people's interests. This has led to diminished accountability and oversight, including over the approval of public budgets and monitoring of public spending. The president has been governing the country through laws by decree, a violation of the separation of powers that has resulted in weakening the judiciary and undermining its independence. This has caused damage to Palestine's governance system and all aspects of life, jeopardising the rule of law and shrinking the space of civil society.

IMPLEMENTING EDC COMMITMENTS AND THE AGENDA 2030

1. National Observatorio

Objectives

- To support and strengthen national EDC monitoring efforts.
- To monitor public budgeting and spending, especially in the absence of the Palestinian Legislative Council (parliament), where the executive authority has seized the oversight function of the PLC since the internal divide in 2007.

Programme

Main tasks included the identification of topics to be addressed within the framework of the initiative, research and production of critical knowledge,

⁴⁶ "The Social Security Law in Palestine: A Seek for Justice". (2017). Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Regional Office Palestine. <https://www.rosaluxemburg.ps/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Rosa-Luxemburg-Articles-English-Firas-Jaber-Paper.pdf>.

production and dissemination of audio-visual materials through the social media outlets of Al Marsad and its partners.

- Al Marsad produced and published a research paper that addressed injustice in the Palestinian tax system focusing on the proposed amendments to the income tax law and the newly drafted law by decree of value-added tax (VAT)⁴⁷. Based on the research paper, Al Marsad submitted a memorandum titled "Critical review of the draft law by decree of VAT", which included 18 critical comments on the 156 articles of the draft law, which Al Marsad believes must be taken into consideration before approving the draft law. Based on the findings of this research paper, Al Marsad, in collaboration with Adaleh initiated and led an intensive advocacy campaign against the new draft law, which led to amending the draft to reflect the demands of the campaign. In addition, Al Marsad initiated a campaign against the proposed amendments to the income tax law. These two campaigns were covered by other financial sources.
- Al Marsad researched the status of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both globally and in Palestine. Based on the findings of the research, Al Marsad produced a video on SDGs, which was covered through the initiative "Actions against Shrinking Space"⁴⁸. It was disseminated on International Human Rights Day and provided an overall picture of the SDGs and highlighted six of them and their relevant fundamental human rights providing detailed data on their status in Palestine and globally: SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), SDG 3 (Good health and wellbeing), SDG 4 (Quality education), SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation).
- In addition, Al Marsad produced and disseminated a video, "Oversight of Public Budgeting and Spending in Palestine"⁴⁹. The film is based on the research paper, "Fiscal Reform as We Explain It to Our Children". The video provided a critical analysis of the fiscal reform plan of the Palestinian government, highlighting major issues:
 - The majority of countries have adopted fiscal policies that seek to control inflation, erosion of wages and the sharp increase in energy and basic commodity prices, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukrainian war, by increasing governmental support and public spending.
 - On the contrary, the Palestinian government took completely opposite measures as per its fiscal reform plan such as reducing public spending in priority sectors such as health, education and social protection. The reform plan is mainly based on reducing the income of thousands of Palestinian families by at least 30 per cent.
 - The reform should take different paths such as reducing public debt, resisting Israel's illegal deduction of Palestinian tax revenues, fighting corruption and enhancing public spending on priority sectors.

⁴⁷ "ةيبيرخل ةلادغل ققحت ال ةحرتقملا لخدلا قبيرض نوناق تاليدغت: "لصيرمل" (2022) . WATTAN <https://www.wattan.net/ar/news/361624.html>

⁴⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1088674851979370&ref=sharing>.

⁴⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/Social.and.Economic.Policies.Monitor/posts/pfbid02enZce8GPeKoF4Antmd1mZCnWDwSCyRj2bcsUDxGCFRcdGJAHLGxGFaKgnzqf9Ao3l>.

- Al Marsad also produced and widely disseminated four posters based on the research paper; these posters were financially covered from another donor. The posters conveyed different messages to the public. The highlighted that all governments increased public spending except for the Palestinian government which is trying to reduce it. shed light on the fact that the Palestinian government borrowed one billion shekels from its employees' retirement money without interest and is now threatening them with early retirement. criticised the decision of the Minister of Finance to send 30,000 employees to early retirement, which will have adverse social and economic repercussions for more than 100,000 Palestinians. The clearly criticised the proposed reform plan, which is mainly based on reducing the income of Palestinians, highlighting that the plan is a result of all the past mistakes including not resisting Israel's illegal deduction of Palestinian tax revenues and failure to control public debt.
- Al Marsad in collaboration with its media partners utilised mainstream and social media outlets to publish and disseminate the outputs of the initiative (research report, video and posters), reaching around 390,000 views.
- It is worth reiterating that the parliamentary oversight function, through which the PLC can ensure a balance of power and defend people's interests, was seized by the executive authority in 2007. The removal of the PLC's role in approving budgets and monitoring public spending has led to diminished accountability and oversight.

Outcomes

Al Marsad, in collaboration with Adaleh and media partners, utilised mainstream and social media outlets to disseminate and publish the outputs of the initiative, reaching around 97,000 views. As part of the advocacy campaign against the draft law by decree of VAT, Al Marsad and Adaleh submitted a memorandum of protest to the Ministry of Finance and Planning concerning the draft law. The majority of issues raised in the memorandum were agreed upon with the Ministry of Finance, Al Marsad, Adaleh and the Ministry:

- Agreed on the amendment of article 10/2 of the Draft Law, concerning receivables and donations for non-profit organisations, to read "Receivables obtained by non-profit organisations shall not be subject to tax, as such, it shall be included under unconditional tax exemptions with the approval of the Council of Ministers."
- Stressed the importance of including differential tax brackets, whereas lower VAT is imposed on essential goods consumed by the public, such as sugar, flour, rice, etc., provided that the lowered tax rate is reflected on the final prices for the public.
- Discussed the article on the conduct of commercial activities by CSOs to support their non-profit goals. It was clarified that there is a financial limit for income exempt from tax, provided that the commercial activities shall be identified in an annex to the law to be added in the future.
- Discussed the reduction of VAT on locally-produced pharmaceuticals, which would allow the reduction of the costs connected to the right to health, particularly the high prices of medicines. This article remains open for future discussions.

Both parties have agreed that there are a number of articles that will be clarified, and the implementation mechanism of such articles will be identified in the procedures regulating the work of parties that will implement the law. Therefore, the law will undergo additional revisions of such procedures, which will be shared with all sectors before adoption.

2. CSO Forum on EDC

Objectives

- To produce updated and critical knowledge on international aid and government investment in social development and protection, including a set of recommendations.
- To strengthen EDC monitoring at the national level, and enhance public accountability in Palestine.

Programme

Al Marsad published and disseminated a report titled "The Effectiveness of International Aid Provided to the Palestinian Authority". The report highlighted the effectiveness of foreign aid provided directly to the Palestinian Authority by tracking the flow of international and Arab grants provided to the Palestinian Authority throughout the past decade (2010-2021) and their sources. It also aims to identify how these grants were spent and their impact on the Palestinian Authority's budget by reviewing the Ministry of Finance reports mainly, in addition to several reports and literature on foreign aid. The report provided a critical analysis of the fiscal reform plan of the Palestinian government, highlighting major issues:

- The majority of countries have adopted fiscal policies that seek to control inflation, erosion of wages and the sharp increase in energy and basic commodity prices, due to COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukrainian war, by increasing governmental support and public spending.
- On the contrary, the Palestinian government took completely opposite measures as per its fiscal reform plan such as reducing public spending on priority sectors such as health, education and social protection. The reform plan is mainly based on reducing the income of thousands of Palestinian families by at least 30 per cent.
- The fiscal reform should take different paths such as reducing public debt, resisting Israel's illegal deduction of Palestinian tax revenues, fighting corruption and enhancing public spending on priority sectors.

In partnership with members of Adaleh, Al Marsad organised several discussions on the findings of the report which focused on the decline of the foreign aid provided to the Palestinian Authority, and aid provided to Palestinian CSOs due to the political conditions imposed by European donors, in addition to the shrinking space for Palestinian civil society.

