



Empowering Civil Society to Build Sustainable Peace for All

CSPPS 2017 Annual Report



**CIVIL SOCIETY
PLATFORM**
FOR PEACEBUILDING
AND STATEBUILDING



Empowering Civil Society to Build Sustainable Peace for All

Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) 2017 Annual Report

Contents

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations	4
Acknowledgements	5
Executive Summary	6
Introduction	7
Empowering Civil Society to Build Sustainable Peace for All	8
Advocating for Inclusion towards Peaceful Societies	15
Platform Governance and Membership	18
Supporting Civil Society Participation	20
Strategic Horizons: CSPPS in 2018 and Beyond	23
Communications and Outreach	25
CSPPS Contact Information	27
<i>Annexes</i>	
• Annex 1: Detailed Financial Reports 2017	28
• Annex 2: List of CSPPS Platform members	29
• Annex 3: List of CSPPS EC members, Workstream Co-Chairs, IDPS WG Co-chair	30
• Annex 4: List of events attended, (co-)organised and/or facilitated	31
• Annex 5: CSPPS Overview of projects in 2017	32

- - -

Find Case Stories on CSPPS Activities on following pages: 8, 10, 13, 16, 17, 18, 26

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAR	-	Central African Republic
CGM	-	Core Group Meeting CSPPS
Cordaid	-	Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Assistance
CS	-	Civil Society
CSO	-	Civil Society Organisation
CSPPS	-	Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding
CT	-	Country Team CSPPS
DRC	-	Democratic Republic of Congo
EC	-	Executive Committee CSPPS
EDD	-	European Development Days
FCAS	-	Fragile and Conflict Affected States (Situations/Settings)
HLPF	-	High-level Political Forum
ID	-	International Dialogue
IDPS	-	International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding
INCAF	-	International Network on Conflict and Fragility (OECD)
INGO	-	International Non-Governmental Organisation
IWG	-	Implementation Working Group of the IDPS
MDGs	-	Millennium Development Goals
ND	-	New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	-	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PSG	-	Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goal
SDC	-	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDGs	-	Sustainable Development Goals
SGM	-	Steering Group Meeting of IDPS
UN	-	United Nations
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
UNGA	-	United Nations General Assembly
WG	-	Working Group
YPS	-	Youth, Peace and Security

Acknowledgements

This Annual Report issued by the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding brings to live a next chapter in documentation of coordinated civil society actions as part of the Platform's engagement in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) and related policy processes. Also in 2017 members of the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) have harvested their learnings, contributed these as brief documented experiences and highlighted key achievements recorded in support of the making of this report. The authors of this Annual Report are grateful to all contributions received and proud to be able make these stories known as part of this collective report on CSPPS activities in 2017.

The Annual Report 2017 records activities carried out under coordination of the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) in 2017¹.

The activities of the Civil Society Platform in 2017 were made possible through kind support and funding made available by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (SDC), and Cordaid (through its Strategic Partnership programme with Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands).

The support as provided by the above-mentioned donors has contributed to facilitating the achievement of milestones and success stories presented in this report. The funding received has helped the Platform's efforts to strengthen and solidify the voice of Civil Society in context of the IDPS partnership and in related policy processes. The support has further also enabled CSPPS to identify effective ways to successfully address challenges faced in optimizing meaningful civil society engagement in various policy processes linked to the IDPS.

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding would like to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation for the generous support received and looks forward to continued collaboration with CSPPS partners in context of the International Dialogue and beyond.

On behalf of the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding

Peter van Sluijs

Coordinator of the CSPPS Secretariat and member of the CSPPS Executive Committee

¹ The financial reports included in this annual report include all costs reported up to the end of the SDC grant extension

Executive Summary

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) is the South-North non-governmental coalition of peacebuilding organizations that coordinates and supports Civil Society participation in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) and related policy discussions. The Platform gathers representatives from more than twenty-five countries across the globe. The goals of CSPPS are to strengthen the voice and capacity of society to effectively engage in, and influence, peacebuilding and statebuilding as a critical contribution to crisis prevention and sustainable peace and development for all. This mandate is based on an agreed upon vision of wanting to see international collaboration that brings sustainable peace and inclusive development for all.

The year 2017 has been a busy year for CSPPS. The Platform provided follow-up on the renewal of the IDPS as agreed upon in the Stockholm Conference while at the same time also initiating and catalysing efforts for use of New Deal principles in context of the actualization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2017 CSPPS has developed and supported activities of its Civil Society members active at g7+ country level and beyond. CSPPS Country Teams and Focal Points have been able to report on challenges and opportunities at the country level during the monthly CSPPS Core Group meetings. Next to this the CSPPS Executive Committee met also monthly – to, as mandated, advise the Platform on decision-making and to review available sources and appropriate uses of the CSPPS budget, both facilitating the participation of CSPPS members to peacebuilding, IDPS and New Deal-related events and processes at country and international levels. At IDPS-level the Platform's Secretariat had multiple meetings with colleagues from the other constituency secretariats on the translation of the commitments made during the Stockholm Conference into a revised IDPS strategy and actionable work plan.

Also in 2017, country level support remained a CSPPS priority, combining support to the needs of Country Teams for their successful engagement in SDGs implementation processes, and strategic alignment to the renewal of the IDPS to achieve results on the ground to demonstrate the relevance of a New Deal principled approach in operationalizing SDG-processes at country level.

At country level, the CSPPS continued to encourage its Country Teams to broaden and strengthen their national CSO coalitions under pro-active guidance and coordination from CSPPS Country Teams and designated Focal Points. The CSPPS work streams developed with the aim to reinforce civil society engagement at country and global level did transform into more ad hoc operating task teams responding to immediate issues and opportunities. The Platform has continued to record and document lessons learned and experiences gathered in supporting processes. This material is used to evaluate the Platform's ability to respond to support requests and to assess its contribution to process of SDGs operationalization.

At international level, the CSPPS has, in multiple fora, advocated for meaningful and decisive action to safeguard inclusivity as a prerequisite for building peace and forging resilience in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. Safeguarding civic space and supporting efforts to further amplify the voice of Civil Society in relevant policy processes are key priorities in supported trajectories leading towards more peaceful and inclusive societies.

Introduction

The 2017 Annual Report of the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) narrates CSPPS achievements in the year 2017 and showcases various plans under development for the year 2018. The report gives an outline of CSPPS members' activities and achievements in providing crucial support to the successful localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development utilizing New Deal principles as entry point for successful actualization of this process in context of Fragile and Conflict Affected States.

Readers of this CSPPS Annual Report 2017 will find records of milestone events and highlights of the CSPPS contributions to concerted actions of Civil Society in 2017 in context of peacebuilding, statebuilding, conflict prevention and sustaining peace. The report also narrates collaborative IDPS-action in context of g7+ countries as well as at the international level. Finally, the report will also address challenges faced by the Platform in the execution of mandated activities.

Steered by a supervisory CSPPS Executive Committee, the Platform's efforts in the global South have focused around promoting constructive state-society relations and advocating for more inclusive and participatory policy processes. To achieve all this, the CSPPS relied on its Core Group members and the wider membership in their respective country teams at present constituted in seventeen g7+ and five non-g7+ countries and supported therein by INGO representatives from to date eight INCAF countries.

The Platform has devoted valuable time and sustained efforts into shaping and infusing the

International Dialogue for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, Sustainable Development Goals and humanitarian processes with peacebuilding values. The voice of Civil Society in these arenas was intended to safeguard and/or secure civic engagement space, inclusivity and to enhance societal participation in key transformative processes aimed at reinforcing processes leading to the domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals by using the New Deal Principles.

In our efforts to accelerate collaboration across other IDPS-constituencies and individual organisations, the Platform continued its high-level engagement and guidance provision within global forums supported or coordinated by the g7+ group of fragile states, the OECD-INCAF, UNDP, World Bank and various regional bodies. During milestone events held by these groups and institutions, CSPPS recorded and delivered practice-based lessons learned and recommendations captured from the domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals using the New Deal principles. The work of CSPPS in context of a shrinking civic space context and our relentless calls for inclusive and participative approaches are outlined in this report.

The authors hope that as we move further towards collective efforts in conflict prevention, sustaining peace and building resilient societies, this 2017 edition of the CSPPS Annual Report will inspire readers to learn more about the core contribution of Civil Society to the processes mentioned above.

It is also hoped that the report will raise interest and understanding for the pivotal role played by civil society and the needed support to ensure its continued participation in context of peacebuilding, statebuilding and development agendas in fragile and conflict-affected states.

Empowering Civil Society to Build Sustainable Peace for All

The Platform is the South-North non-governmental coalition of peacebuilding organizations that coordinates and supports civil society participation in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) and related policy processes. The year 2017 saw the Platform working closely with its civil society representatives to amplify country level advocacy at international level in the context of the International Dialogue. Our CSPPS strategies are based on the following Theory of Change: *“If we shape and influence global and national structures and processes to address sources of destructive conflict and to build resilience, then countries and their citizens will be less likely to resort to violent conflict because they will have means to manage their grievances and build the quality of their lives.”* Inspired from this, CSPPS pursues the following core strategies:

- Shaping and infusing the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, Sustainable Development Goals and humanitarian processes with peacebuilding values;
- Strengthening and broadening Civil Society engagement in peacebuilding, statebuilding and crisis prevention;
- Influencing prevention, peacebuilding and statebuilding and development policies at all levels.

In the new policy reality triggered by the conflict prevention and sustaining peace agendas, the Platform mobilised its members around contextualisation of these frameworks at national level. The CSPPS Secretariat extended timely support to CSPPS Country Team members when and where needed to support re-alignment and adaptation in the prioritisation and delivery of tangible and meaningful results at country level in support of successful Sustainable Development Goals localization and implementation efforts using the New Deal principles to attain sustainable

peace and build resilience societies. The Platform has been pro-actively contributing to strategic guidance and policy development for the IDPS to adequately respond to and re-position itself with the current policy reality.

Heart of the matter: Civil Society coalition building and strengthening

The core activity of the CSPPS remains country level mobilisation and support to ensuring meaningful and ongoing Civil Society engagement at all levels – therewith ensuring that the voice, interests and concerns of societies in g7+ countries are effectively heard in relevant policy processes and to ensure participation of Civil Society becomes a normal part of peacebuilding, development practices and policymaking in these countries.

