



EU ROADMAP FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY IN TIMOR-LESTE FOR THE PERIOD 2021-2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

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PART I – BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE CONTEXT AND PAST EU ENGAGEMENT

A. THE STATE OF CIVIL SOCIETY: BRIEF UPDATE ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Enabling Environment

Timor-Leste has made great strides in securing lasting peace and stability. The nation continues to face challenges, with economic growth reliant on government spending and diminishing revenues from oil and gas. The country's key challenge is to translate this relative financial wealth into sustained prosperity.

Emerging from decades of conflict, Timor-Leste became the first new sovereign state of the 21st century in May 2002. Today the nation is still committed to defending democracy including through an enabling environment for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). In terms of the enabling environment for formal civil society, Timor-Leste has one of the most open civic spaces in South East Asia. The Constitution enshrines a broad bill of civil and political rights¹ and Timor-Leste is party to seven of the nine core human rights treaties.² Indicators such as the degree of openness within civic space are positive and, in comparative terms, Timor-Leste rates well in comparison to its neighbours. The Economist Democracy Index 2019 ranked Timor-Leste as the top country in South East Asia, and 44th globally, based on a consideration of electoral process and pluralism, the functioning of the Government, political participation, political culture, and civil liberties. Moreover, Timor-Leste also has the highest percentage of women (38%) in parliament in all of Asia, and is in the top 20 in the world.³

The legal and regulatory framework for civil society organisations in Timor-Leste is nominally dealt with under decree law 5/2005, which covers the registration and regulation of non-profit organisations (including associations and foundations) operating within Timor-Leste. Several of the provisions of decree law 5/2005 on foundations and associations have been superseded by the civil code law 10/2011, a change perhaps not widely understood. In order to be registered with the Ministry of Justice, organisations are required to be registered with the NGO Forum of Timor-Leste (FONGTIL). FONGTIL serves as an umbrella organisation for all NGOs in Timor-Leste. Other organisations need similar recognition from a relevant peak body to register. For example, cooperatives require a letter of recognition from the Secretary of State for Cooperatives and sporting clubs from the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports.

Twenty years after independence, Timor-Leste's formal civil society sector is on an unstable footing, with both numbers of active organisations, and the funds available to them, on a downward trend. Donor funds for 'civil society strengthening' have reduced and a shift has occurred from humanitarian aid to development programmes delivered

¹ Including but not limited to freedom of speech, freedom of the press and mass media, freedom to assemble and demonstrate, freedom of association, freedom of religion and the right to privacy and the right to protection of personal data.

² Timor-Leste has not yet ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (CED) or the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

³ <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>



through government, contractors or international organisations. At the same time, government funds for civil society are not yet being channelled in such a way as to facilitate greater sustainability for the sector.⁴

The establishment of the Cabinet for Civil Society Support and the Civil Society Fund (CSF) under the Prime Minister's Office in 2009 was the most significant development in the evolution of government policy on civil society since 2005. Over the first nine years of its operation, the CSF has dispersed grant funds ranging between EUR 1.2 million and EUR 4.2 million to an average of 90-100 recipients each year. In 2019, the CSF dispersed around EUR 4.2 million to 81 recipients. And in 2020, the CSF dispersed around EUR 2 million to 24 recipients. As well as through contracts to implement ministry programmes, the CSF is the main domestic source of grant funding available to Timorese CSOs.⁵ Most Timorese CSOs are either in receipt of funds or are seeking funding from the CSF.

The Government recognises the important role of civil society in promoting a healthy and inclusive democracy and fighting poverty. In 2007, the IV Constitutional Government implemented a multidimensional approach to poverty and promoted collaboration between the public sector and civil society. The partnership among the state, the church, and civil society may present opportunities for the latter.⁶ The government and parliament often consult civil society broadly and CSOs specifically regarding policies, regulations, and draft laws. Parliamentary audiences, formal municipal coordination networks, and processes for public consultation over proposed legislation all exist. In addition, NGOs serve on some government working groups or state councils, for example the Petroleum Fund Consultative Council. In 2015, the VI Constitutional Government initiated a social audit programme whereby CSOs conducted social audits of government health, agriculture, infrastructure, and education programmes. The commitment to partner with CSOs continues under the current VIII Constitutional Government that aspires to increase NGOs' involvement in governance.⁷ Although consultation is reported as common, often all involved – civil society and government – tend to see the fact of consultation occurring as an indication of success, rather than the quality or outcomes of a consultation process.

The four major phases of Timor-Leste's history have shaped civil society development: Portuguese rule and its decline (1702–1975), Indonesian rule (1975–1999), the emergency period (1999–2001), and the transition to independence from 2002 to today. Many CSOs emerged in 1999 to fill the vacuum of a non-functioning government and help distribute emergency assistance. Some CSOs that exist today continue to provide services, oversight, and advocacy. Too few CSOs demonstrate strong internal organisational capacity to effectively and efficiently articulate and implement their mandate. This is partly due to competing priorities for limited resources between providing services for their constituents or organisational development. Prior development assistance often did not include resources for organisational development, were short-term, and were theme focused. The Government and some development partners provide grants for technical training and ad-hoc organisational strengthening training as a prerequisite for CSOs to implement a grant. However, this training often lacks a consistent, comprehensive, and long-term approach. Organisational development is not often continued by the CSOs after the end of funding assistance. CSO leaders have strong technical expertise (legal degrees, for example) which needs to be complemented with organisational development. Staff retention has been, and continues to be, problematic. Educated, well-trained, experienced CSO staff are often tempted away with higher salaries, further contributing to a capacity vacuum. Inadequate internal controls leave CSOs vulnerable to fiscal governance and credibility issues. Women's employment as CSO decision-makers and their access to CSO services are hindered by gender inequality.⁸ Women hold very few visible leadership and decision-making roles in CSOs. Since the promulgation of the domestic violence law in Timor-Leste in 2010, civil society has been actively involved in monitoring the implementation of the new law and more importantly reporting on the role of stakeholders involved, for instance, the judiciary, lawyers, police, government sector, health care professionals and the community leaders.