Outcomes

Al Marsad published the report in conjunction with the Donors Conference that was held in Brussels in May 2022 with the participation of the Palestinian government, which increased official and public interest in the report. Al Marsad did not participate in the conference in Brussels but rather published the report in conjunction with it. The report came in response to the Palestinian government's participation in the conference and criticised its continued dependence on donor funds. The timing of publishing the report in conjunction with the Donors Conference facilitated the success of the activity. In addition, the report was prepared at a time when there was a decline in international funding as well as in wages and a deepening financial crisis facing the Palestinian Authority.

Through the report, Al Marsad provided information on the flow of foreign aid to Palestine and its decrease from USD 7 to 2 billion dollars through the past decade. It also showed through historical evidence how foreign aid is linked, within the colonial context, with the political situation and the Palestinian Authority's relations with the Israeli occupation, regional powers as well as donor countries in general.

The report provided a set of recommendations to the Palestinian Authority including restructuring the public budget, stopping waste of public funds and exploring alternatives to foreign aid. This requires rethinking the Palestinian Authority's development policies including considering self-financing sources for social programmes and allocating budgets for development spending, which could relieve the government from many expenses in the long term.

The production of the report titled, "The effectiveness of international aid provided to the Palestinian Authority", is part of the core work of Al Marsad – combining evidence-based research and advocacy regarding social and economic issues. In a follow-up of the production of the report, Al Marsad has carried out an analysis of the fiscal reform plan of the Palestinian Government, which was announced by the Minister of Finance. Al Marsad published the findings of the analysis in a position paper titled "Fiscal reform as we explain it to our children", which included an explanation of relevant concepts such as public budget, revenues and foreign aid, among others, and implemented an advocacy campaign (for more details on this activity, kindly refer to section E - Other Activities).

3. Country Outreach to Social Enterprises (including the Action Research on SE)

Objectives

- Produce updated and critical knowledge on social enterprises in Palestine.
- Create national dialogue on social enterprises in Palestine, engaging all relevant stakeholders.

Programme

Al Marsad produced and disseminated the report, “The Social Enterprise Sector in Palestine: Concept, Limitations and Actors in the Sector”⁵⁰, and a short video on social enterprises⁵¹.

The research team reviewed relevant literature and developed a conceptual framework suitable for the Palestinian context. The team conducted 11 interviews with relevant actors and organised a panel discussion on cooperatives in Palestine. The report presents case studies/models of social enterprises (charities, non-profit companies and cooperatives), the main actors in the sector, challenges and opportunities. The report also explored possibilities of cooperation between civil society organisations and social enterprises to advocate and advance development processes in Palestine.

The research addressed an issue of major importance in Palestine concerning the emerging social enterprises sector, which has been generating both interest and debates at the national level around the sector, concepts, models, prospects, challenges, actors in the sector, limitations and potential contribution to combating poverty and promoting alternative development models in Palestine. All stakeholders were actively collaborating during the research phase.

The production and dissemination of the report and video generated interest among different stakeholders. Al Marsad organised a public discussion titled, “The Social Business Organisations in Palestine”, which brought together civil society organisations and active players in the economic development in Palestine. The discussion included a presentation of the findings of the research produced by Al Marsad and presentations of different experiences of social organisations in Palestine and abroad, including family organisations (A. M. Qattan Foundation), cooperatives (Sharakeh Youth Forum), the private sector (Ruuwad for Development) and the experience of the alliance of civil society organisations in the Philippines. The discussion took place on 16 November 2023 at the A. M. Qattan Foundation, noting that it was originally planned to take place on 25 October 2022 but was postponed due to the general strike in the West Bank protesting the invasion of the Israeli occupation forces of Nablus City and the killing of four Palestinian young men.

Outcomes

Al Marsad published the report on its website⁵² and on Wattan Media Network’s website⁵³ in October 2022. It also published the video on the social media outlets of Al Marsad and its media partners such as Maan News Agency and Wattan Media Network in the last week of October. The report and video reached around 30,000 views.

⁵⁰ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CUXVaaYW6UFyzepMghkqEWN-kPY1jp1E/view>.

⁵¹ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rLK9FOTgmIJKUL82pLUrSUK9j4PRjZtv/view>.

⁵² <https://www.almarsad.ps/index.php/en>.

⁵³ <https://www.wattan.net/ar/>.

The report provides a set of recommendations addressing different stakeholders including the sector itself, the government and civil society. The recommendations include:

- Ease governmental restrictions on social enterprises especially those related to financial regulations, and adopt supervision mechanisms built on a professional basis not on political considerations.
- Review local laws relevant to social enterprises including the cooperatives law, and develop a new law to regulate and encourage the sector through dialogue between relevant institutions.
- Enhance networking between institutions operating in the sector at the level of resources and services.
- Foster partnerships between social enterprises and civil society organisations to create alternative financing sources such as the private sector, community initiatives and cooperatives, to reduce dependence on foreign aid.
- Strengthen collaboration and collective work in the sector, by creating a network based on the concept of production (from raw materials to final products), which shall reduce the cost and enhance a culture of collaboration between the different actors in the sector instead of the existing culture of competition.

The production and dissemination of the report and video and the public discussion that brought together different local and international actors generated interest among different stakeholders.

PROMOTING CSO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

1. National Campaigns against Shrinking Civic Space

Objectives

- Conduct national campaigns against shrinking civic space in Palestine, engaging different civil society actors and enhancing coordination among them.

Programme

Activities included identification of topics, production of knowledge, production and dissemination of audio-visual materials through the social media outlets of Al Marsad, Adaleh and media partners, in addition to broadcasting TV episodes through local TV networks. Actions include opposing:

- The illegal targeting of Palestinian CSOs by the Israeli occupation.
- The measures taken by the Palestinian Authority including laws by decrees undermining the independence of civil society and shrinking its space. The issue of laws by decree is of major importance as the president has seized the PLC's legislative and oversight functions since 2007 and has been governing the country through laws by decree. One of its effects is undermining the independence of civil society and shrinking its space.

Outcomes

Al Marsad, in collaboration with Adaleh and its media partners, utilised mainstream and social media outlets. The campaign materials reached around 76,000 views. Al Marsad executed the following actions during the reporting period:

1. Human Rights Day: Production and dissemination of a film on SDGs on International Human Rights Day. The video⁵⁴ provided an overall picture of the SDGs and highlighted six of them and the relevant fundamental human rights providing detailed data on their status in Palestine and globally (no poverty, zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation).

Al Marsad published a statement titled "A Just World Needs More Struggle" on Human Rights Day through various local news agencies. The statement shed light on the reality of development and provision of basic services such as health and education in low-income countries in general, and in Palestine in particular. The statement advocated for a development vision that is rooted in the political, economic, social and cultural contexts of those countries, and that insightfully recognises the challenges they are facing, the nature of the world system as well as the way the concept of development is being implemented.

2. Actions against the illegal targeting of Palestinian CSOs by the Israeli occupation: including the decision outlawing six leading human rights NGOs as "terrorist organisations". Al Marsad in collaboration with Wattan Media Network organised a TV episode that addressed the repercussions of the decision and the position of the European Union in this regard. Al Marsad broadcasted the episode⁵⁵ on 22 December 2022.
3. Actions against different measures taken by the Palestinian Authority: including laws by decrees issued by the executive authority and the president undermining the independence of civil society and shrinking its space. These include:
 - a. Actions against amendments to the Draft Law on VAT and the proposed financial system by the Palestinian Monetary Fund regarding Palestinian NGOs, which undermine the financial independence of Palestinian CSOs, as they force CSOs to get the approval of the Palestinian Council of Ministers prior to receiving any financial grants, and to subject these grants to tax. Al Marsad took the following actions, noting that the advocacy efforts of Al Marsad, Adaleh and other civil society bodies led to the cancellation of all proposed amendments.
 - b. Production and dissemination of three posters on the VAT Law: Taxes are a tool of development, not of control⁵⁶; confirmed dependency⁵⁷; control of CSOs⁵⁸. In addition, Al Marsad published a poster against the

⁵⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1088674851979370&ref=sharing>

⁵⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=DV2NjhiEbe8>

⁵⁶ https://m.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/photos/1477039682697556?_rdr

⁵⁷ https://m.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/photos/1477039682697556?_rdr

⁵⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/posts/pfbid02NczbpzE7kVvwhRmtmS36LLtAA27hCVUGmwqPsVKyyj7JoaPDokZNSNjYBskuMPd4VI>

monopoly and manipulation of the prices of the self-test for COVID-19⁵⁹, calling on Palestinians to boycott the testing kits available in the local market unless their prices are reduced. This poster came as a response to the failure of the investigation committee formed by the Palestinian Authority to investigate the issue.