Support to Civil Society country coalition building is provided to impact both on the legitimacy and recognized relevance of CS-participation. Next to this it is the foundation on basis of which subsequent support to strategic engagement activities can be departed upon. CSPPS strives to capacitate local Civil Society to be an equal member and recognized partner of the IDPS, the New Deal and related policy processes as they happen at country level. Securing necessary political space and access to dialogue remain key concerns and priorities for targeted support needed to ensure that the New Deal principle of inclusive and legitimate politics materialises itself on the ground, through which in turn a meaningful and continuous dialogue process can be embarked upon.

In 2017 CSPPS has supported CSOs Country Teams via numerous projects in various g7+ countries (i.e. Guinea Bissau, Comoros, CAR, Sierra Leone) aimed at coalition building towards enhancing and solidifying voice and agency of Civil Society in relevant processes and with specific focus on sensitization around use of New Deal principles as entry point for SDG localization, role of youth in preventing violent extremism and general discussion around youth, peace and security.

Case Story 1: Sierra Leone Youth Takes Centre Stage

On 28 February 2017, Youth Partnership for Peace and Development (YPPD) in Sierra Leone in close partnership with the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding organized a launch event of the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, to honour this landmark resolution in an official ceremony. The Resolution was officially launched by Anthony A. Koroma, Commissioner of National Youth Commission. The event brought together well over one hundred and twenty representatives from the government, civil society organizations, youth activists,

academics, some CSPPS members such as Cordaid, Search for Common Ground, United Network of Young Peacebuilders, as well as UN agencies, such as UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and FAO to discuss challenges and opportunities for greater youth engagement in the country's future. CSPPS was represented in this meeting by Peter van Sluijs, Coordinator of the CSPPS Secretariat and Senior Strategist at Cordaid.

Being on the crossroads since the country's civil war, Sierra Leone has had several processes unfolding as part of repositioning its place on the global and governance stages. While most of these processes are seen as key opportunities for holistic growth and engagement, many of them seem disconnected as to answering questions like how central young people are in seeking joint and collective solutions to deal with major drivers of conflicts, violence and fragility in general. Launching the UNSCR 2250 is a significant bold step in not only raising the profile and meaningful involvement of youth in peace and security, but further generating wider policy and stakeholder interest while building on commitments to solidify structures for holistic engagement with young people for a peaceful Sierra Leone. Going beyond the launch, it is obvious that the debate is no longer centred on how critical young people are when it comes to peacebuilding, conflict prevention and violent extremism; but rather how we, as a collective, can answer the question of what it is we can do differently for them (the youth) to take the centre stage in building and consolidating Sierra Leone's hard-earned peace. While acknowledging the government of Sierra Leone's efforts of putting into place the necessary regulatory and institutional frameworks, it is our hope that the national launch of the Resolution will be an opportunity to do more, particularly in harnessing the very demographic dividend that youth presents.

The launch further represents a significant step in setting up an Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Youth Peace and Security in Sierra Leone and by extension, the very significant beginning to cushioning rising election tensions which started occurring in the lead up to the 2018 national polls. The wider CSPPS Country team in Sierra Leone has actively supported the event and will ensure follow-up in context of their work on New Deal and PSGs, but also as part of the overall national effort in placing youth at the centre of peacebuilding and statebuilding. The Launch event was concluded with a set of recommendations to governments aimed at attaining the fullest implementation of the UNSC Resolution 2250 and the SDG16 from a Sierra Leonean youth perspective. Some of these key recommendations included:

The need to form an Inter-Agency Platform as an immediate post-launch structure; the urgent need for the development of a National Program of Action that will serve as roadmap for the implementation of the Resolution; active and continuous engagement of state and non-state actors to deliberately mainstream youth into their programming and implementations; engaging young people to take the lead in preventing conflict and promoting peace in their respective communities; and, finally, constant and robust media engagement to raise awareness about the resolution. Given Sierra Leone's youthful population, it is obvious that we cannot afford to leave the youth behind regarding matters of peacebuilding and that we should focus on their empowerment while building up their capacities for development.

"There can be nothing for us without us". On behalf of the young people of Sierra Leone and partners, we welcome the promises, but we urge government to fulfil them and do more" among others were key messages flagged during the launch of UNSCR 2250 in Sierra Leone. Musa Ansumana Soko concluded.

See for more info: [unscr2250-sierra-leone-youth-takes-center-stage/](https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/180911sierraleoneyouthtakescenterstage/)

Musa Ansumana Soko, Founder & Executive Coordinator Youth Partnership for Peace and Development and member CSPPS Country Team Sierra Leone

Broadening Civil Society Participation

Being a South-North non-governmental coalition of peacebuilding organizations, the CSPPS assembles representatives from around the globe. Presently, the Platform engages with organizations from more than 25 countries. The Platform's key focus being development and strengthening of the voice and capacity of Civil Society in fragile and conflict affected situations, it aims to invest in further deepening and developing its membership. The participation of organisations located in the Northern hemisphere provides strategic opportunities for direct outreach to Bilateral Donors as well as Multilateral Organizations.

CSPPS continues to reach out to organizations that can strategically contribute to strengthen the platform and giving it a new spin on its global engagement for promoting the Peacebuilding Agenda from various angles (youth, women, private sector engagement, sustaining peace and security, prevention of violent extremism, conflict prevention, etc.) thus ensuring that the CSPPS Country Teams are open, broad and inclusive partnerships, representative of the social fabric of each country.

In 2017, the CSPPS Southern network expanded to include new civil society organisations in CSPPS Country Teams and next to this the year also saw

changes in Focal Point positions – some due to the appointment of FPs into cabinet positions. The Secretariat of the Platform provided its country coalitions with regular information updates on civil society engagement in the SDG-era and promoted their channels of interaction with Government and donors at all levels. The overall number of the CSPPS Civil Society coalitions in g7+ countries stand at present at seventeen. Next to this functioning CS-coalitions are in place in four non-g7+ countries

– this next to sixteen participating INGOs at international level.

Throughout the year 2018, increasing cross-platform partnerships and further leveraging the CSPPS internal capacities will remain major priorities, all the while carrying on attracting those organizations at both national and international level that can make a valuable contribution to our concerted conflict prevention and sustaining peace efforts.

Case Story 2: A need to focus on conflict prevention and sustaining peace

The New Deal for Fragile States engagement is a landmark agreement made between fragile and conflict-afflicted states (FCAS), development partners and civil society to improve existing development policies and practices within FCAS. The Central African Republic (CAR) is part of the Fragile States group (g7+) supported by international development partners in the context of the New Deal based on its Central African Republic Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (Plan de Relèvement et de Consolidation de la Paix en Centrafrique; RCPCA). The CAR offers the opportunity to show the pertinence of the New Deal as a global framework for sustainable peace and development in fragile contexts. However, one year after the plan's implementation, it turns out that the resource mobilisation rate destined to implement planned actions ends up only representing 10% of the total forecast; yet the country still faces to this day considerable and urgent challenges resulting from over three years of armed conflict and decades of weak governance and underdevelopment.

Organised by the European Commission, the European Development Days (EDD) have provided an excellent opportunity for CSPPS, Central African civil society and government authorities, as well as for representatives from the EU, the International Dialogue and other African civil society organisation (CSOs), to discuss key issues, including: (i) the constraints that prevent civil society from interacting on an equal footing with local authorities in the fields of peacebuilding and statebuilding, (ii) the relevance of the New Deal framework to guide the RCPCA, in particular with regard to the state-society social contract, all the while insisting on the role played by the Bêkou Trust Fund, (iii) the way the EU can and will support local authorities for the change programme implementation in FCAS, (iv) inclusive and participatory processes which can be embarked upon to harness the SDGs / Agenda 2030.

From these fruitful discussions have emerged concrete partnership opportunities, both at the EU and at the more global level. Agreements were reached along at least two main lines: (i) the need for greater and deeper inclusion of CSOs and for increasing their role from the outset in conflict settlement and social dialogue in g7+ countries, in sync with local authorities and leaders, (ii) the urgency for civil society to work at the heart of development, security, peacebuilding and statebuilding issues by emphasising and encouraging the creation of partnerships that aim for greater resilience and stability.

Despite the seemingly occasional representation of CAR's civil society in these sessions, it should be noted that this presence has nevertheless ensured the tackling and greater understanding of issues and questions linked to the more sensitive themes of gender and youth. The most visible impact is the strengthening and the availability of the team to conduct activities. Their further materialisation on the ground undoubtedly involves the mobilisation of additional resources to be able to implement such activities.

See also -> [dreaming-peace-central-african-republic/](#)

Eloi Kouzoundji, Economist at GERDDES-Centrafrique and Deputy CSPPS Focal Point in CAR

Civic Space and the Role of Civil Society

Sustaining and building peace is not possible without the principles of legitimacy, trust, participation, diversity and credibility. Exactly these principles are coming under threat in many countries due to the global trend of shrinking civic

spaces. Activities carried out by CSPPS are continuously focused on both strengthening the capacity and voice of civil society in fragile and conflict affected situations (FCAS). Safeguarding civic space is an urgent issue in this context where concerns over shrinking political space prevail.

In contexts where formalized political space is granted, being the case for CSPPS in context of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, the Platform has engaged in a constructive dialogue and engagement with duty bearers and other key stakeholders to flag the importance of this issue. Meetings of the IDPS are used to discuss trends around the curtailing of civic space and restrictions imposed on planned activities by civil society organizations in member countries of the IDPS. The continuous global trend of shrinking civic space is a key concern that CSPPS seeks to address. Members of the CSPPS Platform also report on adverse legislation that is being prepared and tabled in several countries where CSPPS members are active.

The Platform in turn has also addressed concerns over shrinking political space at various international fora, including the UN General Assembly, the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF), IDPS, EU Partnership Forum and the European Development Days (EDD). In these fora, CSPPS tabled issues around civic space, called for continued support of a wide range of international development actors and stressed the political will that is needed to create and safeguard an enabling environment for civil society. Key southern CSPPS partners (from CAR, South Sudan, Nigeria and Afghanistan) were capacitated to directly and successfully engage in these fora and to present compelling cases stories to underscore civic space concerns.

And as a more practical manifestation of difficulties encountered CSPPS country team members and partners report increased difficulties in processes related to obtaining visa for official, work-related visits to the Schengen zone and the United States of America. This has at repeated instances prevented CSPPS-representatives to attend international meetings, which in turn impacted on the ability of the Platform to bring local voice to the fore in these contexts. CSPPS will continue its efforts to counter this negative trend (both by compiling and discussing case repository and urging conference hosts to confirm conference and meeting dates earlier).