⁴ Dimensions of civic space in Timor-Leste, Southeast Asia Civil Society Scoping Study, The Asia Foundation (November 2019).

⁵ There are strong informal support networks in local communities in Timor-Leste where a culture of contributing time and money to the church, to neighbourhood activities and to family exists. Farmers' groups, women's groups and other similar community groups often survive on voluntary work and reciprocal systems of labour sharing. Workers' unions, credit unions, cooperatives and some sports clubs gather membership fees and rely on volunteering to operate. Furthermore, some CSOs are contracted by government ministries to deliver services in something more like a fee-for-service arrangement rather than via grant funding.

⁶ Programme of the IV Constitutional Government (2007-2012), Timor-Leste.

⁷ Programme of the Eighth Constitutional Government (2018-2023), Timor-Leste.

⁸ Understanding Violence against Women and Children in Timor-Leste: Findings from the *Nabilan* Baseline Study. Main Report prepared by The Equality Institute on behalf of The Asia Foundation (2016), funded by the Australian Government.



The European Union (EU) Roadmap adopts the definition of civil society set out in the European Commission's 2012 Communication as "All non-state, not-for-profit structures, non-partisan and non-violent, through which people organise to pursue shared objectives and ideals, whether political, cultural, social or economic. Operating from the local to the national, regional and international levels, they comprise urban and rural, formal and informal organisations."

Vibrant national and international CSOs deliver social services, carry out research on the changing development context, advocate on key public policy issues and foster social life. Growing out of Timor-Leste's experiences of occupation and resistance, their membership and characteristics have changed as the independent nation-state has matured. There are local, district, national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs). These also include networks of NGOs such as Rede ba Rai (land network), Timor-Leste Education Coalition (TLCE), Rede Feto (women's network), HASATIL (agriculture network) and FONGTIL. Civil society in Timor-Leste also includes several forms of community-based organisations (CBOs) operating within and between *sucos* (villages), such as water management groups, farmers' groups, seed groups and the community committees established to implement the Government's National Programme for Suco Development. CBOs often form an instrumental part of the outreach of government and donor programmes into rural areas and are also connected to farmers and trade unions, cooperatives and collectives. Also, groups involved in religious and cultural practices, as well as social groups including women's, youth, veterans and sporting groups are considered part of civil society, together with a number of media operators, in particular community radio and journalists associations can to some degree be considered to form part of civil society. Similarly, *Suco* Chiefs and traditional leaders exert their role in the regions and participate in development processes.

A range of CSOs are active outside Dili. Today, most municipalities have some form of civil society network that engages with government across a range of issues. Many (though not all) are derived from what were previously FONGTIL district networks, but their character and activities vary from location to location. For example, Associasaun Organizasaun Baucau (Baucau Association of Organisations) is a formal, organised network chaired by the Municipal Administrator that acts as a coordination mechanism between government and civil society in Baucau Municipality.

As a majority Catholic nation, the Church plays an important role in Timorese society, politics and civic space with around 96% of the population identifying as Roman Catholic.⁹ Thus the Catholic Church as an institution plays an important role in civic space, providing services as well as shaping norms and values. Generally speaking, the Catholic Church is held in very high regard by the Timorese public. Recent public polling by The Asia Foundation¹⁰ shows the three Catholic Bishops are some of the most trusted leaders in the country, second only to well-known resistance leaders. This level of confidence is commonly attributed to the central role of the church in the resistance movement against Indonesian occupation. As a central institution, the Church is seen as politically powerful and several interviewees credited the Church with breaking the political deadlock of 2017-18, for instance.

Civil Society Involvement in Domestic Policies

CSOs strive to play an important role in monitoring and seeking to influence government. Some CSOs are involved in policy debate and monitoring of government services while providing feedback and recommendations to strengthen public policy and/or government service delivery. Nascent networks exist for certain sectors, for example in land and education and better data analysis, advocacy, research, and networking would help CSOs prepare high-quality evidence-based recommendations and further influence national and sub-national policy. CSOs inconsistently provide quality, sustainable advocacy services and lack transparent processes for identifying and prioritising constituents and issues. Some advocacy issues are donor-driven. Citizens face challenges but often are unaware what CSOs can do to help and how to contact them. CSOs too infrequently explain their roles and mandates to citizens. CSOs often use informal rather than formal mechanisms to research issues and make recommendations while fulfilling their oversight roles. Many Timorese CSOs rely on development partners for funding and do not leverage funds from different

⁹ These identities are not mutually exclusive and, in some areas, traditional beliefs co-exist with institutionalized Catholicism. Indeed, civil society – both international and local – are increasingly engaging with customary practices such as the traditional method of dispute resolution *nahe biti boot* or 'spreading out the mat' or encouraging the use traditional rituals such as *tara bandu* for local environmental protection, as more is understood about these practices and their significance in local communities.

¹⁰ The Asia Foundation (2018) Tatoli Public Opinion Survey.



sources. The lack of sustainable and varied funding often undermines many CSOs' intent to effectively administer activities, develop long-term plans, and retain staff.¹¹

CSOs must build constructive relationships and present their findings sensitively to ensure their voices are welcome. At the same time, donors have a role to play in encouraging the government to welcome civil society monitoring. Although civil society and the government have established sectoral forums, which allow CSOs space to join policy discussion and propose new ideas, at other times, the government is more likely to treat civil society as a group to be only informed about public policy.

