Civil Society Dialogue Network Funding Instruments Meeting

Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe

Thematic Programme on Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention

Informal consultation on Annual Action Programme 2022

Friday 18 & Monday 21 February 2022, Online

MINUTES

Abbreviations	
AAP	Annual Action Programme
AU	African Union
CSA	Civil Society Actor
CSDN	Civil Society Dialogue Network
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EC	European Commission
EEAS	European External Action Service
EPLO	European Peacebuilding Liaison Office
EU	European Union
EUD	(EU) Delegation
FFPA	Financial Framework Partnership Agreement
FPI	(EC) Service for Foreign Policy Instruments
GP	Geographic Programme
IcSP	Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
INGO	International Non-governmental Organisation
IO	International Organisation
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MIP	Multiannual Indicative Programme
MS	Member State
NDICI-GE	Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe
PS&CP	Peace Stability and Conflict Prevention
RRA	Rapid Response Actions
RT	(FPI) Regional Team
TF	Trust Fund
TP	Thematic Programme
UN	United Nations
UNEP	(UN) Environment Programme
UNPBF	(UN) Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund

The final agenda of the meeting is available to download from the CSDN section of the EPLO website.

Day 1 (Friday 18 February 2022)

Session 1: State of play of the Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 and the Annual Action Programme (AAP) 2021, and initial thoughts on the AAP 2022

The EEAS gave a presentation on the MIP 2021-2027 for the NDICI-GE)TP on PS&CP, and the EC gave presentations on the AAP 2021 and initial ideas for the AAP 2022 for the 'Global Threats, Trans-regional Threats and Emerging Threats' and 'Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Crisis Preparedness' areas of intervention respectively.

Participants asked the following questions / made the following comments (left column), and the EC and EEAS gave the following responses (right column):

	Question/Comment	Response
1.	'Climate change and security' is a priority under the 'Global Threats, Trans-regional Threats and Emerging Threats' area of intervention and 'climate and security' is a priority under the 'Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Crisis Preparedness' area of intervention. To what extent, if any, do the two priorities differ? Are you trying to address the conflict implications of climate change as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation?	• 3-5% of the overall envelope for the MIP is dedicated to Priority 8 (Addressing the global and trans-regional effects of climate change and environmental factors having a potentially destabilising impact on peace and security) • Approximately € 6 million per year • The focus of the TP on PS&CP is on climate change and security (i.e. security threats that emanate from climate change) • Climate change mitigation and adaptation is addressed under other NDICI-GE TPs and GPs • A number of pilot actions were launched under the IcSP, including one with UNEP in Nepal and Sudan • In 2021, a follow-up action was launched to build on it and to engage further with UNEP • This year, the EC is also looking to develop a sub-granting facility in order to engage with local communities to address climate security at the local level
2.	How do you plan to support the early warning and conflict analysis activities that are undertaken by third parties, including the AU?	• In addition to supporting conflict analysis and early warning tools for EU internal purposes, when relevant, we can also fund third party tools • Support to local early warning mechanisms was set out clearly in AAP 2021
3.	Have you discussed how to make localisation work in practice, especially regarding flexibility for local partners (e.g. registration requirements)?	• Localisation is discussed a lot in the humanitarian context but less so in peacebuilding • It can be difficult for us to find suitable funding mechanisms for local partners so we often have to work through intermediaries
4.	How do you envisage providing increased support to local actors and do you / are you planning to monitor the amount of funding that	• There is currently no specific tool for monitoring how much funding is allocated to local actors

	is allocated to local actors (as opposed to INGOs)?	
5.	Which countries will be included in the 'Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness' action?	• Several countries in East Asia and Southeast Asia • Countries on the Swahili coast • Announcements are expected soon
6.	How much will be allocated to the UNPBF?	• € 6 million over two years
7.	Please provide more information about the € 5 million for 'mediation' ('Individual measures' in AAP 2021).	• Focused on insider mediation in three or four pilot countries • Existing expert facility that will hopefully be maintained • Insider mediation may also be included in AAP 2022
8.	What role do you see for CSAs in the annual priority setting process?	• Contributions to CSDN FIMs such as this • Separate bilateral discussions