CSPPS will continue to call for the crucial role of civil society to be recognized as a central part of the fabric that builds societal resilience and sustains peace, and ensure that work of civil society, and the space that allows for it, must be upheld and supported.

"CSPPS will continue to call for the crucial role of civil society to be recognized as a central part of the fabric that builds societal resilience and sustains peace"

Civil Society and Inclusion

Preventing conflict, sustaining peace and mostly building lasting peace requires inclusivity and partnership. The principle of inclusivity is vital to delivering Agenda 2030 in societies affected by conflict and fragility. Where state-society relations are weak(er) or where state institutions lack capacity, the meaningful and ongoing involvement of civil society holds a pivotal key to ensuring whole-of-society ownership and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly where the building of peace, just and inclusive societies is centrefold. Yet while a consensus around the need for greater inclusivity in the design and implementation of policy has risen in recent years, there remain unique challenges in contexts affected by conflict and fragility.

CSPPS has put this topic at the forefront of its advocacy efforts both at the international and national levels arguing that civil society inclusion is vital and that overlooking this important component of society could risk perpetuating grievance or generating new ones which would thus undermine peace efforts. We have repeatedly argued that inclusion needs to be more than a tokenistic notion and that the quality of inclusion matters. Its recent contributions in context of the World Bank Fragility Forum and the PGA High Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace CSPPS perspectives on the importance of inclusion and multi-stakeholder partnerships have been shared. Functioning partnerships are not easily established. Trust, honesty, presence, the sharing of values and learning together are essential elements for inclusive partnerships. Partnerships must grow over time. And partnerships, based on international policy agendas, need to be sustainable: only then can partnerships open new channels for dialogue and facilitate political, social or economic processes. However, changing agendas and priorities often tend to disrupt these processes. We witness a growing disconnect between the international recognition of "partnerships" as crucial for sustaining peace and a

loss of space for engagement and dialogue of international actors with local partners due to changing aid policies and modalities.

"We have repeatedly argued that inclusion needs to be more than a tokenistic notion and that the quality of inclusion matters"

Building and sustaining peace requires a focus on people and the inclusion of perspectives of local people affected by conflict and violence, and needs to ensure that existing local capacities for sustaining peace are the starting point for any engagement. Building and sustaining peace efforts therefore needs to be locally brewed, regionally anchored and internationally supported. From this perspective, context-sensitivity is key, and approaches embarked upon need to enhance and ensure effective inclusive local ownership.

CSPPS will continue its role in coordinating advocacy engagement at international level to help

to both create and safeguard a conducive enabling environment for civil society to engage on peacebuilding, conflict prevention and sustaining peace at national level - in a dialogue with national governments and other stakeholders at country level. By ensuring linkages and connectivity between international and national level activities we hope to safeguard space for structured dialogue with duty bearers/government representatives at both levels.

Where possible and needed CSPPS has initiated targeted lobby activities aimed at securing the needed space for and recognition of the role of civil society in international policy processes. A key example where a call was made to seek support for an amplified voice of civil society was in context of the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF) organized to report on the progress made on the actualization of the SDGs in specific countries. CSPPS has advocated for a bigger role of civil society in VNR-process and in the way the country reports and individual SDGs are being reviewed and discussed during the HLPF (this next to continuous advocacy for inclusion of civil society in localization processes in FCAS).

Text Box 1: CSPPS major event milestones in 2017:

- CSPPS Scoping Mission in Support of Strategic Policy Engagement of Civil Society in the Union of the Comoros, 19 – 24 February 2017
- UNSCR2250 National Launch in Sierra Leone, YPPD/CSPPS, Freetown 28 February 2017
- IDPS consultation meeting in Abuja, CSDEA, Nigeria 12 April 2017
- Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development, Stockholm 3 – 4 May 2017
- Global Conference on the 2030 Agenda: A Roadmap for SDGs in Fragile and Conflict-affected States’, Dili/Timor Leste 22 – 23 May 2017
- CSPPS Session on Supporting Partnership for Sustainable Peace in the CAR; European Development Days, Brussels 7-8 June 2017
- CSPPS Forum Session on Partnership for Sustaining Peace; EU Partnership Forum, Brussels 6 – 7 July 2017
- CSPPS/UNOY/UNDP session on The Role of Young People in Promoting Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies’; UN High-Level Political Forum 2017 New York 19 July
- g7+ Technical Meeting, Lisbon 24 – 25 July
- CSPPS/UNOY session focussed on YPS/2250 at Knowledge Platform Annual Conference, The Hague 7 September 2017
- 3 IDPS Secretariats meeting, Paris 11 – 12 September 2017
- 72nd UNGA, New York 19 – 25 September 2017
- Launch of the New Deal by CSPPS member FNDP, Abidjan 27 September
- Making SDG16 Work for the Rule of Law and Access to Justice: Measuring Progress in Fragile and Conflict Affected States’; CSPPS/IEP Conference in The Hague, 28 – 29 September
- Chairs’ Informal Strategy and Planning Session: ‘Opportunities for the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) in the Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace Landscape’, 20 October 2017, g7+ Lisbon European Hub
- CSPPS delegation attended the 16+ Annual Showcase Conference, Tbilisi Georgia, 30 October – 1 November
- INCAF Director Level Meeting, Paris 7 November 2017

- Official launch of the Sahel Network on Preventing Violent Extremism (SNPVE) Abuja, organized by CSDEA/CSPPS in Nigeria 27th - 28th November 2017
- CSPPS participated in Global South-South development expo 2017, Antalya 27 – 30 November 2017
- CSPPS/IDPS organized workshop on Engendering Inclusivity in Somalia's National Development Planning and Partnership Agreement Development Process, Nairobi 8 December
- UNDP Symposium on Governance for Implementing the Sustainable Development in Africa, 11-13 December Addis Ababa
- CSPPS acted as resource person in Expert meeting on monitoring SDG16 and YPS, Berlin 13 December

Realization of Sustainable Development Goals at Country Level

The direct contact civil society enjoys with communities at the grassroots level makes it possible for concerns and needs of local communities to be brought to the attention of policy-makers and influence their decision-making. The involvement of Civil Society in the process of policy development in the SDGs and New Deal frameworks demonstrates that a state's legitimacy greatly depends on its reactivity to respond to the needs of local communities, vulnerable and marginalised people within society.

It remains a CSPPS strategic priority to ensure that an organised and well-structured Civil Society effectively and timely supports the SDG localization and implementation using the New Deal principles and that inclusivity values and concerns from Civil

Society are featured in the implementation process. Organising civil society around these developments supports the inclusivity provision contained in the New Deal, SDG16 and SDG17.

Existing CSPPS national coalitions (i.e. our CSPPS Country Teams) continue to sensitize other peacebuilding and statebuilding related CSOs to rally behind the SDG actualization and realisation using New Deal principles to address the broadest scope of societal concerns for peacebuilding, statebuilding and conflict prevention. Consequently, Civil Society are well positioned to track in-country implementation of the New Deal activities, SDG domestication and implementation. Civil Society holds government accountable for the policy commitments made under these development frameworks. CSO mobilisation in 2017 has paved the way for localization of SDG using the New Deal principles at country level.

Case Story 3 – Realisation of the SDGs in Fragile and Conflict-Afflicted States and the role of the New Deal

CSPPS played a fundamental role during Guinea-Bissau's fragility assessment, which was conducted in Bissau between 6-8 February 2017. CSPPS involvement enabled the meaningful participation of civil society organisations during the design and technical validation process of the fragility matrix. CSPPS' contribution was rendered possible through coordination efforts between the Secretariat and the local civil society focal point based in Bissau for the preparation of a workshop, and for providing (almost all of) the financial support required to successfully carry out the action of local civil society and put together a country team whose members could integrate the government's technical team to work on, evaluate and validate the fragility matrix. Furthermore, training was provided by Mr Georges Tshionza Mata, a member of the platform's network and a consultant who worked for the UNDP on the New Deal process.

The support received from partner organisation Voz di Paz (and its focal point) was thoroughly appreciated because it enabled a greater representation and deeper inclusion of civil society – which had so far been left out – during the earlier New Deal implementation stages

Ude Fati, Voz di Paz - CSPPS Focal Point Guinea Bissau

Table 1: CSPPS Country Projects 2017

In 2017, the CSPPS supported various in-country projects led by Civil Society coalitions and designed by CSPPS Focal Point CSOs in five countries. This provided national CSPPS CSO-coalitions with the opportunity to build, strengthen and solidify their capacities around the IDPS, SDGs and related policy processes countrywide and to attract the largest and most diverse groups of local organizations involved in peacebuilding matters. The text box hereunder gives a summary overview of in-country projects supported by CSPPS in 2017.

CSPPS projects funded in 2017

Country, Focal Point CSO	Project title, date of implementation	Goals for supporting the New Deal country process	Main Outcomes and impact	Funding authorized (EUR)
Sierra Leone, YPPD	UNSCR2250 National Launch in Sierra Leone, 28 February 2017	The goal is to officially launch the resolution at the national level, agreeing on a National Action Plan and ensure concrete follow-up actions while using the opportunity of raising awareness and mobilize relevant stakeholders for actions that will sustainably contribute to building a more peaceful, wholesome and inclusive Sierra Leonean society.	<p>Result 1: Preparation and delivery of a comprehensive and compelling youth statement to the Government of Sierra Leone.</p> <p>Result 2: The preparation of key recommendations to governments aimed at attaining the fullest implementation of the UN Resolution 2250 and the SDG 16 from a Sierra Leonean youth perspective</p> <p>Result 3: Well-informed and capacitated participants enthused to take major learning outcomes forward through their various institutions to engage on the key agreed areas of intervention.</p>	Total: € 5575
Guinea Bissau, Voz di Paz	Country Team formation workshop, 6–8 January 2017	<p>Activity 1: Conduct a consultation within Civil Society to confirm the current Focal Point and constitute a country team for the New Deal process;</p> <p>Activity 2: Carry out an upgrade of the country team on the New Deal process;</p> <p>Activity 3: Involve the Country Team in assessing the fragility of Guinea Bissau and prepare it to become more involved in the validation of the final report of the assessment;</p> <p>Activity 4: Support the Focal Point identified in the national dialogue with the Government Focal Point, CSOs, Partners and the private sector.</p>	<p>Result 1: CSO actors are identified in each pillar of the PSGs under the leadership of the Focal Point in the New Deal process;</p> <p>Result 2: A country team is set up by the Guinean Civil Society networks at the end of the introductory working session of the New Deal process;</p> <p>Result 3: The Civil Society of Guinea-Bissau is involved in the assessment of fragility and is thus prepared to participate in the validation of the report of this assessment;</p> <p>Result 4: A program for setting up Teams is defined by the Country Team; A mission report is produced on the lessons learned from this experience.</p>	Total: € 3773
Comoros, MOSC	Scoping Mission in Support of Strategic Policy Engagement of Civil Society in the Union of the Comoros, February 2017	<p>Activity 1: Awareness raising and capacity building of Civil Society on the relevance of structural engagement of CS in New Deal and related policy processes;</p> <p>Activity 2: Conduct a broad consultation within Comorian Civil Society representatives for the constitution of a country team and the selection of a focal point towards more structural and strategic engagement in ND processes;</p> <p>Activity 3: Perform an upgrade of the CT on New Deal process; Outreach to relevant ID/ND stakeholders to initiate national dialogues with the government focal point, CSOs, and private sector partners.</p>	<p>Result 1: Awareness raised and strengthened capacities of CSOs to meaningfully and strategically engage in the New Deal process</p> <p>Result 2: A country team is set up by networks of Comorian civil society at the end of the introductory work session and agreement is reached on division of labour and coordination arrangements;</p> <p>Result 3: A representative and motivated group of CS are brought together; CSOs are identified for each PBSB goal, and by consensus a CSPPS focal point is elected in the process of the New Deal;</p> <p>Result 4: The visibility of the new National CS Focal Point and CSPPS CT is ensured as a result of the introductory work session with</p>	Total: € 2495