CSOs can generally express their opinions and present recommendations to government institutions without fear of retribution. They have been forthright in its criticism of government, particularly around issues such as the petroleum fund, economy diversification, the national budget, media regulation, and justice. Nonetheless, CSOs find it difficult to verify data from institutions that are often reluctant to release information. Influencing policy is often very difficult. For example, recommendations on draft laws are submitted but there is no certainty that the recommendations will be considered. Many CSOs face difficulty monitoring the impact of their recommendations to public institutions. Considering the five priorities of the European Commission (green deal alliances; alliances for science, technology and innovation, and digital; alliances for sustainable growth and jobs; migration partnership; governance, peace and security, human development), CSOs have been mostly involved in domestic policies related to governance, peace and security, human development.

CSO involvement in favour of gender equality/women's rights and empowerment is considerable as gender-based violence is widespread in Timor-Leste. In 2017, the EU and the United Nations partnered on a multi-year programme to address the global challenges of violence against women and girls: the Spotlight Initiative. In Timor-Leste its implementation started in 2020 and its overall vision is that women and girls should enjoy their right to a life free of violence, within an inclusive and gender equitable Timor-Leste. The programme is aligned to the Timor-Leste National Action Plan on Gender-based Violence 2017-2021, and the National Sustainable Development Goal Roadmap, and will involve strengthening and widening partnerships and solidarity across civil society, government, media, private sector, and development partners. The three-year investment in Timor-Leste amounts to EUR 12 million. The Spotlight Initiative in Timor-Leste programmes 30% of its total funds through civil society organisations or grassroots groups, aiming to strengthen the country's legal frameworks and institutions, promote positive social norms, increase quality and access to support services for survivors of violence, improve the collection and use of data for better policy making, and strengthen partnerships with civil society organisations, grassroots and marginalised groups.

Civil Society Capacity

In 2020, the European Union Delegation in order to enhance the EU support to and engagement with CSOs to optimise their role as development actors, surveyed CSOs to assess their capacity. The specific objectives were to assess how best to address the needs of CSOs to improve their capacity in proposal writing, general project management including financial aspects, and management of EU grant contracts; and to assess how to address the UN 2030 Agenda (particularly SDG 17, partnerships for the goals) that requires the improvement of the capacity of CSOs in management and advocacy with particular attention to SDGs. Regarding their general engagement in policy advocacy and making in Timor-Leste, it was noted by the responding CSOs, that they are largely informed about possibilities to engage in policy making both at local and national level, and are strongly engaged in this regard at both levels. In this regard, engagement in and advocating for 'women's issues and equality' is the area with the highest priority, followed by 'education' and 'Democracy and Human Rights' as top policy areas of concern. 'Poverty / Social Security', 'Governance / Accountability / Social Audit' and 'Economic development' set the second most important group of policies. Interestingly, areas such as Child welfare, Culture or Housing have the least support from the responding CSOs. The areas related to Migrants and Refugees appear not to play any role in the context of CSOs' engagement in policy advocacy and making in Timor-Leste. When it comes to success in advocating and the impact on policies in Timor-Leste, the answers are rather mixed. All in all, the responding organisations indicate that they are more successful at local level than national level, while there are in general good relationships reported with municipalities and local authorities, where discussions and collaboration are fruitful and constructive, but at national level this very much depends on each ministry. Here the process for dialogue is perceived as very formal, requiring lengthy periods of preparation, information awareness and sharing but can be stalled very quickly. Despite some

¹¹ USAID/Timor-Leste NGO Advocacy for Good Governance, RFP No.: 72047220R00001 (2019).



critical views, it appears that CSOs are rather hesitant to voice out challenges in this regard while mostly focusing on the “good” than the critical issues.

Regarding CSOs’ capacity in management with particular attention to sustainable development goals (SDGs), 76% of the responding CSOs believe that their organisation can most or somewhat contribute to Goal 5: ‘Gender Equality’ followed by Goal 4: Quality of Education (71%), Goal 1: No Poverty and Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (both 62%). When asked about mechanisms for taking dedicated action in contributing to achieving the SDGs, 71% of CSOs indicate that they are representing the voiceless and bringing up the needs and concerns of those underrepresented to the policy level and facilitating dialogue across different levels. Also mobilisation of public opinion (68%) through e.g. organisation of campaigns, followed by management and implementation as well as monitoring (62%) are considered to be important mechanisms for contributing to achieving the SDGs.

The EU believes that through strong partnerships with Timorese civil society, overcoming Timor-Leste’s development challenges will be more straightforward. During the post-conflict period, CSOs have proven their value as development players, and are recognised as such. But despite this increasing recognition, many local CSOs still face significant limitations regarding their management and financial capacity which hinders their ability to effectively contribute to development and, ultimately, to poverty reduction. With a shrinking of available funding channels for civil society, in parallel to their limited capacities to lead complex development processes, CSOs need to evolve further in order to be able to serve the country better. When CSOs do not have a strong management and financial capacity, they will not likely succeed in accessing the limited funds available. Thus, CSOs have to be strengthened in order to be in a better position to compete. Whenever possible the EU will try to ensure that capacity of civil society is built across all its dimensions (including organisation, programme management, advocacy, governance and accountability, and access to funding).