- c. Staff members of Al Marsad and Adaleh participated in three radio episodes discussing the above-mentioned measures and highlighting their adverse effects on undermining the independence of civil society and shrinking its space.
 - d. A public statement against the above-mentioned measures.⁶⁰
4. Actions in solidarity with the Palestinian Bar Association, which conducted a series of actions, including strikes, against the laws by decree issued by the Executive Authority undermining the judiciary and violating constitutional principles. A position paper⁶¹ and a poster⁶² in support of the Bar Association's legitimate demands of canceling all laws by decrees issued by the president and Council of Ministers that undermine the judiciary were also disseminated.
 5. Actions in solidarity with the Palestinian Doctors Syndicate, which organised a series of protests against the law by decree issued by the president to form a new medical syndicate and assign a constituent council for it. Al Marsad and Adaleh in collaboration with six other civil society bodies including the Doctors Syndicate, the Bar Association, the Performing Arts Network, the Palestinian Disability Coalition, the Global Palestinian Refugee Network and the Union of Teachers and Employees at Birzeit University, organised a press conference⁶³ that was streamed live on several Palestinian news networks. In addition, Al Marsad and Adaleh published a public statement⁶⁴ and two posters; the first⁶⁵ highlighted that the law by decree undermines unions' work in Palestine, and the second⁶⁶ confirmed the full support of the Doctors Syndicate.
 6. A TV episode addressing the challenges facing Palestinian civil society was produced and was broadcast on Maan News Agency on 14 November 2022.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Palestinian and international actors advocating for Palestinian's right to development should mobilise more efforts to expose the role of the prolonged Israeli occupation in hindering any development process in

⁵⁹ https://m.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/posts/pfbid0yXe7gEWzPNZHdu17FPkFx7EtfRXPgveVfgBXcYY79byGcURbwbCM7uCWAWHFvC3AI?_rdr

⁶⁰ "حفاكلم" - لـ دن تسى ية لـ دال تامظنم لـ لم غ لوح قيتشرا قموكح متدعأ ماظن قروطخ نم رذحي "قلادع" فالتىا" (2022). Wattan. <https://www.wattan.net/ar/news/367633.html>.

⁶¹ <https://www.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/posts/1601406496927540>.

⁶² https://m.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/posts/pfbid0m48CuGKPTUbqLHK3Vh3kXExUpSC3GZayuNDvU4Lvzg3ozWJeMaSd6HGMzuVDMYLci?_rdr.

⁶³ <https://www.facebook.com/WattanNews/videos/1284887785679546>.

⁶⁴ "اءابطال قباقن نأشب نوناقب رارقلا ءاغلاو بحسب بللاطي قلادع فالتىا" (2022) Wattan. https://www.wattan.net/ar/news/387048.html?fbclid=IwAR3MRvUkvZ5cu8aqbv-Ili2xyXS_yBbNjn3GLRMd5tEqmy64lPHrgiLSg9A

⁶⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/photos/a.328185490916320/1676330059435183>

⁶⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/pal.cesccr/photos/a.328185490916320/1676332609434928>.

Palestine. More coordinated work is still needed to expose how the Israeli occupation's policies of physical, political and economic segregation of the Palestinian territories and people have left them fragmented and living in marginalised conditions. How these policies have severely weakened Palestinians' individual and collective capacities to engage in economic and social life, to access health, education and commercial services and hence have demeaned the capacity of the Palestinian society to naturally develop and progress should also be examined.

- Public media and advocacy campaigns will better achieve their set objectives if they are based on evidence-based research, close coordination among key civil society actors and networks and close collaboration with the media.
- Palestinian institutions must invest more effort to provide national data and information regarding some of the SDGs in Palestine.
- Enhance collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the social enterprise sector in Palestine including planning and implementation of future activities to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations of the action research report produced by Al Marsad.
- Build partnerships with organisations working on public finance and public budgeting in Palestine to create a strong CSO alliance capable of asserting pressure on the Palestinian government and advocating the findings and recommendations of the reports produced by Al Marsad (ex. the Civil Society Team for Enhancing Public Budget Transparency, which is composed of several Palestinian NGOs).

NEXT STEPS (FOR 2023 AND BEYOND)

1. Completion of ongoing initiatives (2023). During the first half of 2023, Al Marsad will continue the implementation of the following ongoing initiatives: a) CSO Effectiveness Review, b) Dialogue with Development Partners, c) Country Outreach to SEs, d) Multistakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness.
2. New Programmes (2023 and beyond). Al Marsad will build on the achievements and successes of the country initiatives it has implemented in cooperation with CPDE. Part of the organisation's core mandate as a Palestinian research and campaigning CSO specialising are monitoring the Palestinian government's socio-economic policies and holding them to account to ensure social justice for all Palestinians, particularly the most vulnerable. Al Marsad will build and implement a new programme for 2023 and beyond, based on its new strategic plan for the years 2023-2028. The organisation is currently working to secure funding for the new programmes from different like-minded partners and supporters including the CPDE.

As part of a new proposal concerning the continuation of cooperation with CPDE that was submitted in April 2023, Al Marsad will continue to work on three initiatives: a) National Observatorio, b) Campaigns against shrinking civic spaces, c) Country outreach to social enterprises.

As part of the proposed cooperation with CPDE, Al Marsad will combine the production of critical knowledge and evidence-based research (studies,

policy and position papers etc.) with advocacy and public campaigning activities that mainly aim at policy change, enhancing public accountability and raising public awareness of major social and economic issues. The proposed plans include:

- Production of a research report on the adherence and commitment of the Palestinian government to the application of the Charitable Societies and Civil Organisations No. (1) of 2000. This is of major importance considering the continuous attempts of the Palestinian Executive Authority to amend the law through laws by decrees issued by the Palestinian President in violation of the Palestinian Basic Law (Constitution) itself. Such attempts of the Executive Authority represent serious direct infringements of the right to form unions, societies, federations and associations guaranteed by the Basic Law in Article 26.
- Design and execution of public media campaigns on the shrinking space of Palestinian civil society and the complex challenges it faces. These challenges include the targeting of Palestinian CSOs by the Israeli occupation; the measures taken by the Palestinian Authority that undermine the independence of civil society and shirking its space; the political conditions imposed by foreign donors criminalising the Palestinian national struggle for freedom and self-determination which undermines the legitimacy, independence, credibility and sustainability of Palestinian NGOs and the programmes and service they provide to the Palestinian society. The Palestinian people have been subjected for decades to one of the most complex systems of occupation in human history.
- Al Marsad will work on the recommendations from the research “The Social Enterprise Sector in Palestine: Concepts, Limitations and Actors in the Sector”. These include organising a national dialogue that will bring together different actors in the sector to discuss and explore possibilities of cooperation between CSOs and social enterprises to advocate and advance development processes in Palestine and enhance social enterprises’ role as development partners in developing a sustainable national economy. The dialogue will also find possible synergies between CSOs, social entrepreneurs and other key development actors in engaging the EDC agenda towards effective implementation of the Agenda 2030. Since the concept of social enterprise is relatively new in Palestine, Al Marsad will also work on raising public awareness of the concept and of social enterprises in developing sustainable economies and advancing development processes.
- Production of an annual progress report on EDC work and implementation in Palestine.