			the government Focal Point, CSO Partners and the private sector; A mission report is produced on lessons learned from that experience – identifying possible next steps in process to follow-up on.	
Nigeria, CSDEA	Support Youth Participants to Attend the IDPS Conference in Nigeria, 12 April 2017	The IDPS conference program provided opportunity to young people to make contributions and bring their voices to bear on the IDPS movement in Nigeria.	Result 1: To create a forum for youth and youth groups under the auspices of the National Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding to engage with other stakeholders at the IDPS multi-stakeholders conference in Nigeria. Result 2: To use this opportunity to hold the first meeting of the National Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding in Nigeria.	Total: € 3962
Nigeria, CSDEA	Preparation of Global Study Thematic Papers Title: The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin	Activity 1: Document the role of youth led and youth focused conflict and extremism prevention approaches that are dynamic and promote peacebuilding. 2. Examine how lessons learned can inform how the CSPPS and the IDPS design and implement youth focused programs and especially in focus countries.	Result: A 10/15-pages research report for the UNSG commissioned YPS Progress Study, CSPPS and IDPS partners developed and disseminated.	Total: € 27950
CAR, CSPPS	CSPPS session at EDD 2017	Activity Supported: logistical support for the 2017 EDD session on Supporting Partnerships for Sustainable Peace in the Central African Republic on 8 June 2017	Result: support provided has ensure logistical support for the CSPPS moderated session at the EDD2017	Total: € 1400
CAR, PREGESCO-RCA	CSPPS Institutional Support Grant	Activity 1: Reconsolidate the country coalition after several armed crises that have destabilised the normal functioning of CSOs in the country	Result: ISG support provided has helped the process of reorganizing the internal functioning of the CSPPS Country Team; it has injected new dynamism in the CT, solidified working arrangements and reporting procedures	Total: € 4.800

Advocating for Inclusion towards Peaceful Societies

Making Civil Society's participation count at Global level

Next to building the capacity of local organizations at country level aimed at empowering CSOs to play an active role in the planning and roll-out of national development strategies, CSPPS also strives to make Civil Society's participation count in global processes. Through 2017, CSPPS members have actively participated in major IDPS strategic and technical meetings (for a full list of CSPPS organized and attended meetings please refer to Annex 4), strengthening partnerships with IDPS constituencies and infusing decisions with conflict-

sensitive recommendations. Civil Society brings a critical yet constructive contribution to these events and closely monitors the progress of discussion at global level to ensure that the principles of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States are applied continually in all aspects of the collective work agreed upon in context of the IDPS partnership

Earlier experiences of New Deal implementation at country level help inform the strategies adopted by the Executive Committee and wider membership of the CSPPS, and constitute the core of the

priorities pursued by the Platform in partnership with other IDPS constituencies.

In 2017, CSPPS proactively contributed to a process that led to the agreement on a new and revitalized IDPS-strategy and workplan. This process concluded the follow-up on the adoption of the IDPS Stockholm Declaration on 'Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World', signed in April 2016.

Through 2017, CSPPS has carried on co-chairing the Implementation Working Group of the IDPS,

providing guidance to this technical advisory arm of the International Dialogue. Following on the priorities stated in the Stockholm Declaration, the CSPPS is focusing its efforts to provide guidance on ways to replicate International Dialogue structures at country level, encouraging tripartite arrangements between all IDPS constituencies. Next to this, close attention is given to the revision of IDPS guidance documents and to monitoring and recording lessons learned and practices emanating from collaborative action through the IDPS partnership.

Case Story 4 - Our greatest challenge: Leaving No One behind

The National Forum on Debt and Poverty (*Forum National sur la Dette et la Pauvreté* – FNDP) distinguished itself as an organization during the implementation process of the New Deal in Côte d'Ivoire, acting as CSPPS' focal point for national civil society in the country. Although Côte d'Ivoire at that point in time was not officially part of the g7+, it nonetheless participated at g7+ and IDPS meetings as an observer. This situation seriously impedes all efforts undertaken at the national level to further the implementation of the New Deal. Despite this, the FNDP, through its CSPPS Core Group representative, played an active role in shifting position lines.

The day that followed the Core Group Meeting held in The Hague (Netherlands) in October 2012 we liaised with the official focal point of the New Deal, who was none other than the technical advisor to the Minister of Planning and Development, and whose contact details had been shared via CSPPS. Following that meeting, we had several work sessions at the Ministry of Planning and Development which led on to the formal establishment of a collaboration framework between the minister and the FNDP. This collaboration facilitated the successful execution of the first New Deal dissemination project in 6 regions of the country and enabled the installation of 5 New Deal local platforms, each of them equipped with an action plan.

Because the New Deal was not sufficiently well-known in Côte d'Ivoire, and because the CSPPS Secretariat deemed it appropriate to strengthen the foundations laid for continuing the momentum generated by the New Deal, we pursued our implementation efforts of the action plans at the local level and asked for further funding support for a second project.

Furthermore, with the election of a new government in January 2016 came a new work vision introduced by the newly appointed Minister [of Planning and Development]. Adopting the new methodology which strives for efficiency in governmental action took time. We resorted to personal contacts and relationships to secure a meeting with the technical advisor to the Minister of Planning and Development in August 2016, although the meeting request had been sent in April 2016. At the international meeting on the New Deal in Naivasha (Kenya) I was instructed by the technical advisor to the Minister to arrange a meeting with the new Chief Executive of Aid Strategy and Coordination, the official New Deal focal point, who was also participating in the event. We had multiple working sessions with the official focal point between October 2016 and February 2017 following our first meeting in Naivasha. He put us in contact with the Director of Cooperation in March 2017 to help us with the technical preparation and launching of the workshop which would become the flagship activity of the second New Deal dissemination project called "CSPPS Capacity-building project".

The funds to support the project were made available in December 2015 and the project was supposed to be completed in May 2016. However, an internal crisis occurred within the Executive Committee of the FNDP following institutional prevarication, thus causing the project implementation to be delayed. The board of directors eventually resolved the crisis. We held a working session between the delegate of the New Deal official focal point, the technical advisor to the Director General of the Economy, a UNDP representative and us, the FNDP, to make progress on New Deal issues. We had a significant number of phone calls with key actors of the New Deal involved in the process. Our determination overcame obstacles and enabled us to achieve progress on New Deal issues. All this hard work eventually culminated in the convening of the second project's launching workshop in September 2017. This activity was an opportunity for all New Deal stakeholders in Côte d'Ivoire to make official public statements on the New Deal. This is a serious and important step forward which bodes well for future prospects. Now we are considering following up on this activity by organizing a capacity-building seminar with New Deal stakeholders, in addition to the government's commitment to put together a multi-stakeholder platform on the New Deal.

Diakalia Ouattara, Coordinator FNDP & CSPPS Focal Point in Cote d'Ivoire

CSPPS participation to various global events in 2017 aimed to provide direct input to discussions for representation of Civil Society views and share concerns as part of the IDPS outputs including guidance notes, outcome statements and other forms of collective decision. On top of this, the platform also released statements on its own as part of its independent advocacy work in and around global events that are not part of the IDPS: consultations on 2030 Agenda actualization, meetings of NGO coalitions, and other peace-related events.

Ensuring at least observer status, and optimally guest participation, of the CSPPS to events of the g7+ and INCAF constituencies constitutes a

primordial communication means to effectively deliver and share Platform messages. Participation by one or more specialised members of the CSPPS was preserved and extended through standing agreements with the INCAF and g7+ constituencies, arranging mutual observation and participation rights to various meetings held. In 2017, the CSPPS participated in the meetings of each constituency, including the meetings of INCAF in Paris and the g7+ in Dili. The CSPPS inputs to the debate and outcome documents prepared on these occasions were well appreciated. Meetings of the IDPS Implementation Working Groups and IDPS Steering Group received statutory attendance by designated CSPPS representatives.

Case Story 5: The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) has been making strategic investments to Prevent Violent Extremism globally. One of such investments is the CSPPS's membership and contribution to the United Nations Interagency Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding. The CSPPS recently conducted research and published a report on the Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin countries of Cameroun, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. This report was submitted to the UN Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding to feed into the United Nations Secretary General's Global Study on Youth and Peacebuilding.

Furthermore, the recommendations of the report on the **Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin** countries have also led the CSPPS to invest in the newly launched Sahel Network on Preventing Violent Extremism (SNPVE). The mission of the SNPVE is to strengthen the voices, structures, and capacities of Civil Society to effectively prevent violent extremism and ensure sustainable peace in the Sahel region. The SNPVE presently operates in Cameroun, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal.

All these investments by the CSPPS are aimed at supporting Civil Society-led preventative efforts to halt and reverse the trend of violent extremism and thereby support lasting peace globally. The recently established Office of the UN Under-Secretary General for Counter Terrorism, and the present role played by CSPPS and its partner organizations to work collaboratively to support UN efforts to proactively promote soft approach policies and programs that respect human rights in order to prevent violent extremism is testament to the positive impact of CSPPS' work in this area.