Through their outreach to community level, CSOs have a unique voice to bring to policy dialogue and reform. The ability of CSOs in Timor-Leste to function effectively over the long-term depends on their capacity and sustainability in three inter-linked areas: their financial base, their organisational management, and their ability to deliver high quality activities. According to the Delegation’s 2020 CSOs survey/dialogues and donor consultation, organisational management is highlighted by CSOs themselves and by donors as weak on the whole, while many CSOs deliver good quality services and advocacy across a range of sectors. There are credible, capable partners with whom donors can work. There is a strong commitment to learning and improvement on the part of CSOs. Capacity overall tends, on average, to be stronger in national or Dili-based CSOs, which have had greater access to sustained funding, mentoring, training, and information than have many district-based CSOs.

As elsewhere in Southeast Asia, Timor-Leste is seeing the rise of informal movements which are growing in number, participation and political presence. These are usually un-funded, non-partisan groups active on a particular social issue, such as Hatutan, working on LGBTQI rights issues; Grupo Feminista Timor-Leste (Timor-Leste Feminist Group) and Movimento Lettras (the Literature Movement) working on popular literacy, feminism and other related issues; Tropas ba Lixu (the Litter Troops), who organise litter clean-up and environmental protection events; and a range of student organisations and groups lobbying on issues within their respective municipalities or on issues of national significance. Informal collective movements such as these are having a noticeable impact on the public conversation around the issues they raise and, given that they are often (but not always) led by younger activists, may portend a wider process of a generational change within civil society.

B. LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE PAST ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs

The EU recognises CSOs as strategic partners in development, because an empowered civil society is a crucial component of any democratic system and an asset in itself. The EU and EU Member States (MS) continue to work with many actors from across the breadth of formally associated civil society in Timor-Leste. Strong partnerships with Timorese civil society are necessary to help overcome the country’s development challenges.

The first EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society in Timor-Leste was adopted in 2016, and an update approved for 2018-2020. Like its predecessors, this new Roadmap aims to provide the background and priorities for a common strategic framework under which the EU and MS should work with civil society in Timor-Leste. Key priorities were discussed and agreed upon with CSOs and MS present in Timor-Leste (Portugal and France). The preparation of the Roadmap was informed by the 2012 EU Communication “The Roots of Democracy and Sustainable Development:



Europe's engagement with Civil Society in External Relations" in which the European Commission sets down its understanding of CSOs as strategic partners in development. The Communication is articulated around three key pillars for improving the impact of EU support to civil society in partner countries:

- Enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs;
- Promote meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies;
- Increase local CSO capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more efficiently.

The Roadmap provides an opportunity to further the EU partnership with Timor-Leste CSOs and better align funding with their actual needs as crucial development players. This is particularly important in light of the EU's as well as Timor-Leste's commitments towards the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda (i.e. SDGs, particularly goal 17 partnerships for the goals). The EU is engaged with civil society in Timor-Leste to provide for an enhanced, more strategic approach to development challenges, and supports civil society organisations as actors of governance to help deliver on the SDGs. There is a clear need to enhance CSOs' contribution to development process through good governance.

In 2020, the Delegation started the process to establish for its third Roadmap with specific consultation measures: in January-February an online CSO questionnaire to assess views on environment, roles, participation, and capacities, in June-November the CSO mapping review, frequent CSO dialogues, and direct consultation with CSOs and MS. This Roadmap intends to enhance the EU support to and engagement with Timorese CSOs to optimise their role as development actors. Based on feedback received, this Roadmap validates, and slightly updates, the priorities for action by the EU and MS for the period 2021-2023:

- Establish closer partnerships between the EU, CSOs and the Government to promote an improved enabling environment and participation for CSOs in Timor-Leste.
- Support civil society efforts to promote sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building.
- Support civil society efforts to promote social accountability as a way to improve the quality and effectiveness of public policies and promote good management of public resources.

Most CSOs consulted (through surveys and consultation) concur that building CSO capacity remains a key element to strengthening the role of Timorese CSO over the coming years. The EU intends to plan annual training courses for CSOs based on the organisational and thematic needs identified, such as strategic planning, proposal writing, project cycle management, coordination and networking efforts through alliances, governance, policy research, advocacy, and SDGs, among others. CSOs stressed the importance to capitalise on positive results and good domestic practices by increasing knowledge management and fostering peer-to-peer learning, which is reinforced during the EU-CSO dialogues.

The EU and CSO partners should also align efforts with the fast-changing CSO role and context in Timor-Leste. As the Timorese state continues to consolidate its role as the leading service provider and recipient of international aid, CSOs are compelled to reshape their role. CSO capability as watchdogs and public opinion formers is still emerging. There is an increased capacity and maturity on the part of both NGOs and government to accept independent monitoring which can help improve service delivery, at least on less contentious areas of policy such as community development initiatives.

There is a need to support decentralised processes of human development. Timor-Leste's main challenge is the underdevelopment of rural areas and the slow decentralisation of the state institutions. Like state institutions and private companies, CSO capacity seems to be concentrated in the capital, Dili. Further engagement of local players in development processes, solid cascade-style capacity-building strategies, and representation of local CSOs in national networks and coordinating bodies, are therefore essential to speed up development trends. Moreover, another challenge is to how to ensure the quality and sustainability of service delivery as human development needs get more complicated, and to be able to deliver in both urban and rural areas.