9.	Please elaborate on how you conceptualise the link between climate and conflict, and whether you are considering soft components such as local dispute mechanisms and IHL promotion to address environmental issues and ensure an adaptive response to climate change?	• The specific objective of MIP Priority 8 is to 'Increase the effectiveness of efforts to address climate/environment security risks' with a view to achieving the following results:
		  ○ 'Stakeholders at regional, national and local levels are better informed and integrating security related risks linked to climate change and environmental degradation in their policy approaches'
		  ○ 'Deeper understanding developed of climate change impacts and heir inter-relation with security considerations (e.g. vulnerability assessments, identification of hotspots, risk mapping and modelling, etc.)
		  ○ 'Tools, concepts, and methodologies to collect and analyse trends and data in displacement of peoples due to natural disasters and climate/environment-related causes and improved and applied, evidence strengthened and research gaps addressed'
		  ○ 'Operational and technical support to include human security and mobility challenges in national Disaster Risk Reduction / Climate Change Adaptation Plans is provided'
		• Efforts are ongoing to coordinate actions under Priority 8 with actions under Area of Intervention 1 (Assistance for conflict prevention, peacebuilding and crisis preparedness)
		• Actions under Area of Intervention 1 will be focused on the combined climate and conflict risks and what adaptive tools can be used in conflict contexts
		• They will also be focused on strengthening the links between the peacebuilding and climate science communities.
		• We would also be interested in including IHL components, particularly in relation to

		protection of the environment in conflict situations.
10.	Will any support be provided to regular media (e.g. radio)?	• Greater emphasis has been placed on social media but we may continue to explore the influence of regular media on peacebuilding
11.	Do you envisage a focus on children in armed conflict within the role of CSOs on stabilisation?	• This has been the subject of recent internal discussions • Children should be taken into consideration both in terms of their protection but also in terms of the role that they can play in peacebuilding
12.	How will you ensure that MHPSS is fully integrated in your programming?	• This topic has been discussed internally • It was decided that MHPSS would not be prioritised in AAP 2022 but it is under consideration for future years as it is topical and linked to protection concerns

Session 2: Exchange of views on the implementation of the 'Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention' component of the NDICI-GE Rapid Response Actions

The EC gave a presentation on the 'Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention' component of the NDICI-GE RRAs.

Participants asked the following questions / made the following comments (left column) and the EC gave the following responses (right column):

	Question/Comment	Response
1.	Have any procedures been put in place to ensure the smooth transition from RRA funding to other, more long-term, funding in order to avoid some of the issues that existed in previous programming periods?	• There is an increased focus on this issue but there is still no clear solution
2.	How do you decide which projects should be funded under the 'Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention' component of the RRAs pillar and which should be funded under the TP on PS&CP?	• Under the TP on PS&CP, CSOs propose projects to be supported in response to calls for proposals • The RRAs pillar is not programmed so the process is more ad hoc in nature
3.	Could RRA funding be used to fund activities in support of democratic transition in Sudan and women mediators in Darfur?	• We are open to discussions about potential activities to be supported

Participants added the following questions and comments in writing after the meeting (left column) and the EC gave the following responses (right column):

	Question/Comment	Response
1.	How do you decide which EUDs will manage calls for proposals?	• It is decided based on the needs expressed by FPI RTs and in coordination with EUDs
2.	How do you decide which issues will be prioritised in the 'Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-	• It is decided following close consultation with FPI RTs and the annual consultation with CSOs in the framework of CSDN

	building, crisis preparedness' calls for proposals?	
3.	Are you planning to use FFPAs for the implementation of the NDICI-GE TP on PS&CP?	• No: We prefer to keep flexibility in the funding of partners in view of the limited funding available under the TP
4.	Will you continue to work with the same partners as you did under the IcSP (i.e. CSOs, EU MS agencies, UN agencies, programmes and funds; other IOs etc.)?	• Yes

5.	How do we contact RTs? Who are the heads of the RTs?	• The RTs are located in the following EUDs: Bangkok (covering Asia/Pacific), Beirut (covering the Middle East and North Africa), Brasilia (covering the Americas), Dakar (covering West and Central Africa) and Nairobi (covering East and Southern Africa)
		 • In addition, the RT 'Headquarters' includes FPI staff posted to EUDs in Europe that represent the EU in IOs or neighbouring countries
		 • The heads of the RTs are:
		     o Bangkok: Paolo Zingale
		     o Beirut: Robert Krengel
		     o Brasilia: Mario Mariani
		     o Dakar: Giovanni Squadrito
		     o Nairobi: Ignacio Burrull
		     o Headquarters: Io Schmid

6.	Will the IcSP Map be continued as the NDICI-GE TP on PS&CP & RRAs Map?	• Yes: It is currently being discussed internally.
7.	Are you using OPSYS for NDICI-GE TP on PS&CP contracts yet?	• Yes: As of 2022
8.	Do you foresee the use of EUTFs in the current programming period?	• No

Day 2 (Monday 21 February)

Session 3: Small group discussions on possible priority areas for AAP

A civil society participant gave a summary of the issues that had been raised in the small group discussion on 'Climate change and environmental degradation'.

A civil society participant gave a summary of the issues that had been raised in the small group discussion on 'The role of CSO support in community stabilisation'.

A civil society participant gave a summary of the issues that had been raised in the small group discussion on 'Increasing inclusivity in peacebuilding'.