Find the link to the final report here: <https://bit.ly/2ETW6Xn>

Theophilus Ekpon

CSPPS Focal Point and CSDEA Executive Director, Nigeria

As a Platform, the CSPPS has supported its members' official participation to the IDPS and other related events by the release of **policy papers** and **statements** directly advocating to a wide range of issues from ongoing developments in country processes to the need for recommendations to the

IDPS global policy process and beyond (for example the CSPPS paper on "*Aligning the New Deal and the 2030 Agenda*"). These papers and statements have been released as event/room documents and as official statements addressed to the Co-Chairs of the IDPS, of the g7+ and the INCAF.

List of key Policy Papers and Statements released by CSPPS & its members in 2017

- Summary report Building Peaceful, Inclusive and Resilient Societies while taking youth along, Launch of United Nations Security Council Resolution on Youth Peace and Security Freetown, 23 February 2017.
- EU Partnership Forum - Summary Report Thematic Partnership Session - 6th July 2017. Fulfilling the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States: Partnership for Peacebuilding, Statebuilding and Resilience.
- The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin A contribution to the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security mandated by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015), Lead Author: Theophilus Ekpon (CSPPS/CSDEA).

Platform Governance and Membership

Platform Governance

In early 2017, the platform elected three new members for its Executive Committee, bringing the overall balance to 6 members coming from the Global South and 2 members from the North (with one seat unoccupied given the appointment of one member into the Somali cabinet). This Southern inclination responds to the need to provide timely guidance to the ongoing replication of the International Dialogue structures in g7+ countries. Furthermore, after the chairmanship of the EC by Mr James Cox (Peacifica, Australia) in 2016, a new Chair, Guy Aho Tete Benissan (REPAOC, Senegal) was elected for the period of 2017 and beyond. The election of Mr Benissan, a Togolese national working at the West-African regional level, also responded to a renewed commitment by the platform's executive body to continue to extend direct support its members in g7+ countries, especially those that have experienced most difficulties in establishing strong coalitions of CSOs capable of interacting with national authorities on a levelled-playing field.

At country level, CSPPS' membership expanded to Comoros and Guinea Bissau in early 2017 and initial discussion on CT-formation took place in context of Solomon Island and Sao Tome and Principe to increase our presence in countries that hold g7+ membership. Country Teams have continued to enjoy functional independence from the Secretariat and its EC, while working in close partnership with the rest of the platform to keep everyone abreast of national processes and possible support required. CSPPS Country Teams are spearheaded by a Focal Point organisation elected out of its national members who operate as a linking pin between its team and the rest of the platform. CTs have kept a close partnership with the Secretariat by providing regular updates on opportunities of engagement and by submitting Country Information Sheets (CIS), a management tool for the Teams which are used by the Secretariat to gather up-to-date information of the reality on the ground in each country.

Case Story 6: Showcasing progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

The 16+ Forum Meeting in Georgia was both informative and confirmative of the fear I have always had that SDG16 for some countries including Timor-Leste, for the moment, as ambitious as it is, would just remain a normative agenda, without much substance to add to the lives of the people. The 16+ Forum was an informative event to the extent that I came out convinced that '... building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions to promote sustainable development and equal access to justice for all...' would require first and foremost a proactive government that is able and willing to manage the political power effectively and accountably, so that necessary political reform takes place at the individual country level with positive and sustainable outcomes to the lives of the powerless and marginalized majority.

The event also confirmed my view that achieving SDG16, let alone the overall goal of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, would remain a long way off for many countries including Timor-Leste; and that the much talk about SDG16 implementation, measurement and its trajectory and speed were more an international thing that often fails to trickle down to the country level, or vice-versa.

Nevertheless, the event was relevant. Timor-Leste's National Parliament adopted the SDGs in September 2015, a move which prompted the Government to establish a national level SDG Working Group comprised of all government agencies and directorates representing all line ministries. What is uncertain is how and whether the SDG Working Group has been working toward achieving the SDG16. But the existence of the SDG Working Group in itself should be indicative of Timor-Leste's willingness to contemplate necessary governance reform to enable the country to take on board the United Nations 2030 Agenda seriously.

It is this readiness that needs to be capitalized on; for that purpose international assistance is much required in support of the SDG Working Group, and in particular in support of the civil society organizations whose work is focused on SDG16 to maximize the results and benefits of existing efforts to ensure HOW and WHETHER institutions are truly working toward achieving SDG16. However, as it is, one is unable to tell how much progress in that regard has been made and which factors one should focus on to influence positively or negatively the implementation of SDG16 in Timor-Leste.

Joao Boavida, Executive Director CEPAD & member of Timor Leste CSPPS Country Team

Inclusive participation of all CSPPS members

The platform, through its dedicated Secretariat and Executive Committee, keeps an eye on the situation in all g7+ countries and the opportunities that arise to provide support to civil society.

The level of Civil Society engagement in the IDPS and related policy processes (i.e. SDGs, sustaining peace and conflict prevention agendas) at national level varies by country and depends on the pace of government implementation, government openness to Civil Society participation and the capacity of the Civil Society sector to engage.

Ensuring political space for Civil Society critically complements the action of governments and donors in implementing the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. CSPPS Country level support allows Civil Society to mobilize their relevant counterparts in Parliament, in the Government and in the administration, sometimes even by assuming the role of convener and facilitator of these actors and initiating needed discussions on the content, goals and strategic direction of the applicable policy processes relevant to civil society and their engagement therein.

"The ability to provide timely peer support is a distinctive feature of the CSPPS-platform"

The effective participation of Civil Society requires conditions are met for the inclusion of

representative and designated CSOs in all parts and at all stages of the New Deal and the IDPS processes.

As their countries were preparing to launch a fragility assessment, the CSPPS seized the opportunity to solidify a national coalition of CSOs in both Comoros and Guinea Bissau to ensure their inclusion throughout the process. In both countries, the platform organised a workshop led by senior CSPPS members who trained local CSOs on how fragility assessments are conducted and how to best provide inputs throughout the process. Both fragility reviews included civil society's perspectives, which at the same time improved the working relationship between state institutions and civil society, a tenet of the New Deal framework and an important prerequisite for successful implementation of the SDGs.

The ability to provide timely peer support is a distinctive feature of the CSPPS-platform, which harbours an immense wealth of knowledge and expertise around Peacebuilding, and which the Secretariat is constantly looking to identify and put to greater use in the interest of all platform members.

Additionally, facilitating intra-platform support allows members to create synergies that ultimately establishes a network of independent CSOs in fragile States ready to build on each other's strengths and provide the necessary support where needed, also called South-South collaboration.

Supporting Civil Society Participation

Financial Reporting

This report has been prepared to report on the activities, outcomes and use of funds during the year 2017. In this section emphasis is given to reporting on various activities carried out through the utilization of funds made available by kind support provided by CSPPS-donors and through support of the CSPPS host organisation, Cordaid. As mentioned previously, all activities carried out are aimed at supporting coordinated efforts to safeguard, amplify and solidify successful engagement of Civil Society Organisations in context of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) and in related policy arenas.

Decisions on the utilization of the funding stem from strategic priorities and core strategies agreed upon by the CSPPS Core Group, the Platform's membership, and governed by the guidance provided by the CSPPS Executive Committee. Possible areas for financial support to CSPPS constituency members as well as for the Platform are described below. All activities endorsed were to support the strategic and operational ends of the Platform whether they come in the form of a project implemented over several months or a distinct focussed activity in response to a shorter-term advocacy opportunity at either national or global level.

Overall *three* distinct key categories of funding can be differentiated and are used:

Coordination of CSPPS Secretariat and facilitation of CSPPS as a Platform

This core function of CSPPS ensures conditions for the collective work of members at all levels. The CSPPS Secretariat hosted and coordinated by Cordaid in The Hague operated with dedicated support from two staff members based in The Hague and one staff member who operated from the Cordaid Office in Kinshasa. The Secretariat function offers the support base for collaboration and collective action at country level (processing support requests, collating updates on in-country CSPPS Country Team activities and harvesting relevant other New Deal developments where Civil Society takes part in), at global level (supporting participation to various IDPS-meetings and other relevant global events) and between the two (i.e. by relaying information to work stream co-chairs,

and through supporting the organisation of dedicated peer support activities).

The coordination of the CSPPS Secretariat involves the funding of various elements related to the proper functioning of the Secretariat and includes costs such as staff salaries and communication-related costs. The Secretariat Coordinator and Program Officer facilitate communications within the wider CSPPS constituency (and individual members) and with other three IDPS constituency Secretariats. On a need basis, they reach out to relevant IDPS stakeholder representatives and resource persons in countries where the IDPS partnership is active and where CSPPS is represented. Next to this they liaise with key CSPPS-contacts in donor countries. Funds dedicated to coordination have also been used to cover costs for organization of various Platform meetings and CSPPS organized side-events during meetings of strategic relevance. The Secretariat's own travel costs when participating to events on its own or in support of members is reflected by this category, as is the coverage of incidental costs met during these events such as transport and communications. Importantly, these costs also include the funding of support to CSPPS members in their engagement towards governmental stakeholders at country level and in the in-person mobilisation of their expertise in context of international events.

The Policy and Communication officer recruited in 2015 ensures the CSPPS constituency is well informed of discussions and developments related to goals and strategies in peacebuilding and development forums and arenas. For this, the Officer has provided unsolicited and on-demand support to CSPPS Platform members in their communications requirements, provide policy-based advice on strategic communications issues, liaise with other IDPS constituency Secretariats in cases of joint communications opportunities. She has also supported the development of formats for regular reporting, and support the harvesting and dissemination of lessons learned. *(At the end of this reporting period the Platform had to say goodbye to the PCO following her transfer into another job).*

The coordination functions ensured by the Secretariat include the communication and dissemination of documents such as joint statements presented during events and

publications from members. Policy briefs and statements produced by CSPPS members on thematic or event opportunities to advocate Civil Society views receive support from the Secretariat at information collection, editing and dissemination stages. The Secretariat ensures drafting of internal use communications document, reporting on meetings and events or for reaching out and sustaining contact with other IDPS constituencies. Coordination of the CSPPS Core Group involves holding regular call meetings of the Core Group and the Executive Committee, offering practical support to participants for accessing the call, supporting agenda preparation and subsequent reporting, and offering translation services.