Structured Dialogue with CSOs



The second part of the Lisbon Treaty deals with the functioning of the European Union and is based on the principle of equality of Europe's citizens. Article 10 of this treaty states that the functioning of the Union shall be founded on representative democracy. Citizens and their representative associations are given the opportunity to make their views known and publicly exchange ideas on all subjects of Union action. To that purpose, Article 11 of the treaty gives European institutions the capacity to maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society. The treaty also provides for a better role of NGOs such as foundations and associations. In line with the principles of the Lisbon Treaty, the EU has assigned more and more important roles to CSOs as it has progressively developed its rights-based and multi-stakeholder approaches and its policies on participatory development and good governance. Engaging more strategically with CSOs constitutes a key pillar in these approaches and the EU commitment to enhanced dialogue with CSOs is enshrined in several relevant policy documents, from the 2012 Communication "The roots of democracy and sustainable development" to the EU Consensus on Development, which calls for stronger and more inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships and reaffirms EU commitment to rights-based approaches, in line with the UN 2030 Agenda. In Timor-Leste, the Roadmaps for engagement with CSOs have played an important role in the shift towards a more structured dialogue with civil society. This is in line with the provisions of the 2012 Communication, which stipulated "the elaboration of EU roadmaps for engagement with CSOs at country level should activate and ensure structured dialogue and strategic cooperation, increasing consistency and impact of EU actions". More recently, Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen has reaffirmed the EU commitment towards an enhanced engagement with civil society as part of the inclusive and equitable partnerships, which are necessary to reduce global poverty and support sustainable development.

The Cotonou Agreement called for nonstate actors to receive capacity-building support and to be informed and involved in consultation on cooperation policies and strategies, such as through the establishment of consultation mechanisms including channels of communication and dialogue, and to promote strategic alliances. The post-Cotonou Agreement will be based on six key priorities: human rights, democracy and governance; security; human and social development; environmental sustainability and climate change; sustainable growth; and migration and mobility. The new Agreement will put stronger emphasis on cooperating in international fora and on building alliances on the global scene. The new Agreement will be a powerful tool to advance the UN Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. It will also build on the Cotonou *acquis* of non-state actors' involvement and consultation, whose principles will be re-affirmed and strengthened, according to a cardinal principle of multi-stakeholder involvement that underlies the entire Agreement. The Agreement will also include binding provisions on stakeholders' involvement at the level of the governance of three regional partnerships Africa-EU, Caribbean-EU, Pacific-EU; the Parties will have to agree and lay out such terms and modalities, for the full operationalisation of the principles laid out there.¹²

In terms of engagement with CSOs, although the EU is still perceived by CSOs as a particularly demanding donor, the Delegation has managed to open and nurture effective communication channels with them. In 2020 the Delegation established a structured dialogue with CSOs with frequent meetings (at least 3 per year) to promote a more meaningful and systematic conversation to improve understanding and coordination. A clear and defined space for dialogue with CSOs informs the EU's analysis and programming. The Delegation maintains frequent contact with CSOs by email, telephone or face-to-face, sharing relevant information (i.e. studies, grants opportunities, campaigns, reports, webinars, training courses, events), inviting them to share research, data, analysis, studies and any relevant information that could be useful to the wider CSO group. The Delegation has adopted an open door approach to CSOs, frequently visiting their offices or receiving them at the Delegation to listen and provide feedback on different issues. In this regards, the key support and active participation from the Head of Delegation, and the Political Counsellor, are fundamental, not just in terms of political will but direct availability to discuss key issues. CSOs do not just want funds - they want to be also heard on a regular basis, not just sporadically. They want to see more structure, inclusiveness, proper feedback and a real chance to discuss relevant political and policy issues.

For the EU CSO structured dialogue, the focus has been on governance, human rights, overall development cooperation, and engagement with civil society. It is organised in such a way that there is a session for the Delegation to present and discuss current work and future plans (i.e. new calls for proposals, training courses, Team Europe Initiatives, updating roadmap, strategies, and programming 2021-2027), and there is a session for one of the CSOs to

¹² After Cotonou: Towards a new agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific states. Briefing: International Agreements in Progress. European Parliament. January 2021.



present a relevant topic to promote peer-to-peer learning and useful debate (i.e. The Asia Foundation/research paper on dimensions of civic space in Timor-Leste; Mata Dalan Institute/ Impact of Covid-19 on the informal sector in Timor-Leste). In line with the Gender Action Plan III (2021-2025), gender equality and women's rights and empowerment should be a recurrent topic of dialogue with CSOs, especially considering the Timorese context, the CSOs action on the topic, and the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative. The Spotlight Initiative's work is rooted in research that amplifies the belief that the leadership and deep engagement of civil society is at the core of transformative and sustainable change in the elimination of violence against women and girls. Civil society, in particular women's rights and feminist activists and movements, is therefore a central and paramount partner of the Spotlight Initiative. This includes those representing groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination. Spotlight Initiative's partnership with civil society is guided by a human-right based approach, the "Leaving No One Behind", and national ownership.

The Delegation aims to have an inclusive group for the structured dialogues: CSOs working with youth, women, people with disability, farmers, LGBTI, children, advocacy, research, faith-based organisations, youth and culture groups, among others. The Delegation is starting from what is known and is progressively building the case for a wider spectrum of actors to engage with. Its engagement with CSOs, has put the Delegation in a special position as an active partner for civil society in Timor-Leste, when political commitments are translated into practical actions. During the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in Timor-Leste, because of the good relationship and collaboration with CSOs, the EU in Timor-Leste was able to respond in a timely way to this crisis. The EU funded-CSOs adapted their actions, and new CSOs were rapidly mobilised and engaged to respond to the pandemic, resulting in one direct grant for a consortium of international NGOs working with local CSOs, and another direct grant for local CSOs.

