Civil Society Dialogue Network
Training Seminar on Peacebuilding Advocacy towards the EU, 19-20 September 2019

EVALUATION FEEDBACK FORM

1) Content of the training seminar:

Session 1 – Thursday morning: Opening session: The EU and peace & security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What worked well:
- Useful overview of the basics x13
- Good mediation x2
- Useful background reading

Suggestions:
- Visual support x3
- Give more answers to the basic questions (what is the EU Council, etc.)
- Go more in depth (and replace the next session)

Criticisms:
- Too fast x3
- A lot of information to take in at once x3

Session 2 – Thursday morning: Who is “the EU”? Group exercise on the EU institutions and peacebuilding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What worked well:
- Great use of group work x14
- Useful to have had the background docs in advance
- Good to realise the questions we have x3

Suggestions:
- Start with what we know (instead of what we don’t)
- Guidance on who to organise
- Use real case examples
- Include a glossary with short definition on the preparatory documents + links to organigrams

Criticisms:
• Too broad to start from what we don’t know **x2**
• Would have preferred to spend more time on the opening session
• Very different knowledge level
• Discussions sometimes driven by individual / organisations’ perspectives

### Session 3 – Thursday afternoon: Building advocacy from information: Parallel discussions on EU processes on geographic and thematic issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What worked well:**
- Interesting/good speakers and inputs **x14**
- Honest conversations **x2**
- Dirk was very good

**Suggestions:**
- Encourage concrete examples
- Focus more on advocacy approaches rather than general issues **x3**
- More time for questions **x2**

**Criticism:**
- Reporting back to the others took too long
- Geographic issues too broad
- Not so engaging
- HR not very well explained

### Session 4 – Friday morning: Advocacy tips from inside the institutions: Discussion with EU officials on peacebuilding and the EU institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What worked well:**
- Great and useful presentations/tips **x10**
- Concrete and specific examples **x3**
- Good to have representatives of different bodies **x4**
- Barbara Einhauer very good

**Suggestions:**
- Just one presentation but more in depth

**Criticisms:**
- EP presentation a bit less relevant
- Too specific

### Session 5 – Friday morning: Influencing the EU institutions: Learning from best practices and lessons learnt from past and ongoing advocacy strategies
What worked well:
- Useful and interesting examples of concrete advocacy campaigns **x18**
- Interactive speakers

Suggestions:
- Make it more interactive
- Focus more on tactics than context (Amaral) **x3**
- Use power-point

Criticisms:

Session 6 – Friday afternoon: From theory to practice: Advocacy simulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What worked well:
- Useful **x5**
- Helpful direction from EPLO staff
- Interesting to translate theory to practice **x5**
- Great to have a team discussion **x2**

Suggestions:
- Provide more info on the context **x2**
- Have more guidance from EPLO per table
- Highlight what would not work in the plans

Criticisms:
- Interesting but not sure we manage to put into practice the knowledge acquired
- Hard to keep the group focused

2) How would you rate the quality of the background documents that were distributed in advance of the training seminar?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What worked well:
- Very detailed, informative and helpful **x11**

Suggestions:
- Link to the organigrams (in advance) **x2**
- Insist on people to actually read them

Criticisms:
3) How would you rate the overall facilitation of the training seminar and the quality of the presentations?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>excellent</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>very poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rating</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What worked well:**
- Organised and practical training
- Knowledgeable people \(x4\)
- Nice facilitation \(x4\)
- Very high quality
- Informal approach was good
- Useful

**Suggestions:**
- Use innovative ways to give presentations

**Criticisms:**
- So many information in short time

4) Usefulness of the seminar:

**Did you find the seminar useful?**
- Yes \(x20\)
- Informative \(x2\)
- Opened new ways to advocate
- Much more confident engaging with EU funding mechanisms
- Useful tips \(x2\)

**How much did you learn at the seminar? Please give examples.**
- Power/funding \(x4\)
- Direct letter to HRVP
- Additional info on different EU structures \(x11\)
- Background docs to be reused
- Advocacy means \(x5\)
- Entry points \(x5\)
- Where to go look for answers
- Valuable networking opportunities \(x3\)
- Civilian missions
- Gender focal points
- Specific info from EEAS
- Better understanding of EPLO s work

**Will you apply what you learned in your work? Please give examples.**
- Yes \(x12\)
- Better targeting x6
- Better and quicker fundraising process
- Pass on the knowledge to peer agencies and local partners x3
- Campaign on Human Rights Defenders
- Use MS more

5) Please give your suggestions for improving the training seminar or further comments:

- More real life examples x2
- Encourage more interaction between participants
- Make the team think of the basic rules for efficient lobby in EU (or the basic things not to do)
- Include examples of campaigns that failed
- More on EUSRs
- Involve more African based CSOs