An additional Secretariat functions is, as the underlying document exemplifies, the reporting of activities and use of CSPPS funds and the management of relations with donors who have kindly granted their support. As mentioned, parts of these operational funds were used to fund staffing and related personnel costs of coordinating CSPPS through a dedicated Secretariat. Being the host organization of CSPPS, Cordaid in the Netherlands is overall responsible for fund management and accounting on utilization of funds received.

Strengthening and facilitation of Civil Society engagement and participation in the IDPS

The expenditures reported in this category primarily relate to relevant costs incurred by the facilitation of Civil Society engagement and participation in IDPS-meetings and related events. Funds have been utilized in relation to the funding of travel arrangements for sponsored members of the CSPPS to enable, facilitate and solidify the engagement of Civil Society throughout 2017. Southern members of the CSPPS have received this support for attending the New Deal and the IDPS related events: meetings of IDPS Working Groups and IDPS Steering Group, meetings of the g7+ and

INCAF where guest attendance was solicited for, and other relevant events related to the strategic positioning of the Platform. All expenditures here, as in other categories are made in line with stipulated donor requirements.

Beyond travel and accommodation this support often also covers the costs of ensuring members can embark on their planned travel, hence it can include costs incurred for traveling to a different country for requesting a European or US visa, to covering the cost of the visa request itself. Such processes can and have added days of preparation and related costs to the participation of a Platform member to a global or regional event.

Support for strategic in-country engagement

In 2017 CSPPS has successfully fostered the continued country-level engagement of its members in IDPS-related processes and in wider context of relevant peacebuilding and statebuilding engagements. Support was provided to the organization of coordinated and effective in-country coordination meetings – and next to these focussed events on thematic issues relevant to the Platform have been supported. The funding support provided has been directed at both the advancement of the CSPPS Country Team organization, focussed capacity development and strategic advocacy towards key stakeholders at country level.

The in-country support has resulted in a further mobilization and consolidation of CSPPS country teams. Via capacity development and technical support civil society was capacitated to effectively organize itself and secure necessary space to operate and operationalize its strategic objectives. Through direct in-country peer support the CSPPS civil society coalitions have been bolstered to effectively and strategically engage in dialogue processes with other (IDPS) stakeholders and contribute meaningfully to relevant policy processes.

Text Box 2: YPS, speaking with Youth, not about Youth

In follow-up on the 2016 Core Group meeting, the CSPPS platform has actively engaged with youth-led peacebuilding organisations during 2017 and fostered their inclusion the day-to-day activities of various Country Teams, and besides this has allocated a considerable amount of its funding in support of youth-led activities in g7+ countries.

In Sierra Leone, the CSPPS together with its member organisation 'Youth Partnership for Peace and Development', Cordaid, UNOY, Search for Common Ground and the Youth, Peace and Security collective organised a national launch event of the UNSCR2250 on last day of February 2017. Further to officially

launching the ground-breaking UNSCR, the conference also set the foundation to agree on a National Action Plan to ensure concrete follow-up actions while using the opportunity of raising awareness and mobilize relevant stakeholders for actions that will sustainably contribute to building a more peaceful, wholesome and inclusive Sierra Leonean society. The launch was a tremendous success that will be replicated across CSPPS countries that have expressed interest in promoting the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda.

Further, the platform has continuously sought to create a body of evidence on the positive impact of engaging youth in peacebuilding processes by conducting rigorous and systematic research in Fragile countries. A good example was the preparation of a Global Progress Study Thematic Paper on ‘The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin’, conducted by CSPPS member organisation in Nigeria the Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa (CSDEA). The study documented the role of youth-led and youth-focused conflict and extremism prevention approaches in Nigeria, Niger, Cameroun and Chad and how these promote peacebuilding efforts. The study also examined how lessons learned can inform design and implementation of youth-focused programs in focus countries via CSPPS and IDPS.

In Nigeria, the CSPPS financially supported the participation of youth organisations at the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding conference in Abuja in April 2017. This gave Nigerian youth an opportunity to make contributions and bring their voices to bear in the IDPS discussions happening in Nigeria, while at the same time creating a forum for youth and youth groups under the auspices of the National Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding.

At the international level, CSPPS ensured a policy recommendation around meaningful youth engagement and involvement was drafted by the youth itself by ensuring their participation around the table in major forums. To this effect, the CSPPS ensured the participation of youth at several IDPS Steering Group Meetings and organised a series of key side events that showcased the additionality brought by young people in fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies

Accounting for the use of CSPPS funds

The activities of the Civil Society Platform in 2017 were made possible through kind support and funding made available by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (SDC). Supporting funds were also provided via the CSPPS Platform's Secretariat host organization Cordaid in the context of their Strategic Partnership with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

The following section presents a general overview of funds received and details financial expenditure for the reporting period 2017-2018. This financial report is also included as Annex 1 in this report.

Table 2: Overview of donor contributions received / grant agreements period 2017-2018

Donor	Timeframe	Funds allocated	Remaining tranche	Financial expenditures recorded in 2017/18
Switzerland (SDC)*	Jan 2017 - July 2018	EUR 262.550,50 CHF 300.000,00	EUR 27.258,55 CHF 24.780,50	EUR 295.255,00
Cordaid**	Jan 2017 – July 2018			EUR 241.572,00
Total Expenditures				EUR 536.827,00

* New SDC grant for period 2017-2018 made available under contract #81034431 – 2017/18 allocation reported here. A no cost extension was discussed agreed upon for period up to July 2018.

** Funds allocated to CSPPS in context of the Strategic Partnership on Lobby and Advocacy between Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands and Cordaid.

*** This financial report includes the costs reported up to the end of the SDC grant received.

Strategic Horizons: CSPPS in 2018 and beyond

Strategic outlook for the future

With a renewed global interest for sustaining peace and a general consent on the need to focus on conflict prevention, the future of CSPPS, and that of the peacebuilding community at large, holds promising but challenging opportunities. While the IDPS looks to position the tripartite partnership within the current policy frameworks, the CSPPS will continue to support its civil society coalitions in g7+ countries (and beyond) to ensure they can continue to play a meaningful and constructive role in dialogue contexts at country level around the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and in the broader context of peacebuilding, conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

CSPPS will further strive to support the ongoing and effective engagement of civil society in Fragility Assessment processes, ensure their findings are tabled for follow-up discussions and find their ways into processes leading towards the conceptualization and implementation of National Development Plans.

Drawing on the resources of CSPPS members to build up the capacity of Civil Society

A major strength of a network organization like the CSPPS is its variety of expertise and complementarity at different levels, boasting a formidable number of resources readily available for all Southern CSOs to draw upon. If captured adequately, the CSPPS assets can ensure that all member organization work hand in hand for the promotion of a shared and common agenda, complementing efforts at national level by CSOs in g7+ countries with strong global advocacy campaigns conducted by the CSPPS forefront Northern-based organizations. The result of such partnership is the empowerment of CSOs across the globe, honing their ability to hold national authorities accountable to the commitments made by meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through the New Deal principles.

The Core Group membership of the CSPPS, in its annual meeting held in Berlin in July 2016, committed itself to giving a new push at country level by making better use of all available resources within the Platform and further empower Civil Society country coalitions in holding national governments accountable to the implementation of Agenda 2030 via New Deal principles.

"A major strength for a network organization like the CSPPS is its variety of expertise and complementarity at different levels, boasting a formidable number of resources readily available for all Southern CSOs to draw from"

In 2017 CSPPS through its member organization Réseau des Plates-Formes d'ONG d'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (REPAOC) initiate a process aimed at strengthening the organizational capacities of CSOs in several countries across Western and Central Africa by forging linkages with regional organizations such as ECOWAS, ECCAS and the African Union. This activity will be taken forward to new year to see how planned activities – also as discussed with EU can lead to the consolidation of a more integrated Platform, where CSPPS Focal Points optimize cooperation with each other on common priorities, holding good the principle of South-South cooperation and peer support and peer learning. If proven successful, the operational framework used in this project will be extended to additional CSPPS Country Teams.

Strategic partnership within the IDPS

In 2017 and beyond CSPPS will continue its active participation to the international events that contribute to the steering, refining and repositioning of the New Deal framework and promote the utilization of its relevant tools and instruments in context of the operationalization of strategy and workplan of the IDPS. Appropriate and timely representation will be ensured through renewed mutual confidence that Civil Society via the CSPPS has a legitimate voice and agency at all levels of these processes. Where needed and agreed upon, the CSPPS will provide strategic contributions, in areas of strategic relevance it will pro-actively champion tangible follow-up on commitments made. In context of the tripartite partnership it will contribute as much as it monitors decisions and discussions taken by governmental and donor stakeholders.

Having secured the co-chair representation in the IDPS Working Groups, the CSPPS looks forward to continuously contributing to successful and strategic guidance of the Implementation Working Group. Within a changed political and operational

context, the work on strategic guidance is of key importance to further align the work of the Dialogue in this new reality. Within the context of sustained emphasis on tangible in-country action and dialogue, the CSPPS will ensure timely and appropriate provision of country-based Civil Society evidence on status, achievements and challenges of the New Deal and related policy processes. Where needed and opportune, the Platform looks forward to providing strategic guidance and pro-active advice on the operationalization of joint commitments made.

The CSPPS will continue to be active and present in all relevant global events organised in context of the IDPS and, where practically possible, in events held by the g7+ and the INCAF constituencies, at least in those sessions where external attendance is foreseen and allowed.

We have witnessed the importance and impact of placing Civil Society at the centre in IDPS processes when providing pro-active support and advice to processes as part of replication of the dialogue structures at county level. Our membership to the International Dialogue comes with key responsibility to provide constructive and substantial inputs as well as to hold stakeholders accountable via sharing of evidence-based considerations of levels of inclusivity, status of civil engagement space, and need for stricter adherence to the New Deal goals and principles when discussing SDGs implementation in g7+ countries.

Also in 2018 CSPPS is committed to follow-through on its strategic goals and objectives also to ensure meaningful participation of civil society in relevant policy processes.

Communications and Outreach

Branding and Visual Identity

The CSPPS endeavours to offer its members a well-known name and acknowledged track record on peacebuilding and statebuilding issues through which contact with and coordinated advocacy to IDPS stakeholders can best be accomplished. The CSPPS name and logo but also its mission, theory of change and core strategies are consistently communicated to relevant government, media and donor stakeholders through regular communications and in policy briefs, statements and press releases. Knowledge of the CSPPS among g7+ and INCAF constituencies provides members easier access and strengthened attention from International Dialogue constituencies and relevant other partners at all levels.