CSO and EU Dialogues with Authorities

Civil Society participation in EU development policy processes is key to ensuring inclusive, effective, accountable and transparent development policies. CSOs inform, enrich and can also contribute to the EU's analyses and approaches, adding value and specific "people focus". The EU recognises the difference it makes to promote a structured dialogue, and more systematic cooperation, ensuring meaningful and inclusive participation of civil society in our policy and sectoral dialogues, and improving access to information. We consult CSOs on specific strategies, policies or programmes, and ensure their active involvement in decision-making or in the provision of services. In the Delegation policy dialogue with authorities, CSOs participate, and are encouraged to speak and make valuable contributions. Cooperation support facility allocates activities to support civil society under the EU priority areas. CSOs also participate in the rural development steering committee, which is organised by the Delegation in coordination with the National Authorising Officer; the governance steering committee of the Public Finance Management and Oversight Project implemented by the Institute Camões; and the Spotlight Initiative steering committee implemented by the United Nations.

The EU in Timor-Leste is committed to continuing to work with civil society and to seek synergies for action. As the Delegation strengthens the quality of its policy dialogue with the Government and takes a more strategic approach to sectoral programming, it will assess opportunities for including and advocating more directly civil society in national policy and programme design, focusing on EU's priority sectors. In addition to financial assistance, capacity building, and civil society involvement in policy dialogue, the consultation with CSOs on key political and sustainable development issues in Timor-Leste is also important. Effective communication and engagement mechanisms are crucial for such processes to ensure inclusiveness and transparency as well as to make citizens real stakeholders and develop a sense of ownership.

Since 2020, the EU in Timor-Leste has been proactive in meeting development partners (i.e. Australia, New Zealand, USA, Japan, South Korea) to discuss cooperation with civil society and will continue to be so. With these meetings we aim to improve communication and possible coordination regarding work with civil society, to compare plans and actions (i.e. strategy, roadmap), share information in EU support to civil society and the roadmap, and discuss possible opportunities for coordination and collaboration. Development partners all tend to work with the same NGOs/CSOs as the choice is limited leading to capacity and delivery problems and the need for enhanced coordination.

Operational Support to CSOs

Since 1999, the EU has been a major funder of programmes through multilateral mechanisms. The EU has supported Timor-Leste's development with over 200 EUR million through the 9th, 10th and 11th European Development Funds. In



addition, Timor-Leste also benefits from EU financial support through the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), the Civil Society Organisations-Local Authorities (CSO-LA) programme, its memberships of PALOP-TL (Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste), regional programmes for the Pacific, and Intra-ACP initiatives. For the EU, civil society in Timor-Leste has been a significant partner since its Delegation opened in 2008, through both the EIDHR and CSO-LA thematic programmes and bilateral programmes. It is important to mention that Timor-Leste is not a member of the Pacific Island Forum (PIF), which limits the extent to which the PIF involves Timor-Leste in regional programmes. Timorese CSOs are also not part of PIANGO (Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental Organisations), limiting involvement in Pacific programmes for civil society.

As of 2020, the EUD is supporting 13 NGO/CSO projects, all involving local CSOs, with a financial contribution of around EUR 11,820,000:

- Dare Reforestation Project with the Fundação São Paulo Diocese de Dili;
- Project Say No to Gender-Based Violence in Timor-Leste with Plan Finland;
- Project to improve CSO capacity to raise awareness and promote initiatives addressing climate change issues and their impact on sustainable development in Timor-Leste with Plan Ireland;
- Project to Empower and Strengthen Consumers in Timor-Leste with the Portuguese Consumer Protection Association (DECO);
- Project of development of Human rights education and research activities at the Timor Lorosa'e National University with the Global Campus of Human Rights / European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation;
- Hamenus Lixu Plasticu Project with Mercy Corps;
- Project Cultural Entrepreneurship in Timor-Leste - A Driving Force for Inclusive Development and Equality with Empreza Diak;
- Reforsa Hamutuk Project with Hivos;
- Project Covid-19 Emergency Response in Timor-Leste with CARE Austria;
- Project Rai Matak with Oxfam Australia;
- Ensuring Government Accountability of COVID-19 and Improved Freedom and Access of Information in Timor-Leste Project with CEPAD;
- Maloa Urban Resilience Initiative with Mercy Corps;
- Supporting Timorese CSOs & Women as Empowered Market Agents Project with ADRA Austria.

National and international CSOs, development partners, United Nations agencies, and the government value EU funding for civil society work in Timor-Leste and the openness of the EUD to meet with CSOs and discuss relevant issues and project progress. However, often national CSOs have been discouraged from applying for EU funding, or from applying again, as the EU grant guidelines, application forms, budget templates and contracts are considered complex. Many national CSOs can deliver good quality programmes but internal governance is weaker in many organisations. In other cases, the EU's capacity expectations and grant size preferences have been perceived by CSOs as leading to selection of International NGOs or to CSOs working in consortia. Thus in 2020, in order to better support local CSOs, the Delegation decided that calls for proposals must include a local CSO as co-applicant, when the lead applicant is an international NGO/CSO; and it must also include at least one financial support to third party to support even smaller CSOs. This decision has been positively acknowledged and supported by local CSOs.

One key priority for the EU is to reinforce its support to the capacity development of CSOs, particularly local actors, as part of a long-term, demand-driven and flexible approach, giving particular consideration to constituency building and representativeness. To that effect, it is important to identify the areas in which capacity development is most needed, including limitations in technical management and leadership skills, internal governance or capacity to dialogue with government authorities, to influence policy and to monitor public policies and compliance with human rights commitments.

This Roadmap intends to enhance EU support to, and engagement with, Timorese CSOs to optimise their role as development actors. In this regard, in the last three years, the need to strengthen local CSOs capacity in proposal writing, managing and reporting on EU grant procedures has been at the centre of this assignment. As long ago as 2017, the Delegation organised for the first time training targeted at Timorese CSOs in writing proposals and managing and reporting on EU grant procedures in which more than 70 individuals and 30 CSOs (including district-based CSOs) were represented. It organised two training courses in 2018 with 76 participants from 48 local CSOs.



