



## Civil Society Dialogue Network Funding Instruments Meeting

### Support to in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding

Wednesday 4 October 2017 (13.30-17.00)

Scotland House Conference Centre  
Rond-Point Robert Schuman / Robert Schumanplein 6, 1040 Brussels

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Background

Since 2007, the European Commission (EC) has been providing financial support to civil society actors in conflict-affected countries through, *inter alia*, the 'Conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness' (Article 4) component of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) and its predecessor the Instrument for Stability (IfS).

The EC's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), which manages part of this support, is interested to hear from international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) about their experiences of applying for and managing various donors' support for in-country civil society organisation (CSO) capacity building and initiatives in peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and to receive recommendations for future EU support.

In this context, the EC has asked the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) to organise a small-scale dialogue meeting specifically dedicated to this topic in addition to the annual meetings which it organises on IcSP programming.<sup>1</sup>

### Objective

The overall objective of this meeting is to gather INGOs' assessments of previous and ongoing donor support for in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and their recommendations for future EU support in this sector.

### Participants

The meeting will bring together 20-25 participants, including INGO representatives and officials from the EC.

### Format

A half-day meeting consisting of two sessions. In both sessions, introductory comments from an EC official will be followed by a facilitated discussion in which all participants will be encouraged to participate.

<sup>1</sup> See <http://eplo.org/activities/ongoing-projects/civil-society-dialogue-network/funding-instruments-meetings/>

# AGENDA

12.00 – 12.30	<b>Registration of participants</b>
12.30 – 13.30	<b>Lunch</b>
13.30 – 13.45	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben Moore – European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</li> <li>• Giovanni Squadrito – Unit for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (FPI 2), Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission (EC)</li> </ul>
13.45 – 15.30	<p><b>Session 1: International non-governmental organisations' (INGOs) experiences of applying for and managing donor funding for supporting in-country civil society organisation (CSO) capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding?</b></p> <p>The aim of this session will be for participants to share their experiences of applying for and managing various donors' support to in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.</p> <p>The discussions in this session could be guided by the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What have been the main advantages and challenges of Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) and Instrument for Stability (IfS) support to in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding?</li> <li>• What are the most useful and effective grant schemes in this sector (across the EU and other donors), and why?</li> </ul> <p>Facilitation: Ben Moore – EPLO</p> <p>Introductory comments by: Giovanni Squadrito – FPI 2, EC</p>
15.30 – 15.45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15.45 – 16.45	<p><b>Session 2: Options for future EU support to in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding</b></p> <p>The aim of this session will be for participants to provide their recommendations on how the EU could design its support to in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the future.</p> <p>The discussions in this session could be guided by the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through which (innovative) modalities could the IcSP best support in-country CSO capacity building and initiatives in conflict prevention and peacebuilding?</li> <li>• Are there specific changes which the EU should consider in its IcSP support to in-country CSOs capacity building and initiatives in this sector (e.g.</li> </ul>

	<p>choice of thematic priorities, target countries/regions and geographical scope, types of civil society actors to be supported, selection and award processes, duration of grants, etc.)?</p> <p>Facilitation: EPLO</p> <p>Introductory comments by: Sébastien Babaud – FPI 2, EC</p>
16.45 – 17.00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giovanni Squadrito – FPI 2, EC</li> <li>• Ben Moore – EPLO</li> </ul>

#### **Civil Society Dialogue Network**

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a mechanism for dialogue between civil society and EU policy-makers on issues related to peace and conflict. It is co-financed by the European Union (Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace). It is managed by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), a civil society network, in co-operation with the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS). The third phase of the CSDN will last from 2017 to 2020. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](#).