

Small group discussions on priority areas of IcSP Article 4 in 2016 and beyond

Small Group A: Natural Resources/Conflict minerals/CSR

QUESTIONS

- In your opinion, on which areas should EU programming under the IcSP focus in the coming years in relation to Natural Resources/Conflict minerals/CSR?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding specific angles to be tackled in relation to Natural Resources/Conflict minerals/CSR?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding positive experiences on which to build /pitfalls to avoid?

Brief policy outline/State of play

With regard to "conflict minerals", the European Commission and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy adopted on 5 March 2014 the "integrated EU approach to the responsible sourcing of minerals originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas".

The approach consist of: a) a draft Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council setting up a Union system for supply chain due diligence self-certification of responsible importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas; b) a joint Communication, which outlines a package of accompanying measures that will enhance the impact of the Regulation and an integrated EU approach.

With regard to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the EU CSR Strategy promotes responsible business conduct, in particular with respect to compliance with internationally agreed CSR principles and guidelines such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

As concerns diamonds, the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) was established in 2003 to prevent "conflict diamonds" from entering world markets. The KPCS requires member countries to certify shipments of rough diamonds as 'conflict-free' and prevent conflict diamonds from entering the legitimate trade. The EU is a single KP Participant, represented by the European Commission. The Commission on behalf of the EU chairs the Working Group on Monitoring (WGM), which plays an important role in overseeing KPCS implementation by the Participants and dealing with cases and issues of non-compliance.

Extracts from IcSP Strategy paper 2014-2020:

One of the five priority areas under Article 4: "e) Assistance to curb use of natural resources to finance conflicts and to support compliance by stakeholders with initiatives, such as the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, especially as regards implementation of efficient domestic controls on the production of, and trade in, natural resources"

Specific measures under this heading may include:

- supporting compliance with relevant initiatives, especially as regards implementation of efficient domestic controls on the production of, and trade in, natural resources;
- supporting national administrations and civil society to become more engaged in the fight against illegal exploitation and trade of natural resources at national and regional level;
- enhancing co-operation with major stake-holders (including in the private sector) and/or donor co-ordination with regard to the relevant mechanisms;
- promoting relevant standards and guidance as a common global reference for responsible mineral sourcing by stakeholders;
- enhancing awareness and knowledge on implementing tools, challenges and lessons learnt;
- conducting studies/research/technical assessments (including, for example, on the role of EU companies in the supply chain).

Extracts from the Peace-building Partnership 2014 evaluation
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/documents/pbp_evaluation_2014_report_en.pdf

"Projects in this area are helping to build EU knowledge as well as advance policy discussions in the area, thanks to knowledge materials developed with EU support. The evaluation recommends therefore that the EU invests further in this theme in order to create dividends from earlier efforts and keep bringing fresh perspectives, and therefore added value to new policy initiatives".

Examples of projects supported by the IcSP

- 1) At the global level, the "EU-UN Partnership on Land, Natural Resources and Conflict Prevention" project which ended in December 2014 helped to strengthen the capacity of local civil society in the African Great Lakes Region (Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and DRC) to understand conflict dynamics and employ conflict-sensitive development solutions to contentious issues, such as competition/conflict around access to land and natural resources.
- 2) The "Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development Program (PRADD)" contributes to increase the number of alluvial diamonds entering the formal chain of custody, while improving the benefits accruing to diamond mining communities.
- 3) In the Mano River belt region of West Africa the "Strengthening the Kimberley Process – Conflict Prevention and Governance in the Diamond Sector" project implemented by the NGO Partnership Africa Canada is supporting the initial stage of development of a regional approach to the Kimberley process Certification Scheme implementation.
- 4) With regard to conflict minerals, the IcSP contributes to responsible sourcing and trading of minerals (tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold) through dissemination, adoption and use of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance.
- 5) In the African Great Lakes Region, the IcSP supports through GIZ the ICGLR's Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources.
- 6) In North East India, IcSP is supporting Action Aid to mitigate conflicts through the creation of Regional hub for natural resources serving as a platform for local communities, community-based organisations and civil society organisations to become better aware of the links between natural resources and conflicts, and enable initiation of pro-people, peace-inducing development processes.

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Small Group B: Gender/Women, peace and security

QUESTIONS

- In your opinion, on which areas should EU programming under the IcSP focus in the coming years in relation to Gender/Women, peace and security?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding specific angles to be tackled in relation to Gender/Women, peace and security?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding positive experiences on which to build /pitfalls to avoid?