Conclusion

CSOs and Effective Development Cooperation in 2022

This conclusion synthesises the country reports included in this publication. Furthermore, it connects the synthesis with the CPDE's global actions and initiatives as outlined in the Introduction. It replicates CPDE's global synthesis report for 2017-2018 in situating country actions and initiatives in three work areas, based on advocacy priorities: (i) EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, (ii) for CSO development effectiveness and accountability and (iii) for CSO enabling environment.

These three work areas were based CPDE's strategic plan for 2016-2019, which was largely continued by CPDE's strategic plan for 2020-2023 and reflects CPDE's core advocacies. They were also based on effective development cooperation principles as articulated in the Busan Partnership agreement, CSO development effectiveness principles as articulated in the Istanbul Principles and human rights-based approaches to development.

The country reports were submitted by CSO focal points of the CPDE in each country. In responding to particular national situations and in emerging from CSOs' principles and the challenges and opportunities that they face, the actions and initiatives that the country reports contain reflect the CSOs' localisation and implementation of the CPDE's strategic plan for 2020-2023 and of CSO development effectiveness principles in pursuit of the SDGs.

The following are the main activities for the three work areas at the country level:

- EDC Commitments and Agenda 2030
 - Contributing to the National CSO Aid Observatorio
 - Monitoring progress in the implementation of SDGs
 - Conducting evidence-based campaigns and advocacies that promote the rights of marginalised communities, including in the context of achieving the SDGs
 - Country outreach to social enterprises
- CSO Development Effectiveness and Accountability
 - Contributing to the National CSO Aid Observatorio
 - CSO training and workshops on various topics
 - CSO effectiveness review
 - Multi-stakeholder dialogues and dialogues with development partners
- CSO Enabling Environment
 - Identification of policies that are restrictive of CSOs
 - Campaigns and advocacies against these policies

At the same time, this conclusion seeks to evaluate the contributions of CPDE country focal points to effective development cooperation. It does this by comparing the actions and initiatives carried out by CPDE country focal points in 2022 with the CPDE Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, the CPDE's 2020-2021 Report to the Public and the CPDE Theory of Change. The documents mentioned present CPDE's understanding of how its actions and initiatives can and do contribute to effective development cooperation.

This conclusion shows that a level of synergy can be discerned between the actions and initiatives of the CPDE at the global level and those by CPDE country focal points. It also shows that overall, CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives in 2022 contributed to advancing effective development cooperation.

1. EDC Commitments and Agenda 2030

To advance EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, CSO focal points of CPDE, together with civil society in their countries, monitored progress in the SDGs and contributed to the **National CSO Aid Observatorio**, conducted campaigns and advocacies that promote the rights of marginalised communities – usually based on research on progress in the SDGs, and undertook country outreach to social enterprises.

CSOs continued to strengthen and enrich the National CSO Aid Observatorio as a monitoring tool and repository of evidence-based knowledge products on development cooperation. They tracked country progress in achieving the SDGs even as many among them focused on development issues affecting either particular localities or the entire country. In the process, they were able to forge and strengthen partnerships with government agencies, within civil society, and with other development actors.

- In Albania, CSOs monitored the country's fulfilment of commitments to international human rights conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC), among others. A database about development cooperation in the country in 2010-2028 was also created in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and Economy, as well as Swisscontact, the ILO and Food4Health – a project which was implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. An initial analysis was undertaken, infographics were generated, and advocacies were based on information gathered.
- In Palestine, a report, a video and publicity materials were released on International Human Rights Day that showed progress in Palestine and the world in attaining the SDGs, focusing on SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), SDG 3 (Good health and well-being), SDG 4 (Quality education), SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation).
- In the Philippines, discussions and training were held to strengthen participants' capacities on People's Economics, development effectiveness advocacies and indicators for civil society development effectiveness. CPDG, together with CSO partners, developed People's Economics to put forward proposed policy measures that will advance people-centred and sustainable development and the SDGs, particularly in relation to crafting a

people's agenda in time for the country's elections. The capacity of grassroots organisations on development effectiveness advocacies was improved to provide context for their research projects, while indicators for civil society development effectiveness to monitor progress in civic spaces for civil society in the country.

- In Tanzania, research was undertaken on the Mtwara-Dar es Salam Gas Pipeline Project, which has caused the eruption of violence in the country's southern region. The research which was carried out after some years of repression of CSOs and the political opposition will be used to guide campaigns and advocacy on the issue to avoid a "resource curse".⁶⁷
- In Argentina, research on the issue of youth labour was undertaken and presented before CSOs, faith-based organisations, trade unions, academics, cooperatives, the UN, ILO, as well as the national government as represented by the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies.
- In the context of the Action Dialogue, Zimbabwe CSOs agreed to align their work with the government's National Development Strategy or NDS, which in turn is aligned with the SDGs. They also agreed to work with government line ministries in reporting on SDG progress.
- In India, the CPDE focal point has set as its work to monitor the SDGs, with particular focus on SDGs 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 (no poverty, zero hunger, quality education, gender equality, decent work and quality growth). It also decided to research SDG implementation, the role of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and the corporatisation and privatisation of development cooperation.

Through campaigns and advocacies, CSOs also continued to advance the rights of marginalised sectors, particularly in relation to immediate issues that they face – calling for the protection of human rights, higher wages, better social services and lower taxes.

- In the Philippines, CPDG also showed solidarity in the actions of people's organisations in pursuit of reforms such as higher wages, financial assistance and lower prices.
- CPDG partnered with the Philippine government's Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to hold a forum against discrimination and inequality. It also partnered with the CHR and the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of human rights in the Philippines, which happened in the aftermath of a human rights crisis in the country under the presidency of Rodrigo Duterte. The recommendations of the UPR were then presented to the diplomatic community.
- In Palestine, Al Marsad launched a campaign regarding the government's budgeting policies: against the income tax and VAT laws, for greater public spending on social services, against increasing public debt and for resisting Israel's deduction of Palestine's tax revenues and other reforms. The campaign brought about some positive results: an agreement was attained among Al Marsad, Adaleh and the Ministry of Finance that differential tax brackets should be imposed, where lower VAT is imposed on products

⁶⁷ The concentration of capital and labour in a few industries that are dependent on natural resources.

consumed by ordinary people and is reflected in the prices, and that the prices of medicines should be reduced.

- Al Marsad released a report that showed the decline in international and Arab grants to the Palestinian Authority from USD 7 billion a year to USD 2 billion in the period 2010-2021. It also showed a decline in aid received by Palestinian CSOs as a result of conditions imposed by European donors that rest on the criminalisation of the Palestinian people's movement for freedom, on undermining Palestinian NGOs and a shrinking civic space for CSOs. The research forwarded recommendations in the direction of moving away from dependence on international aid through restructuring the public budget – particularly creating self-financing social programmes and allocating funds for development spending – stopping the waste of public funds and exploring alternatives. The report was released in time for the Donors Conference held in Brussels in May 2022, in which the Palestinian Authority participated.
- In Albania, civil society continued fulfilling its active role in delivering various services, participating in policy-making and promoting human rights.

In accordance with the CPDE's Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, particularly the objective of promoting private sector accountability and development effectiveness in its engagement in development partnerships, CPDE focal points undertook country outreach to SE. By carrying out research and holding forums, they were able to forge links with SEs in the country, as well as related CSOs, government agencies, international institutions and other development actors. They were able to find out SEs' current conditions, challenges faced and possible contributions to attaining the SDGs. Most research found an SE sector at an incipient stage, a lack of a defined regulatory framework for an enabling environment for SEs, a considerable potential in contributing to progress towards the SDGs, as well as SEs' need for greater organisation among themselves and partnerships with CSOs, the government and other development stakeholders.