In 2020, the EUD carried out a CSO needs assessment, where 21 CSOs responded to a questionnaire survey, that mainly focused on three areas, the experience of CSOs in Timor-Leste: with regard to project design and implementation (with a focus on EU funds); with advocacy and policy making; and with management in the context of SDGs. The findings of this analysis, and frequent dialogue with CSOs, informed the preparation of two training courses for 2020 for 40 CSOs and 80 participants. The aim was to increase CSO local capacity to perform its role as an independent development actor more efficiently, and specifically to improve capacity in proposal writing, general project management including financial aspects, and management of EU grant contracts, and to improve the capacity of CSOs in management and advocacy with particular attention to the SDGs. However due to Covid-19, including the State of Emergency that closed the country's borders and stopped commercial flights, the training courses had to be indicatively postponed to 2022 – or until the circumstances allow.

In line with the priorities of the EU Roadmap for engagement with CSOs in Timor-Leste, in 2020 the Delegation updated the civil society mapping done in December 2018, in particular the database, so that it allows the Delegation to better support and partner CSOs, in particular through calls for proposals, and to better mainstream civil society engagement in bilateral cooperation and strategic/political discussions. The updated mapping focused in the focal sectors of cooperation – governance, rural development including nutrition, gender, education, and culture. An interactive CSO mapping was also produced, to clearly show who is doing what, and where. A major aspect of the study was to also assess CSOs' financial and management capacity to implement EU funded projects, in order to allow for a more targeted approach of calls for proposals. Experience has shown that without a good understanding and knowledge of local CSO capacity, projects managed by CSOs have a relatively high chance of failure, leading to misunderstandings, disappointment and potentially even bankruptcy of the organisations that receive a grant without being able to manage this well. With this mapping update, we expect to be able to contribute to a more informed and better targeted approach to EU calls for proposals in Timor-Leste based on CSO capacity.

Strengthening civil society is not a single action but rather a long and continuous process. Thus the Delegation is committed to continue strengthening civil society capacity and efforts to promote sustainable development, human rights, gender equality and peace building in Timor-Leste.

Mainstreaming of CSOs into EU Sectors

The EU is an active player in the development field, whose efforts reflect the 5 'Ps' of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (i.e. People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership) while focusing on results, transparency, and mutual accountability. According to the new European Commission priorities, EU development efforts will be articulated around five major areas: green deal alliances; alliances for science, technology and innovation, and digital; alliances for sustainable growth and jobs; migration partnership; governance, peace and security, human development (with 4 extra cross-cutting areas) for the period 2020-2024, within the overall framework of the SDGs. Civil society is considered amongst the cross-cutting areas, therefore requiring effective mainstreaming.

The EUD is committed to mainstreaming civil society engagement in systematically involving and consulting civil society in Timor-Leste in all sectors of support interventions as well as policy and public-private dialogue. The Delegation is very advanced in the programming of cooperation of the next 2021-2027 Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP). The choice of the two priority areas are informed by Timor-Leste country analysis, extensive discussions with Government stakeholders, civil society, and the private sector, EU priorities and interests, lessons from past and present cooperation, and consultations with the EU Member States and development partners. Priority 1: green and sustainable economic recovery and development; priority 2: good governance for sustainable development. It hopes to extend civil society engagement from traditional areas, such as governance or human rights, to other sectors, such as business, trade, vocational training, employment, sustainable growth and investment, and energy and climate change, to mention a few. Mainstreaming civil society engagement will enhance effectiveness, accountability and legitimacy of the EU programming. Working more strategically with civil society throughout the EU policy cycle can help fine-tune our actions to local realities, achieving a more reliable risk analysis, and subsequently more sustainability and legitimacy of EU support programmes.

The new MIP 2021-2027 foresees mainstream civil society into its cooperation work, within the overall framework provided by the UN 2030 Agenda and taking into account the new priorities of the European Commission. The



Delegation will begin identification of specific programmes by the middle of 2021 on so that will be the opportunity to plan how to involve civil society fully. Given the EU's and MS' limited human resources, there is a need to optimise the EU support to CSOs as independent development actors, further mainstreaming support and engagement with CSOs across all aid modalities in full alignment with the Roadmap for engagement with civil society in Timor-Leste.

During the Delegation ongoing programming exercise and its MIP implementation, in order to effectively mainstream civil society engagement, four key questions will be explored:

1. Why should CSOs be involved & what roles do they play?
2. Who are the CSO actors to engage with & how do we select the right actors?
3. How can CSOs be brought on board?
4. When should we engage CSOs within the EU cycle of operations?

Complementary to CSO involvement throughout the different phases of EU financial assistance programmes, the EU should advocate partner governments for the same level of civil society involvement. Leading by example, the EU can create peer pressure through diplomacy and political dialogue, as well as supporting partner governments in scaling up public authorities' capacity to engage in dialogue with civil society.

Using the internationally agreed OECD framework of civil society engagement – which ranges from sharing information to participatory policymaking – the Delegation must identify in the Roadmap Action Plan a number of entry points for strengthening civil society involvement. With this the it aims to involve civil society more strategically in the different areas of EU engagement, thus fine-tuning its actions to local realities and working towards more sustainability and legitimacy of EU support programmes.