Brief policy outline/State of play

The EU remains committed to ensuring the promotion of the Women Peace and Security (WPS) agenda both internally and in its relations with third countries, including those in crisis and conflict situations. Implementation of the EU's Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), (preceded by the Instrument contributing to Stability (IfS)) is aligned with the implementing of the objectives of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and follow-up resolutions. It is a long-term goal that FPI undertakes together with the concerted efforts of other EU institutions and EU Member States.

The IcSP retains a strong focus on women, given the degree to which gender inequality is a root cause of conflict and how conflicts have particularly harmful effects on women and the communities in which they live. Significant effort has gone into supporting specific strategic actions targeted at protecting, supporting and empowering women, in particular to strengthen IcSP partners' capacity to address gender issues.

A two-fold approach is taken: 1. Gender mainstreaming across a wide range of actions related to crisis preparedness, conflict prevention and peace-building as well as towards crisis response actions. To this end, the FPI has put in place an IcSP Gender Facility, supporting staff at Headquarters and across numerous EU Delegations, and 2. Specific actions targeted at protecting, supporting and empowering women in conflict-prone areas.

A 2014 evaluation on the IfS found that the strong focus on WPS was considered a particular EU added value in IcSP projects and how, despite a limited budget, the IcSP crisis preparedness component contributes to fulfilment of EU commitments related to WPS. It also highlighted a need for a review of the specific sub-areas where the component can produce greatest added value for the EU. As a consequence, the sub-areas of gender-sensitive transitional justice (with UN Women) and data collection on violence against women (VAW) (with the OSCE) have been targeted under the 2014 and 2015 Annual Action Programmes (AAP) respectively.

Examples of ongoing actions include:

- *(IcSP) local call for proposals run by the EU Delegation to El Salvador focused on women, to contribute to peace and social stability, investing particularly in the rehabilitation and reinsertion of women in prison, and the empowerment of women activists/organizations-right defenders [under AAP 2014].*
- *The EU Delegation to Peru funds actions aiming at the empowerment of women participating in dialogues processes in the cocaine areas of Satipo [under AAP 2014].*
- *In Brazil, IcSP support to Christian Aid aims to reduce and end violence against women in Sao Paulo [under AAP 2014].*
- *Bosnia Herzegovina - ensuring access to justice for witness/victims through strengthening existing and establishing new Witness support Networks across BiH; To improve access to justice and rehabilitation for the conflict affected victims/witnesses through provision of prompt multidisciplinary support in order to prevent conflict and contribute to durable peace in BiH [under AAP 2013].*
- *Senegal - Initiative Paix et Diversité au Sahel – (IPAD). Overall objective: Contribuer à la mise en oeuvre au Niger et au Burkina Faso des résolutions du Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies sur les femmes, la paix et la sécurité, notamment les résolutions 1325 et 1820, et à l'approche globale de l'Union Européenne pour leur mise en oeuvre. Specific objective: D'ici fin 2017, au moins 200 organisations et réseaux de femmes auront renforcé leur participation dans la consolidation de la paix au Niger et au Burkina Faso et influenceront les comportements [under AAP 2013].*
- *In Kosovo, following a thematic discussion, 'The EU Policy for the Implementation of UNSCR on Women, Peace and Security' which aimed to highlight the importance of UNSCR 1325 and its subsequent resolutions for the construction of a peaceful, gender-sensitive society, a joint project with UN Women has assisted the Agency for Gender Equality in the production of a National Action Plan for implementation of UNSCR 1325 [under AAP 2011; One of three pilots from a global amount of EUR 1.5 million]. Kosovo is also one of the targeted countries under the gender-sensitive transitional justice programme (EU-UN Women) [under AAP 2014].*

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Small Group C: Youth/Culture

QUESTIONS

- In your opinion, in which areas should EU programming under the IcSP focus in the coming years in relation to the priority areas Youth and Culture?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding specific angles to be tackled in relation to the priority areas Youth and Culture?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding positive experiences on which to build/pitfalls to avoid?

Brief policy outline/State of play

IcSP/IfS has been working on youth in the context of conflict prevention since 2011 with a particular focus on youth engagement and empowerment in promoting peaceful change and social transition including finding alternative ways to manage conflicts and navigate differences. While young people represent the majority of the population in most countries affected by armed conflicts and are disproportionately affected by war, they cannot be seen as only victims and perpetrators of violence and conflict. More importantly, young people and need to be supported in their potential roles as advocates for peace, conciliators, mediators within their communities and agents for conflict transformation and the building of social resilience to violence.