- Most of the actions of country focal points drew from the approach, methodology and contents of the Philippines' study on SEs, which showed SEs' potential in contributing to attaining SDG 1 (Ending poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 8 (decent work and economic growth) and 12 (responsible consumption and production).
- In Palestine and Argentina, a report on SE was written and then discussed by civil society. In Albania, however, the report on SE was crafted based on the results of discussions that were first held among civil society.
- The report from Palestine featured case stories on charities, non-profit companies, family organisations and cooperatives and their relation to the private sector. The report from Zimbabwe presented lessons from women-based enterprises, craft-makers and a micro-finance institution. The report from Albania illustrated the outreach to academic experts, financial institutions, platforms promoting SEs, multilateral development agencies and actors beyond those immediately concerned with the topic.

2. CSO Development Effectiveness and Accountability

To improve CSO development effectiveness and accountability, CPDE country focal points held CSO training and workshops, some in conjunction with the CSO effectiveness review, which discussed government regulations for attaining CSO legal status, adherence to Istanbul Principles, developing a shared standard of conduct among CSOs, and opposing shrinking space for civil society. They also organised multi-stakeholder dialogues in which governments – and donors in one case – pledged to work to improve CSO enabling environment.

CPDE focal points in various countries held training and workshops aimed at enhancing CSO development effectiveness and accountability. The training and workshops centred on a range of topics – from knowing government regulations that govern CSOs to attain legal status to evaluating adherence to the Istanbul Principles, and from developing a shared standard of conduct among CSOs to opposing shrinking civic space. In most of these actions, participants arrived at a deeper understanding of the role of CSOs in development and the need for CSO development effectiveness, as well as pledges for improvements towards CSO development effectiveness.

- In India, participants gained a deeper understanding of government regulations used for legally recognising CSOs and their activities. CSOs working with CPDE in the country created a general action plan for strengthening work on CSO development effectiveness.
- In Zimbabwe, CSOs committed to developing a set of shared standards that will serve as a code of conduct and will ensure that they practise transparency and accountability especially to themselves and to the grassroots communities that they serve. They also agreed to actively participate in the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO), which engages the government in dialogues on development effectiveness.
- In Tanzania, discussions led to realisations that CSOs that are effective and are capable of accessing institutional platforms can help people, especially grassroots communities, assert their rights to the government and make their voices heard in relation to development plans and programmes. An example of this is the country's Five-Year National Development Plan III for 2021/22-2025/26.⁶⁸ The discussion enabled further appreciation of the need to oppose the shrinking of civic space for civil society and to assert human rights. Priority areas of work were identified: democratic governance, peace and security, social and economic justice, agriculture, natural resources, environmental protection, climate change and mainstreaming science and technology.
- In Tanzania, the report on CSO effectiveness review states that because the government violated various human rights, an enabling environment has been denied CSOs, rolling back any progress achieved in upholding effective development cooperation principles articulated in Busan and CSO development effectiveness principles articulated in Istanbul. While CSOs are fulfilling an important role in helping the country attain the SDGs, they need to enhance self-regulation and transparency. CSOs feel the need to better

⁶⁸ National Five Year Development Plan 2021/22-2025/26. (2021). Ministry of Finance (Tanzania). <https://repository.mof.go.tz/handle/123456789/107>

understand and implement the Istanbul Principles in their daily practice, even as they face many challenges, particularly in the lack of donor commitment.

- In Argentina, discussions centred on the integration of local problems and the SDGs and the need for multi-stakeholder partnerships in addressing these. The forums, held in different parts of the country, were attended by representatives of CSOs, trade unions, government bodies, academe and research centres, social movements, environmental organisations and the education and health sectors.
- In the Philippines, discussions led to the signing by 70 CSOs of the CSO Manifesto for Strengthening and Enabling Civic Spaces⁶⁹ as well as the creation of indicators for its implementation and monitoring. CPDG members and allies assessed the organisation's actions in 2019-2022 and planned its actions for 2023-2025. It held discussions with development stakeholders about moving forward in CSO development effectiveness and people-centred development.
- In Albania, civil society continued its role in monitoring CSO development effectiveness in the country and in the West Balkans. Discussions on CSO development effectiveness and self-assessment among 62 CSOs showed that CSOs perceive themselves as understanding the Istanbul Principles and appreciating the necessity of implementing them in their work and operations. They perceive themselves as practising accountability and transparency the most and promoting environmental sustainability the least. Successes were discussed, including fulfilling the national self-regulatory initiatives of the non-profit sector such as the Code of Standards for NPOs in Albania. Challenges were also discussed, foremost of which is the lack of resources and capacity to comprehensively adhere to the Istanbul Principles. At the same time, CSOs recognised that much work needs to be done to truly live up to the Istanbul Principles, even in the most basic indicators such as releasing gender-aggregated data. Increased CSO effectiveness is seen as fostering the trust of supporters, beneficiaries and other development stakeholders.
- In Albania, a self-assessment survey, which formed part of the CSO effectiveness review, was conducted online. After this, the country focal point organised three meetings that discussed the Istanbul Principles with around 48 CSOs.

Country focal points also organised and attended **multi-stakeholder dialogues on CSO development effectiveness**. While some of the dialogues emphasised the need for CSOs to become accountable and transparent to themselves and the constituencies that they serve, many resulted in pledges from the government and, in one, from the donors to work for enhancing CSO enabling environment.

- In Albania, the dialogues are notable for bringing in a wide range of development actors, from donor communities to government, apart from CSOs. Aside from highlighting the importance of partnerships involving CSOs, the dialogues also called on the government to make consultation meetings with CSOs more effective, while calling on CSOs to become more

⁶⁹ "CSO Manifesto for Strengthening and Enabling Civic Spaces". (2022). Council for People's Development and Governance. <https://cpdg.ph/sign-the-cso-manifesto-for-enabling-and-strengthening-civic-space-in-the-philippines/>.

effective in order to attract donors and be able to contribute to attaining the SDGs.

- In Tanzania, the discussion clarified that while the legal framework governing CSOs in the country has not changed, the new president has expressed more openness to CSO activities and even CSO partnerships with the government. It recognised regulations that limit CSO activities even as it highlighted the need for CSOs to enhance their effectiveness, particularly their accountability and transparency.
- In Zimbabwe, the legislative and the executive branches of government made commitments to improve the enabling environment for CSOs and monitor development cooperation. The parliament vowed laws to promote CSO enabling environment while the executive vowed active participation in the 2024 SDG monitoring process. CSOs committed to improving effectiveness and engagement with the government through NANGO, while development partners committed to supporting CSO-government dialogue and predictability of funding for CSOs.
- In the Philippines, diplomats, representatives of government agencies working on the economy and development, and development institutions affirmed their commitment to work for strengthening civil society participation in development and democratic processes in a dialogue attended by NGOs and people's organisations.
- In Argentina, the discussion became a venue to voice out demands from the Global South to the Global North, in this case in relation to delivering on development cooperation commitments. While recognising the participative process that led to the crafting of Agenda 2030, the discussion noted financing, as well as follow-up and monitoring of developments, as areas for improvement. A similar meeting was held at the local level, in the province of Tucuman, bringing together a wide range of development actors.
- In Albania, the country focal point was able to progress from desk research about the development partners and donors to organising a meeting with them, together with the government and CSOs. The discussion talked about challenges in providing holistic and integrated solutions, coordinating assistance with country priorities, and the need for greater accountability and transparency in CSOs and all development partners. The donors agreed on the necessity of making their coordination meetings more regular in order to support CSOs in various ways.

3. CSO Enabling Environment

In varying degrees, the majority of countries continued to face shrinking civic spaces for civil society. The COVID-19 pandemic worsened this trend, which continued until 2022. In most countries, policies restrictive of CSOs were identified and CPDE country focal points continued campaigns and advocacies against these policies, gaining modest positive outcomes.