Conversely, CSPPS-members are requested to adhere to this branding effort by strategically aligning the participation of their respective organisation to the collective and coordinated work of the Platform, both where this relates to in-country coordination as part of a CSPPS Country Team or as part of the global level lobby and advocacy on the common goals and agenda of the Platform. This practice reinforces visibility while strengthening ties between member organisations at all levels of the global network.

The dedicated CSPPS website (<http://www.cspps.org>) and related social media channels (Twitter, Facebook and now also Instagram) continue to offer key resources for both country and international level advocacy and capacity support. The website and social media channels further support processes of peer support and cross-fertilization of experiences. The CSPPS Secretariat has developed a blog page on the CSPPS website that aims to serve as an arena to showcase member contributions, collective milestones and key advocacy outputs. The further solidification of a joint identity and agreed upon shared agenda has allowed the CSPPS to release influential statements and policy notes in its own name and to successfully engage in key strategic discussions as well as sign joint statements of international Civil Society groups and fora on behalf of its wider membership.

Parts of the CSPPS funds go to the production of documents and the maintaining of a website (www.cspps.org) dedicated to informing peacebuilding communities such as the IDPS, and

the wider public on the activities, achievements and membership of the Platform. Dedicated funds are also utilized to prepare publications for specific events such as the publication of a new policy brief for IDPS-meetings or related workshops. Printout examples include the official CSPPS brochure, landmark research publications and dissemination of the Platform's Annual Report. Digital communication products examples include the CSPPS bi-annual newsletter, the regularly updated news and event content of the CSPPS website and softcopy version of policy documents and advocacy statements released in advance of global IDPS events.

Knowledge management and documenting practices

To give the CSPPS website visitors the possibility to have a first-hand summary of the situation related to peacebuilding and statebuilding in all CSPPS-member countries, the Platform earlier produced CSPPS Country Stories about the state of play of Civil Society engagement in the New Deal and related policy processes in countries where the Platform is active. CSPPS Country Stories are uploaded to the CSPPS website for public view. Internally, CSPPS Country Information Sheets are used to record relevant process updates on Country Team activities. It is envisaged that this information base will function as a to-go-to hub for relevant and strategic country information for Platform members to consult and provide further updates.

External Communication and Outreach

Outreach is at the core of CSPPS activities. In 2017, the CSPPS was actively engaged in external communication efforts on Platform's activities. Coordinated efforts have been made to outreach to relevant external stakeholders and new constituencies. During 2017 discussions have taken place with both existing and new donors on possible support to the activities carried out by the CSPPS. This has led to continuation of existing donor agreements and discussion around new donor agreements to be signed to secure adequate resourcing of the CSPPS Secretariat to effectively coordinate CSPPS matters and provide support to CSPPS coordinated activities at both country and international levels.

As the official voice of Civil Society within the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS), the CSPPS has been actively communicating about the Platform's goals and objectives vis-à-vis the International Dialogue. Besides this, the Platform has supported various outreach and advocacy activities aimed at a range of new audiences. During 2017, CSPPS has again pro-actively reached out to new audiences and because of this global outreach new members have become involved in the Platform and new interactions have led to a further solidified presence of the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding.

Coordinated communications efforts serve as a solid basis for outreach to new donors, and sustaining relations with existing partners. The CSPPS has successfully established close working relationship with respective co-chairs of the IDPS and all constituency secretariats. Next to this the Platform has endeavoured to strengthen its strategic cooperation with key bilateral and multilateral partners (i.e. Swiss, Dutch, EU and UNDP). Communications around side events and global meetings has helped to address the issue of

Civil Society coordination in peacebuilding discussions and has offered ways for discussing potential new membership of organisations and networks.

Key CSPPS Policy Papers & Statements in 2017:

- Summary report Building Peaceful, Inclusive and Resilient Societies while taking youth along, Launch of United Nations Security Council Resolution on Youth Peace and Security Freetown, 23 February 2017
- EU Partnership Forum - Summary Report Thematic Partnership Session 6th July 2017. Fulfilling the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States: Partnership for Peacebuilding, Statebuilding and Resilience
- The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin A contribution to the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security mandated by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015), Lead Author: Theophilus Ekpon (CSPPS/CSDEA)

Case Story 7 – A unified voice for Civil Society in Moroni and Anjouan

Comorian civil society views the New Deal as an essential tool for the study of fragility. It provides a solid basis and enables civil society to shape its objectives according to the five principles of the New Deal to achieve the SDGs. Civil society uses the New Deal as a reference and guidance document to assess the fragility and poverty levels of our country to come up with solutions to address these issues.

The objective of the CSPPS mission in Comoros, led by Peter van Sluijs and Georges Tshionza Mata, was to establish a CSPPS country team. Between 19 and 24 February 2017, the CSPPS delegation and a local Comorian civil society team worked together to put together a CSPPS country team. We met with civil society organisations, government officials (Secretary General, Minister of Interior, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Head Commissioner of the Plan), the governors of the islands of Grand Comore and Anjouan, and the UNDP representative.

Finally, we convened a workshop which gathered over forty civil society organisations to elect the members of the CSPPS country team and its national focal point. The mission strengthened the voice and coherence of civil society in the eyes of the government. Indeed, since then, the Commission of the Plan has involved the MOSC in several of its initiatives, including the July 2017 Fragility Assessment and the reviewing of the Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (SCA2D). The voice of civil society is being heard at the national level. For instance, Comorian civil society has had an important role to play regarding the scheduling and running of national readerships. This was a formidable opportunity for Comorian civil society and is an example of the team successful positioning in relevant policy domains.

Ahmed Youssef, Chairperson MOSC and CSPPS Focal Point – Comoros

CSPPS Contact Information

Cordaid, as part of its commitment to addressing fragility, hosts the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS). The Secretariat is managed and coordinated by Peter van Sluijs, Senior Strategist at Cordaid.

Please find attached relevant contact information for the Secretariat and please do not hesitate to contact us with any question you might have.

Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS)

c/o Cordaid
Lutherse Burgwal 10
2512 CB Den Haag
The Netherlands

Main contact person:

Peter van Sluijs, Coordinator CSPPS Secretariat

Mailing Address:

Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS), c/o Cordaid, P.O. Box 16440
2500 BK, The Hague, The Netherlands

E: **Peter.van.Sluijs@cordaid.org**
P: +31 (0) 70 3136 300
M: +31 (0) 6 41887737

Additional contact information:

E: info@cspps.org

CSPPS Secretariat Staff Members:

Mireille Kabasubabo, Policy & Communications Officer (based in Kinshasa/DRC) – up to March 2018

E: Mudipanu.Mireille@cordaid.org

Eric Sanchez Garcia, Program Officer (based in The Hague/The Netherlands) – up to July 2018

E: EricSanchez.Garcia@cordaid.org

Matthew Wojcik, Programme Officer (based in The Hague/The Netherlands) – from September 2018

E: Matthew.Wojcik@cordaid.org

Website: Visit our website at <http://www.cspps.org>
Twitter: @idps_cspps
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/civilsocietyplatform>
Instagram: cspps_global

Annexes

Annex 1: Financial Reports 2017-2018***

Table 2: Overview of donor contributions received / grant agreements period 2017-2018

Donor	Timeframe	Funds allocated	Remaining tranche	Financial expenditures recorded in 2017/18
Switzerland (SDC)*	Jan 2017 - July 2018	EUR 262.550,50 CHF 300.000,00	EUR 27.258,55 CHF 24.780,50	EUR 295.255,00
Cordaid**	Jan 2017 – July 2018			EUR 241.572,00
Total Expenditures				EUR 536.827,00

* New SDC grant for period 2017-2018 made available under contract #81034431 – 2017/18 allocation reported here. A no cost extension was discussed agreed upon for period up to July 2018.

** Funds allocated to CSPPS in context of the Strategic Partnership on Lobby and Advocacy between Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands and Cordaid.

*** This financial report includes the costs reported up to the end of the SDC grant received

Project: Support to IDPS CSO Activities – Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding
Period: 1 January 2017 to 30 June 2018-11-02

Ledger Account Name	Sum of Amount EUR
IDPS CSO Secretariat function + CSPPS Core Group meetings	
<i>Personnel Costs (incl. Meetings and Website maintenance)</i>	354.622,00
<i>Knowledge Management, Information Sharing & Communications Cost</i>	46.043,00
<i>Operating Expenses (incl. capacity strengthening) + Admin costs</i>	21.332,00
CSPPS Participation in Global Events	
<i>Total Travel Costs</i>	57.137,00
CSPPS In-country capdev support and implementation	
<i>In-country mobilization and strategy support</i>	57.693,00
Grand Total 2017 - 2018	536.827,00

Fund codes:

FX0122 = Cordaid / SPLA

FX0133 = SDC

Annex 2: List of CSPPS Platform members

Key CSPPS Platform members as of January 2018 are:

* = Indicates CSPPS Focal Point organisation

g7+ countries:

Afghanistan	Afghanistan Women's Network (AWN)* Afghans for Progressive Thinking
Burundi	Réseau Femmes et Paix (RFP)*
Central African Republic (CAR)	Coalition Nationale des Organisation de Société Civile pour le New Deal en RCA (CNOSC/New Deal)*
Chad	Organisation des Acteurs Non Etatiques du Tchad (OANET)*
Comoros	La Maison des Organisations de la Société Civile (MOSC)*
Cote d'Ivoire	Forum National sur la Dette et la Pauvreté (FNDP)*
DRC	Programme de Renforcement des Capacités de la Société Civile dans la Prévention et la Gestion des Conflits en Afrique Centrale (PREGESCO)*
	Centre d'Etudes sur la Justice et la Résolution 1325 – CJR1325 (DRC)
	Forum pour les Droits de Jeunes et Enfants au Congo (FODJEC)
Guinea Bissau	Voz di Paz*
Guinea Conakry	Organisation pour le Développement Durable et Intégré de la Guinée (ODDI-Guinée) *
Haiti	vacant
Liberia	New African Research and Development Agency (NARDA)*
	Platform for Dialogue and Peace (P4DP)
	Action for Genuine Democratic Alternative (AGENDA)
	Messengers of Peace Liberia
Papua New Guinea	vacant
Sao Tome & Principe	FONG (consultation status)
Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (SLANGO)*
	Fambul Tok
	Democracy and Development Associated-Sierra Leone (DADA-SL)
	Youth Partnership for Peace and Development (YPPD)
Solomon Islands	Development Services Exchange (consultation status)
Somalia	IIDA Women's Development Organization*
South Sudan	Vision for Generation / V4G
Timor Leste	Forum ONG Timor Leste (FONGTIL)*, CEPAD, Belun
Togo	Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA)*
Yemen	Youth without Borders - YWBOD