Culture is a more recent lens – particularly since 2015 - through which IcSP has begun to view and approach efforts to support conflict prevention and peace-building. Specific attention should be given to identifying opportunities to harness the role that cultural activity and actors can play in conflict resolution, conflict transformation and post-conflict processes. Cultural activity has a role to play in empowering communities, including women and young people to play a more prominent role in the analysis and transformation of conflicts, in supporting mediation and reconciliation processes and in contributing to post-conflict social and economic re-building. It also plays a critical role in giving voice to promoting inter-ethnic and inter/intra-faith tolerance and in reducing social violence.

Transitional justice is an area where the lines of future EU policy guidance will become clear in the coming months. Activities in this broad area should also underpin long-term work on conflict prevention and peace building thereby allowing individuals and communities to equip themselves to positively engage in building peace in their own environments.

Extracts from IcSP Strategy paper 2014-2020:

"Reinforcing overall up-stream capacity-building of relevant stakeholders to work with the EU in a number of cluster-areas is of particular relevance and interest - in terms of post-conflict and post-disaster recovery (as well as regards pre-conflict mitigation efforts). These cluster-areas include: (...) ii) (...) youth and conflict (...)"

Examples of projects

1) In El Salvador, the project "repairing the social fabric in two communities with high risk youth" implemented by FESPAD (Fundacion de Estudios para la Aplicacion del Derecho) is supporting the collective development of a model for socio-economic insertion that contributes to peaceful and democratic community living between high-risk youth (affiliated with gangs) and their communities based on the experiences of the communities of La Selva and Novena Etapa in Ilopango municipality

2) In Nepal, the project "Youth engage: multi-stakeholders collaboration in reducing youth engagement in violence" implemented by Search for Common Ground, contributes to reducing youth engagement in organized violence by mobilizing youth led organizations, civil society actors and state institutions to promote the constructive role of youth in peace and stability.

3) In the Solomon Islands, IcSP supported the British Council in combatting sexual and gender-based violence through theatre and media. Six theatre performances in Honiara, three of which took place in schools, showcased stories originating from women. Mentoring and trainings conducted after the performances helped heal victims and enhance their confidence and communication skills.

Small group discussions on priority areas of IcSP Article 4 in 2016 and beyond

Small Group D: Transitional justice

QUESTIONS

- In your opinion, in which areas should EU programming under the IcSP focus in the coming years in relation to Transitional Justice?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding specific angles to be tackled in relation to Transitional Justice?
- Do you have any recommendations regarding positive experiences on which to build/pitfalls to avoid?

Extracts from IcSP Strategy paper 2014-2020:

"Reinforcing overall up-stream capacity-building of relevant stakeholders to work with the EU in a number of cluster-areas is of particular relevance and interest - in terms of post-conflict and post-disaster recovery (as well as regards pre-conflict mitigation efforts). These cluster-areas include: (....) iii) Transitional justice (...)"

Examples of projects

1) In Bolivia, the project "Strengthening indigenous peoples in the administration of plural-cultural justice and the development of mechanisms for conflict resolution" implemented by Fundacion Construir, contributed to increasing the ability of indigenous leaders and the formal justice system to engage in intercultural dialogue and conflict mediation.

Over 60 workshops were conducted, half of them in remote communities, on plural and intercultural justice in the framework of the new (2009) constitution and law on Violence Against Women. In the 10 municipalities where the project has been implemented indigenous and ordinary judicial authorities have started to resolve judicial conflicts together. In 5 municipalities, the judicial and indigenous authorities now meet monthly to exchange on plural justice cases. As a result of these numerous dialogues, protocols for the articulation of the two justice systems (providing down to earth proposals and/or improving the current law on plural justice) have been signed in three municipalities and are being implemented.

2) The "Gender Sensitive Transitional Justice" project implemented by UNWOMEN both at global and national level (pilot countries: Colombia, Kenya, Kosovo and the Philippines) aims to increase the effectiveness of transitional justice processes to contribute to a more just and stable society by increasing the extent to which they prioritize victims and take into account the different needs of conflict affected populations.

This is being achieved by: i) creating an enabling environment for TJ to take account of conflict-related Gender-Based Violence sensu lato; ii) basing TJ redress on the experiences of victims (men, women, boys and girls) in conflict and on their respective needs in transitioning from conflict to peace; iii) ensuring system level interventions in the area of TJ fully incorporate gender equality principles at the policy and programming level; iv) improving communication between TJ stakeholders facilitating knowledge sharing and lessons learned on design and implementation of gender responsive and victim centered TJ mechanisms.