While some countries cite CSO-specific regulations that are restrictive, most attribute the difficult conditions faced by CSOs to national policies and laws. Many laws restrictive of CSOs centre on CSO legal requirements, tax payments

and CSOs' alleged alignment with various political forces. These country-specific government laws, policies and measures are:

- Palestine: the Israeli occupation, the Palestinian Authority president's dissolution of the legislature and rule by decree, the terrorist-tagging of six human rights NGOs and a draft law on value-added tax that imposes a tax on non-profit organisations' receivables.
- Philippines: the Anti-Terrorism Law of 2020, the government's refusal to engage in peace talks with the armed insurgent group in the country and the government's violation of human rights in defence of the ruling segment of the elite's hold on power.
- India: the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act of 1976, which lays down rules on CSO registration that are restrictive to CSOs such as strict monitoring of funds and enforcement of regulations – as the government viewed human rights and liberative approaches associated with NGOs as empowering marginalised groups.
- Zimbabwe: the Private Volunteer Organisations Act of 2021 which aims to counter money laundering and prevent CSOs from engaging in political activities.
- Tanzania: the 2019 amendments to the Political Parties Act on top of previous laws that are repressive to CSOs regarding electronic and postal communications, online content, cybercrime, statistics, media services and access to information.
- Argentina: institutional violence and other barriers to the civic participation of the most marginalised sectors of society – the homeless, migrants and Indigenous Peoples.
- Albania: the government's reactive approach in sharing information that will enable greater civil society participation in policy-making, and in sharing information among CSOs, tax agencies and foreign donors about the procedure for refund of value-added tax on grant activity expenses.

SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE IN FOUR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

In Latin America, CSOs also face the following challenges that constitute a shrinking of the civic space for civil society.

In El Salvador, the new presidency which started in 2021 has brought about the closing of NGOs' social programmes, centralisation of cooperation with CSOs into the presidency, threats against journalists and human rights defenders, questioning of a law protecting women from violence, and stigmatisation of NGOs critical of the government. The government has also imposed states of emergency which suspended civil freedoms. A proposed legislation will enable the government to impose a 40 per cent tax on funds for particular programmes received by CSOs from abroad. CSOs claim that there is no enabling environment for CSOs and that spaces for partnerships between CSOs and the government have been closed down.

In Guatemala, NGOs critical of the government have faced stigmatisation, human rights violations and even imprisonment. A law on NGOs, implemented

in July 2021, is widely believed to tighten government control over NGOs, as it sets excessive and discretionary restrictions on the recognition and operation of national and international NGOs in the country.

In Honduras, despite the election of a woman president, cases of violence against women and children continue to be rampant. In 2021, legislation was passed that strengthened bans on abortion and same-sex marriage. A proposed law continues to make the military an important presence in government and gives it huge funds – despite the repeal of a law that protects the secrecy for various amounts of years of public documents related to public security and defence. Despite extensive legal and policy frameworks for human rights, land and territory activists are still criminalised and women's and children's rights are still in danger. While a law allowing the creation of economic zones in Indigenous Peoples' territories has been scrapped, the government still adheres to a neo-extractivist policy framework, refuses to sign Latin America's Escazu Agreement on Biodiversity, and has not created local legislation that reflects its ratification of ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. The government has accused NGOs of being corrupt and implicated them in scandals involving politicians and government officials.

In Nicaragua, violence against rural women and discrimination against women in grassroots leadership positions continue. The legislative branch approved the termination of the legal status of 132 CSOs. The country witnessed the death of 15 land and environmental defenders in 2021, the highest among the Latin American countries mentioned here.

Despite these, some advances have been made that guard against shrinking civic spaces for civil society, particularly in Nicaragua, where the National Human Development Plan utilises a human rights-based approach to development, with special emphasis on opportunities for vulnerable groups. This implies enhancing civic engagement, but this still needs institutional changes and dialogue with the private sector remains fragmented. The country has many laws against discrimination and for upholding gender equality – particularly empowering rural women, ensuring a 50-50 quota in women's representation in policy-making, and incorporating a gender perspective in policies as well as to budgeting.

The CPDE country focal points conducted various activities that contributed to campaigns against shrinking civic spaces for civil society. While all of them organised online and face-to-face discussions with CSOs as main participants, most also held press conferences to reach the wider public. Some released television and radio episodes, posters and public statements. Some also joined or showed solidarity with protest actions held by other sectors of society that are also facing repression.

Notable engagements against shrinking civic space for CSOs include the following:

- Palestine: Al Marsad, together with the Adaleh, the Palestinian Coalition for Economic, Cultural and Social Rights wrote a letter to the Ministry of Finance concerning the draft law imposing new taxes on CSOs.
- Philippines: CPDG worked with the government's Commission on Human Rights in organising various discussions. It engaged with different stakeholders

including diplomats, the UN and the international community about the Philippines' human rights record on the occasion of the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review of the country.

- Argentina: PAMPA 2030 held a multi-stakeholder dialogue in which representatives of ILO, the country's Ministry of Labor and the academe attended.
- Albania: Partners Albania prepared a report on the legal and regulatory framework regulating CSOs' operation and its implementation. It then discussed the findings in a roundtable discussion in which various stakeholders such as the government and donors were present. Issues affecting civic space for CSOs were raised and the government's claim that indicators of the Albanian Government Roadmap for an Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development were being met was challenged. The report was widely circulated among various stakeholders and reached the Minister of Health and Social Protection, who heads the National Council for Civil Society in Albania.

Apart from raising consciousness among CSOs and other stakeholders about the shrinking civic spaces for civil society, some positive outcomes resulted from the actions and initiatives of CPDE focal points:

- In Palestine, Al Marsad, together with Adaleh and the Ministry of Finance agreed on an amendment to the draft law removing taxes on non-profit organisations' receivables. They also arrived at a common understanding regarding the existence of a financial limit to tax exemption of CSOs' commercial activities.
- In the Philippines, CSO activities contributed to fighting government disinformation campaigns about the anti-terrorism legislation, the human rights situation in the country and CSOs and civil society in general. They also helped amplify the campaigns and demands of marginalised sectors of society that are bearing the brunt of shrinking civic spaces for civil society such as Indigenous Peoples, the urban poor, workers, agricultural workers and human rights defenders in the Cordillera region and in Mindanao.
- In Albania, many restrictive provisions of the law on the registration of non-profit organisations have been changed and a commitment to freedom of association has been enshrined in the law because of widespread CSO mobilisation. The government has also partnered with CSOs in creating a methodology to examine the supposed terrorist financing of non-profit organisations. The methodology is important in helping CSOs understand the risks, ways of avoiding these risks and means to demonstrate such avoidance. With regards to CSO taxation, some CSO-submitted projects have received VAT reimbursement following their compliance with financial agreements that were approved by the government.

CPDE GLOBAL VIS-À-VIS COUNTRY FOCAL POINTS

Comparing the set of actions and initiatives carried out on each of the three work areas by CPDE at the global level on the one hand and CPDE country focal points on the other hand, it is clear that each set is unique according to the level of operations – global or national – and can be seen as exhibiting a level of synergy. The table below makes the juxtaposition:

Work Areas	CPDE Global	Country Reports
EDC Commitments and Agenda 2030	Actions and initiatives: SDG implementation monitoring, climate finance, development effectiveness and women's rights and gender equality. Major statements: ODA commitments by developed states, climate financing and Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs)	SDG monitoring and contributing to the National CSO Aid Observatorio, waging campaigns and advocacies that serve the rights of marginalised communities – usually in connection with research on progress in the SDGs, and undertaking country outreach to social enterprises
CSO development effectiveness and accountability	Discussions on the Istanbul Principles and certain skills and best practices, CPDE meetings Most CPDE regional formations contributed training and workshops on various skills and capacities.	CSO training and workshops – some in conjunction with the CSO effectiveness review, discussed government regulations for attaining CSO legal status, adherence to Istanbul Principles, developing a shared standard of conduct among CSOs and opposing shrinking space for civil society. Multi-stakeholder dialogues resulted in pledges from the government about necessary government actions to improve CSO enabling environment.
CSO enabling environment	Few but high-impact actions and initiatives: centred on GPEDC HLM3 and resulted in a declaration of CSOs on trust building.	Identifying policies and laws restrictive of CSOs and continuing campaigns and advocacies against these, gaining modest positive outcomes.