Non-g7+ countries:

Nepal	Asian Academy for Peace, Research and Development
Nigeria	Centre for Social Development and Education in Africa (CSDEA)
Senegal, Regional	Réseau des Plateformes d'ONG d'Afrique de l'ouest et centrale (REPAOC)
Zimbabwe	Female Prisoners Trust (FEMPRIST)

INGO members:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alliance for Peacebuilding (USA) Africa Platform (Kenya - Regional, Africa) CDA Collaborative Learning Projects (USA) Cordaid (The Netherlands) Conciliation Resources (UK) Council for International Conflict Resolution (RIKO) FriEnt (Germany) GPPAC (The Netherlands) Integrity Action (UK) International Alert (UK) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Budget Partnership (USA) Interpeace (Switzerland, USA) Oxfam-Novib (The Netherlands) RIKO (Denmark) Saferworld (UK, USA) Search for Common Ground (SFCG) (Global) swisspeace (Switzerland) United Network of Young Peacebuilders - UNOY (The Netherlands) WANEP (Ghana - Regional, West Africa) World Vision International (Global)
---	--

Annex 3: List of CSPPS EC members and Workstream Co-Chairs (2016-2018 term)

CSPPS Executive Committee (as per 2016)

- Guy Aho Tete Benissan, REPAOC, Senegal (new EC Chair – Elected in 2016)
- Foday Sesay, Democracy and Development Associated-Sierra Leone (DADA-SL), Sierra Leone
- Pascasie Barampama, Réseau Femme et le Paix, Burundi
- Lulsegged Abebe, International Alert, Ethiopia
- Peter van Sluijs, Catholic Organisation for Relief & Development Aid (Cordaid), The Netherlands
- Ngarygam Mouldjide, CEPSEDA, Chad
- Lisette Mavungu, WILPF/RDC, DRC
- Marc Baxmann, FriEnt, Germany

CSPPS Workstreams and Co-chairs

Global Engagement Workstream

- Theophilus Ekpon, Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa (CSDEA), Nigeria

Peer Support and Focal Point Coordination Workstream

- Irène Esambo, Centre d'études sur la justice et la résolution 1325 (CRJ 1325), DRC
- Foday Sesay, Democracy and Development Associated-Sierra Leone (DADA-SL), Sierra Leone

New Deal Instruments Workstream

- Georges Tshionza Mata, Programme de Renforcement des Capacités de la Société Civile dans la Prévention et la Gestion des Conflits en Afrique centrale (PREGESCO), DRC
- Erin McCandless, The New School, USA

IDPS Working Group Co-chairs

CSPPS Co-chair for the IDPS Implementation Working Group (IWG)

- Co-chair: Ms. Erin McCandless, the New School, USA.
- Alternate: Vacant

Annex 4: List of key events attended, (co-)organised and/or facilitated in 2017

Major events in 2017

- Scoping Mission in Support of Strategic Policy Engagement of Civil Society in the Union of the Comoros, 19 – 24 February 2017
- UNSCR2250 National Launch in Sierra Leone, Freetown 28 February 2017
- IDPS consultation meeting in Abuja, Nigeria 12 April 2017
- Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development, Stockholm/Sweden 3 – 4 May 2017
- Global Conference on the 2030 Agenda: A Roadmap for SDGs in Fragile and Conflict-affected States', Dili / Timor Leste 22 – 23 May 2017
- European Development Days, Brussels 7-8 June 2017
- EU Partnership Forum, Brussels 6 – 7 July 2017
- 'The Role of Young People in Promoting Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies', High-Level Political Forum 2017 New York 19 July
- g7+ Technical Meeting, Lisbon/Portugal 24 – 25 July
- Knowledge Platform Annual Conference, The Hague 7 September 2017
- 3 IDPS Secretariats meeting, Paris/France 11 – 12 September 2017
- 72nd UNGA, New York/USA 19 – 25 September 2017
- Launch of the New Deal by CSPPS member FNDP, Abidjan/Cote d'Ivoire 27 September
- 'Making SDG16 Work for the Rule of Law and Access to Justice: Measuring Progress in Fragile and Conflict Affected States', The Hague, 28 – 29 September
- Chairs' Informal Strategy and Planning Session: 'Opportunities for the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) in the Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace Landscape', 20 October 2017, g7+ Lisbon/Portugal European Hub
- 16+ Annual Showcase Conference, Tbilisi/Georgia, 30 October – 1 November
- INCAF Director Level Meeting, Paris/France 7 November 2017
- Official launch of the Sahel Network on Preventing Violent Extremism (SNPVE) Abuja, Nigeria 27th - 28th November 2017
- Global South-South development expo 2017, Antalya/Turkey 27 – 30 November 2017
- Engendering Inclusivity in Somalia's National Development Planning and Partnership Agreement Development Process, Nairobi/Kenya 8 December
- UNDP Symposium on Governance for Implementing the Sustainable Development in Africa, 11-13 December Addis Ababa/Ethiopia
- Expert meeting on monitoring SDG16 and YPS, Berlin/Germany 13 December

CSPPS projects funded in 2017				
Country, Focal Point CSO	Project title, date of implementation	Goals for supporting the New Deal country process	Main Outcomes and impact	Funding authorized (EUR)
Sierra Leone, YPPD	UNSCR2250 National Launch in Sierra Leone, 28 February 2017	The goal is to officially launch the resolution at the national level, agreeing on a National Action Plan and ensure concrete follow-up actions while using the opportunity of raising awareness and mobilize relevant stakeholders for actions that will sustainably contribute to building a more peaceful, wholesome and inclusive Sierra Leonean society.	<p>Result 1: Preparation and delivery of a comprehensive and compelling youth statement to the Government of Sierra Leone.</p> <p>Result 2: The preparation of key recommendations to governments aimed at attaining the fullest implementation of the UN Resolution 2250 and the SDG 16 from a Sierra Leonean youth perspective</p> <p>Result 3: Well-informed and capacitated participants enthused to take major learning outcomes forward through their various institutions to engage on the key agreed areas of intervention.</p>	Total: € 5575
Guinea Bissau, Voz di Paz	Country Team formation workshop, 6–8 January 2017	<p>Activity 1: Conduct a consultation within Civil Society to confirm the current Focal Point and constitute a country team for the New Deal process;</p> <p>Activity 2: Carry out an upgrade of the country team on the New Deal process;</p> <p>Activity 3: Involve the Country Team in assessing the fragility of Guinea Bissau and prepare it to become more involved in the validation of the final report of the assessment;</p> <p>Activity 4: Support the Focal Point identified in the national dialogue with the Government Focal Point, CSOs, Partners and the private sector.</p>	<p>Result 1: CSO actors are identified in each pillar of the PSGs under the leadership of the Focal Point in the New Deal process;</p> <p>Result 2: A country team is set up by the Guinean Civil Society networks at the end of the introductory working session of the New Deal process;</p> <p>Result 3: The Civil Society of Guinea-Bissau is involved in the assessment of fragility and is thus prepared to participate in the validation of the report of this assessment;</p> <p>Result 4: A program for setting up Teams is defined by the Country Team;</p> <p>A mission report is produced on the lessons learned from this experience.</p>	Total: € 3773
Comoros, MOSC	Scoping Mission in Support of Strategic Policy Engagement of Civil Society in the Union of the Comoros, February 2017	<p>Activity 1: Awareness raising and capacity building of Civil Society on the relevance of structural engagement of CS in New Deal and related policy processes;</p> <p>Activity 2: Conduct a broad consultation within Comorian Civil Society representatives for the constitution of a country team and the selection of a focal point towards more structural and strategic engagement in ND processes;</p> <p>Activity 3: Perform an upgrade of the CT on New Deal process; Outreach to relevant ID/ND stakeholders to initiate national dialogues with the</p>	<p>Result 1: Awareness raised and strengthened capacities of CSOs to meaningfully and strategically engage in the New Deal process</p> <p>Result 2: A country team is set up by networks of Comorian civil society at the end of the introductory work session and agreement is reached on division of labour and coordination arrangements;</p> <p>Result 3: A representative and motivated group of CS are brought together; CSOs are identified for each PBSB goal, and by consensus a CSPPS focal point is elected in the process of the New Deal;</p>	Total: € 2495

		government focal point, CSOs, and private sector partners.	Result 4: The visibility of the new National CS Focal Point and CSPPS CT is ensured as a result of the introductory work session with the government Focal Point, CSO Partners and the private sector; A mission report is produced on lessons learned from that experience – identifying possible next steps in process to follow-up on.	
Nigeria, CSDEA	Support Youth Participants to Attend the IDPS Conference in Nigeria, 12 April 2017	The IDPS conference program provided opportunity to young people to make contributions and bring their voices to bear on the IDPS movement in Nigeria.	Result 1: To create a forum for youth and youth groups under the auspices of the National Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding to engage with other stakeholders at the IDPS multi-stakeholders conference in Nigeria. Result 2: To use this opportunity to hold the first meeting of the National Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding in Nigeria.	Total: € 3962
Nigeria, CSDEA	Preparation of Global Study Thematic Papers Title: The Role of Young People in Preventing Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin	Activity 1: Document the role of youth led and youth focused conflict and extremism prevention approaches that are dynamic and promote peacebuilding. 2. Examine how lessons learned can inform how the CSPPS and the IDPS design and implement youth focused programs and especially in focus countries.	Result: A 10/15-pages research report for the UNSG commissioned YPS Progress Study, CSPPS and IDPS partners developed and disseminated.	Total: € 27950
CAR, CSPPS	CSPPS session at EDD 2017	Activity Supported: logistical support for the 2017 EDD session on Supporting Partnerships for Sustainable Peace in the Central African Republic on 8 June 2017	Result: support provided has ensure logistical support for the CSPPS moderated session at the EDD2017	Total: € 1400
CAR, PREGESCO-RCA	CSPPS Institutional Support Grant	Activity 1: Reconsolidate the country coalition after several armed crises that have destabilised the normal functioning of CSOs in the country	Result: ISG support provided has helped the process of reorganizing the internal functioning of the CSPPS Country Team; it has injected new dynamism in the CT, solidified working arrangements and reporting procedures	Total: € 4.800