EDC commitments and Agenda 2030. Concerning EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, CPDE at the global level played its unique role as a CSO platform for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs. It gathered, synthesised and

amplified the SDG monitoring of its country focal points through its actions and initiatives and major statements. It also used its unique position to engage in international issues of climate finance, development effectiveness and ODA commitments by developed countries. Women's rights and gender equality are prominent in its actions and initiatives. It was also able to engage with the INFFs, a new financing framework being promoted by the GPEDC.

CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, undertook SDG monitoring at the national level and combined this in various ways with campaigns and advocacies that seek to advance the rights of marginalised sectors of society. They conducted outreach to social enterprises, which in many of their countries comprise a relatively new sector that lacks government support despite its potential to contribute to advancing the SDGs.

Synergy can be seen in how CPDE at the global level provides the frameworks, capacities and other forms of support to CPDE country focal points in monitoring SDG implementation. CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, provide the realities on the national ground that serve as evidence for CPDE's global engagements on SDG monitoring. At the same time, CPDE at the global level leverages its unique role as a global platform of CSOs to intervene in the issues of climate finance, development effectiveness and ODA commitments by developed countries in ways that seek to enhance CSO enabling environment around the world.

CSO DE and Accountability. With regard to CSO development effectiveness and accountability, CPDE at the global level provided discussions on the Istanbul Principles and certain skills concerning communications work and best practices, such as in increasing rural women's economic empowerment, even as it also held organisational meetings. It is noticeable that CPDE regional formations played an active role in this work area, which can be attributed to the practicality of holding workshops and training with a more manageable number of participants and with greater familiarity with their situations.

CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, held training and workshops on CSO development effectiveness and accountability that tackled the more practical issues at the national level – government regulations for attaining CSO legal status, adherence to Istanbul Principles, developing a shared standard of conduct among CSOs and opposing shrinking space for civil society. Commitments made by governments and, in some cases, donors, in multi-stakeholder dialogues, indicate the preponderant role played by the government in creating an enabling environment for CSOs and by the reality of shrinking civic space for civil society – even when examining CSO development effectiveness and accountability.

Synergy can be seen in how CPDE at the global level provides the framework and capacity for CSO development effectiveness and accountability to its member CSOs with the help of its regional formations. CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, promote the framework, largely contained in the Istanbul Principles, and localise this in confronting local challenges and seizing local opportunities. They then feedback this to CPDE Global to enhance future training and workshops.

CSO EE. With regard to CSO enabling environment, CPDE at the global level called for national campaigns against shrinking civic spaces for civil society, based on its monitoring of such space. It also brought the issue to the GPEDC HLM3, a high-level engagement and unified CSOs around the Geneva Declaration which calls for building trust to renew partnerships for development effectiveness and the SDGs. CPDE reported attaining milestones in this engagement.

CPDE country focal points, meanwhile, localised the campaign – either by responding to the call or merging their response to the call with existing campaigns. They identified government laws, policies and measures that restrict civil society, particularly those on CSO legal requirements, tax payments and CSOs’ alleged alignment with various political forces. They unleashed their creativity in utilising different publicity forms for the campaign. They engaged with the government and other development actors, gaining some positive outcomes, even if these are not yet changes in policy or legislation.

Synergy can be seen in how CPDE at the global level called for national campaigns, CPDE country focal points responded with various campaign actions and initiatives, and CPDE at the global level brought the campaigns to a high-level engagement and achieved milestones there.

CPDE 2022 AND DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS

This section evaluates the demonstrable contribution of the actions and initiatives presented by country focal points to effective development cooperation. The country actions and initiatives were evaluated using the CPDE Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, the CPDE’s 2020-2021 Report to the Public and the CPDE Theory of Change – bearing in mind, of course, that the actions and initiatives were carried out by country focal points in only one year, 2022.

This analysis shows that CPDE country focal points’ actions and initiatives for 2022 (1) advanced most and all the primary objectives of the CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023, (2) continued the accomplishments of the CPDE contained in its Report to the Public for 2020-2021 and (3) contributed to achieving all the target outcomes of the CPDE Theory of Change, even as delivery of outputs were uneven. Overall and on the bases stated above, it can be concluded that CPDE country focal points’ actions and initiatives in 2022 contributed to advancing effective development cooperation.

CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023. Comparing the quantity of actions and initiatives undertaken by CPDE country focal points in 2020 and the objectives stated in the CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023, it would appear that the following objectives were advanced: primarily Objective 1 and secondarily Objectives 2 and 3, while Objectives 4 and 5 were not directly advanced.

The table and bulleted points below present the actions and initiatives undertaken by country focal points as they report these:

National Observatorio	National Campaign Against Shrinking Civic Space	CSO Forum on EDC	Country Outreach to Social Enterprises
Albania Philippines Tanzania Argentina Palestine	Albania Philippines Tanzania Argentina Palestine	Albania (CSO ER) Philippines Tanzania (CSO ER) India Argentina Palestine	Albania Philippines Tanzania Argentina Zimbabwe Palestine

- National Dialogue with Development Partners – Albania, Philippines, Tanzania, Argentina
- Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness – Albania, Tanzania, Argentina, Zimbabwe
- Human Rights Day – Palestine (status of SDGs)
- Research and Advocacy on Palestinian Government's Fiscal Plan – Palestine

In the following, the actions and initiatives are situated within the objectives stated in the CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023:

The National Observatorio, CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation, National Dialogue with Development Partners and Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness all fall under Objective 1: Advance the implementation of effective development cooperation commitments as a contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Meanwhile, Country Outreach to Social Enterprises, which includes the Action Research on Social Enterprises fall under Objective 2: Promote accountability and development effectiveness of private sector engagement in development partnerships.

The National Campaign Against Shrinking Civic Space falls under Objective 3: Contribute to reversing the pattern of closing and shrinking space.

The actions and initiatives of country focal points only tangentially touched on Objectives 4 and 5: Promote the development effectiveness agenda in financing climate action for the SDGs, and Ensure that the nexus of humanitarian, development and peace issues (or the “triple nexus”) advances effective development cooperation and the human rights agenda.

CPDE Report to the Public 2020-2021. Evaluating the actions and initiatives of CPDE country focal points in relation to CPDE's 2020-2021 shows that the accomplishments during this time have been continued and even advanced in 2022, even as exact figures were not included in reports submitted to this collection.

Accomplishment (1): Strengthened country-level mechanisms for effective development cooperation engagement. CPDE focal points sustained campaigns and achieved various forms of gains. These gains include government pledges of regular engagements on development cooperation, agreements with the government on policy reforms related to shrinking civic space for CSOs and forwarding human rights assessments to the UN, among others.

Accomplishment (2): Reinforced the application and recognition of CSO development effectiveness principles. CPDE focal points continued to reflect on their implementation of the Istanbul Principles. They have engaged with other CSOs in ways that made the latter reflect on their implementation of the Istanbul Principles as well. In the process, CPDE focal points gained a deeper knowledge of the accomplishments achieved as well as the challenges faced by CSOs in implementing CSO development effectiveness principles.

Accomplishment (3): Increased the awareness of development actors on the application of effective development cooperation principles in crisis situations. Evidence-based advocacy and engagement in relevant advocacy arenas and official processes of the OECD and Agenda 2030 continued, even as this is reflected more by statements and reports of the CPDE at the global level than of the country focal points. The profile of CPDE members as thematic issue experts continued to be raised, in relation to climate finance work and humanitarian, development and peace nexus issues.

Accomplishment (4): Improved the engagement of CPDE members in development partnerships. CPDE continued to reach global policymakers through advocacy activities in different global policy areas and regional and sectoral policy spaces with regard to effective development cooperation. This, again, is reflected more in the statements and reports of the CPDE at the global level than of the country focal points.

Accomplishment (5): Increased the support of other development actors (private sector especially social entrepreneurs, country governments and non-CPDE members) to civil society and its positions. One of the highlights of the CPDE focal points' report in 2022 is the conduct of action research on, and country outreach to, social enterprises.

CPDE Theory of Change. Comparing the actions and initiatives carried out by CPDE country focal points on the one hand and the CPDE Theory of Change on the other, it would appear that most actions and initiatives contributed to the following outcomes, ranked according to the most number of outputs to the least: First, "Improved Civil Society Effectiveness"; second, "Multilaterals and Governments Practicing Effective Development Cooperation"; and third, "Responsible Business Behaviour in Effective Development Cooperation."

For the outcome "Improved Civil Society Effectiveness," all the identified outputs were delivered: strong platform uniting CSOs from global regions and sectors on the effective development cooperation agenda, CSO capacity for development partner engagement especially at country level, application and recognition of CSO development effectiveness principles, and broad support base for CSOs.

The inputs that serve these outputs are the following: CSO Forum on Effective Development Cooperation, Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness, and National Campaign Against Shrinking Civic Space. These inputs all contributed to enhancing CSO development effectiveness in relation to the effective development cooperation agenda, development partners, implementation of the Istanbul Principles and support base for CSOs.

For the outcome “Multilaterals and Governments Practicing Effective Development Cooperation,” meanwhile, two out of three of the identified outputs were delivered. While the outputs on effective development cooperation monitoring and on policy recommendation and dialogue were delivered, there were no inputs that demonstrably contributed directly to the output on climate finance and nexus issues integrated into effective development cooperation discourse. The inputs that serve these outputs are the National Observatorio and National Dialogue with Development Partners. These inputs contributed to engaging with multilateral institutions and governments in the direction of practicing effective development cooperation. It should be emphasised that this analysis applies to reports submitted by CPDE country focal points, and it is clear that the CPDE at the global level contributed to integrating climate finance and nexus issues into effective development cooperation discourse, highlighting the synergy between the work of CPDE country focal points and of CPDE at the global level.

For the outcome “Responsible Business Behaviour in Effective Development Cooperation,” only one out of three of the identified outputs were delivered. While the output on CSO collaboration with and outreach to social enterprise was delivered, the two outputs were not, at least directly: on monitoring Kampala Principles implementation and on advancing government role in the private sector. The input that serves the first output is the Country Outreach to Social Enterprises, which includes the Action Research on Social Enterprises. Again, it should be emphasised that this analysis applies to reports submitted by CPDE country focal points, and it is clear that the CPDE at the global level contributed to monitoring the implementation of Kampala Principles and advancing government role in the private sector. This again highlights the synergy between the work of CPDE country focal points and of CPDE at the global level.

ASSESSING CSOS IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

This report sought to assess primarily CPDE's work in various countries in 2022, and secondarily its synergy with CPDE's work at the global level in the same year.

It showed that CPDE's country focal points contributed to the three key work areas of CPDE, in 2022: (i) EDC commitments and Agenda 2030, (ii) for CSO development effectiveness and accountability and (iii) for CSO enabling environment. It also showed that the work of CPDE's country focal points not only mirrored the priority of CPDE at the global level but also exhibited a level of synergy with the second.

This study also showed that CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives in 2022 contributed to advancing effective development cooperation. It showed that CPDE country focal points' actions and initiatives for 2022 (1) advanced most and all the primary objectives of the CPDE Strategic Plan 2020-2023, (2) continued the accomplishments of the CPDE contained in its Report to the Public for 2020-2021 and (3) contributed to achieving all the target outcomes of the CPDE Theory of Change, even as the delivery of outputs was uneven.

Assessing civil society's contribution to advancing people-centred and sustainable development is an urgent task, as it will help civil society and its constituents, the majority and central but marginalised sectors of society, to navigate through the current dark times characterised by the multiple and intersecting crises. It is an urgent task even as said crises are also changing the very ground on which civil society is working.

Given the multiple, intersecting and non-stop crises, many people may simply respond with apathy or fatigue. The optimistic slogan of yesteryears – crises present opportunities – is now seldom mentioned. With an increasing number of empowered communities of marginalised sectors united with effective and accountable civil society, however, crises may still indeed present opportunities for marginalised peoples and the peoples of the world in general. Indeed, much more must be done to attain more effective development cooperation and people-centred and sustainable development. The following recommendations are important if still modest, proposals towards achieving those ends.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For all stakeholders

- Renew commitments to, and level up actions and initiatives for, attaining the SDGs. These are urgently needed given that progress in attaining the SDGs halfway to 2030 has stalled, hampered by the multiple crises that the world is facing.
- Promote a common understanding of the stalling of progress towards attaining the SDGs and the need for what the UN calls a “rescue plan” for people and the planet. Align actions and positions with initiatives to address the causes and effects of the present state of SDGs and the global multiple

crises: the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, the war in Ukraine and violent conflicts and the economic crisis.

- Deepen understanding of the impacts and implications at the country level of the state of SDGs and the global multiple crises. This can sharpen understanding of areas for urgent intervention.
- Renew commitments to SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals as a means to attaining the SDGs, even as it is a development goal by itself. Create or revitalise platforms for partnerships at the national level.
- Renew commitments to effective development cooperation as an important means for attaining the SDGs. Contribute to urgently realising the commitment of developed countries to provide ODA equivalent to, or even beyond, 0.7 per cent of their gross national income.

For CSOs

- Amidst renewed discussions about the SDGs, heighten promotion of a people-centred and sustainable development, human rights-based approaches to development and other development discourses that serve as alternatives to, and criticisms of, the dominant market-oriented development model that is destructive of the majority and the environment.
- Carefully ensure alignment of programs and projects with attaining the SDGs and people-centred and sustainable development. Strengthen the integration of human rights-based approach to proposals and programs.
- Step up SDG monitoring and evidence-based campaigns with the grassroots on issues aligned with the SDG at the country level. Actively engage with governments and their platforms in SDG monitoring and implementation of development plans aligned with the SDGs.
- Strengthen CSO platforms and alliances to effectively engage the government in partnerships for attaining the SDGs and people-centred and sustainable development.
- Intensify the pushback against the trend of shrinking civic space for civil society, and against the political actors and structural problems responsible for these, cognisant of the important role of civil society and inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships in development.
- Scale up efforts to promote CSO development effectiveness in accordance with the Istanbul Principles and through the CSO effectiveness review and other means. CSOs' role in effective development cooperation and attaining SDGs requires that accountability and transparency especially to marginalised communities and populations that they serve are enhanced.
- Deepen the outreach to social enterprises as part of the general effort to enhance private sector accountability and devise alternative models of development.

For governments

- In light of the stalling of progress in attaining the SDGs, review development plans and frameworks and ensure that these are aligned with human rights-based approaches and protect the majority and the environment.

- Renew commitment to being the lead actor at the national level in attaining the SDGs, promoting SDG 17 on partnership for the goals and realising effective development cooperation.
- In close consultation with civil society, review current and ongoing development plans to align them more closely with the need to scale up efforts to attain the SDGs and people-centred and sustainable development, while expanding peoples' participation and influence in all phases of development planning.
- Renew commitment to the Busan Principles on effective development cooperation, and revitalise and institutionalise partnerships for effective development cooperation and the SDGs.
- Undertake crucial actions needed to enhance CSO enabling environment and roll back the trend of shrinking civic space for civil society. Restrictions imposed on civil society that went hand-in-hand with the COVID-19 pandemic must be done away with immediately.
- Enhance the use of results framework for planning, monitoring and evaluating actions and initiatives in order to ensure that development cooperation and development plans and projects actually promote the interests of the majority and protect the environment.
- Enhance transparency and accountability in the context of the partnerships. Governments must take the lead to build trust within the partnerships by upholding transparency with regard to development cooperation and development plans and projects in general, as well as accountability at the local and national levels.



CSOPartnership 
for Development Effectiveness

A DECADE OF CSO SOLIDARITY
ON EDC ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE

with support from:



 csopartnership.org  fb.com/CSOPartnership  [@CSOPartnership_](https://twitter.com/CSOPartnership_)  [@csopartnership](https://www.instagram.com/csopartnership)

 youtube.com/CSOPartnership