Key Lessons from Previous Roadmaps

In 2014, a worldwide effort was initiated to develop the EU Country Roadmaps for Engagement with Civil Society. The following are the key lessons learnt from the Delegation to Timor-Leste in the process of implementing the previous Roadmaps, also *vis-à-vis* the involvement of and cooperation with MS:

- The Roadmaps were seen as evidence of the EU's commitment to engagement with civil society.
- Providing a framework for both day-to-day and periodic dialogue with CSOs, academia, the media, and other non-state actors.
- Fewer and more focused priorities leads to having strategic frameworks more realistic and implementable.
- Fewer and better indicators assists in having Roadmaps more measurable, contributing to a more predictable, transparent and accountable way of working with CSOs.
- Opportunity and commitment to the Delegation to engage in better, more inclusive and even decentralised consultations with CSOs, which leads to establishing more permanent and structured spaces (i.e. dialogue).
- Benefits of working better together, taking into account the respective EU and MS comparative advantages: MS now appear to be better informed and fully aware of the process.
- Better collective action by combining programmatic interventions and dialogue around common concerns.
- Providing a framework for increased collaboration and coordination on programmes supporting common concerns.
- There is room for improvement that the Roadmap becomes "more meaningful" for all the EUD cooperation team and not just the EUD civil society focal point, both in terms of its inherent strategic character and the resulting approach, making mainstreaming of civil society an easier reality.
- Key documents produced by the Delegation must be in English in order to ensure more CSOs can read and understand the information, and Tetum translation is advised (at least for summaries) for even better coverage and understanding.



PART II – EU STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN TO ENGAGE WITH CSOs

C. THE STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE EU COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT AND AGENDA 2030/SDG

OBJECTIVES FOR THE EU ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs	RELATED SECTOR & COMMISSION PRIORITY	RELATED SDG
Establish closer partnerships between the EU, CSOs and the Government to promote an improved enabling environment and participation for CSOs in Timor-Leste	Green deal: -Agriculture, rural development and food and nutrition security -Environment, climate change and disaster risk management Governance, peace and security: -Human Rights, justice and Rule of Law	Green deal: SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 2, SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 17 Governance, peace and security: SDG 5, SDG 16, SDG 17
Support civil society efforts to promote sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building.	Green deal: -Agriculture, rural development and food and nutrition security -Environment, climate change and disaster risk management Governance, peace and security: -Human Rights, justice and Rule of Law	Green deal: SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 2, SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 17 Governance, peace and security: SDG 5, SDG 16, SDG 17
Support civil society efforts to promote social accountability as a way to improve the quality and effectiveness of public policies and promote good management of public resources.	Governance, peace and security: -Human Rights, justice and Rule of Law	Governance, peace and security: SDG 5, SDG 16, SDG 17

D. THE ACTION PLAN

OBJECTIVES FOR THE EU ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs	ACTIONS (including analysis, policy and political dialogue, operational support)	MEANS (EU programmes / instruments to implement the actions)
1.Establish closer partnerships between the EU, CSOs and the Government to promote an improved enabling environment and participation for CSOs in Timor-Leste	1.1. Ensure EU CSO structured dialogues in a planned, regular, timely, predictable and transparent manner to invest in a more systematic cooperation with CSOs to improve understanding and conversation, access to information, consultation/feedback/follow up on strategies/plans/programmes, and	1.1: EU Programme Officer/ Civil Society (cooperation support facility)



	<p>stimulate peer-to-peer learning and significant debates.</p> <p>1.2. Promote meaningful and inclusive participation of CSOs as observers on the EUD policy dialogue.</p> <p>1.3. Promote meaningful and inclusive participation of CSOs as observers on the sectors steering committees.</p> <p>1.4. Regularly consult CSOs on key political and sustainable development issues in Timor-Leste.</p> <p>1.5. Mainstream civil society engagement in the EU sectors by systematically involving and consulting CSOs in all EUD priority sectors of support interventions, and policy dialogue.</p> <p>1.6. Assess opportunities for including and advocating more directly for the role of civil society in national policy and programme design, focusing on EU's priority sectors.</p> <p>1.7. Demonstrate good practice in dialogue with civil society, in order for the EU to be seen as an important "role model" by Timor-Leste and other international organisations engaging with civil society.</p> <p>1.8. Update the 2020 CSO mapping by 2024.</p>	<p>1.2: EU staff from cooperation and political sections (cooperation support facility)</p> <p>1.3: EU staff from cooperation section (cooperation support facility)</p> <p>1.4: EU staff (political and cooperation sections) and MS</p> <p>1.5: EU staff (political and cooperation sections)</p> <p>1.6: EU staff (political and cooperation sections) and MS</p> <p>1.7: EU staff (political and cooperation sections) and MS</p> <p>1.8: EU Programme Officer/civil society, Operation support facility for the implementation of the CSO-LA</p>
<p>2. Support civil society efforts to promote sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building</p>	<p>2.1 EU and MS support to CSO to implement projects promoting sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building linked to the Commission related priorities (green deal, and governance, peace and security).</p> <p>2.2 Ensure an 'open door approach' so the EUD is available to meet with CSOs to discuss topics of interest related to the fundamental values of peace, freedom, equal rights, and human dignity in Timor-Leste.</p> <p>2.3 Share information, which is relevant to CSOs, in a friendly, timely and regular manner (i.e. reports, studies, roadmaps, calls for proposals, consultations/follow ups, currently funded projects, trainings, webinars, forums, events, strategy and programming processes), using all available and accessible communication channels, including online tools.</p> <p>2.4 During the EU CSO structured dialogues, include a session led by a CSO to present a relevant topic (i.e. research,</p>	<p>2.1: EU through calls for proposals/direct grants, CSO-LA and EIDHR allocations, Spotlight Initiative, 11th EDF and NDICI, MS Portugal and France through small grants to CSOs</p> <p>2.2: EU staff (political and cooperation sections) and MS</p> <p>2.3: EU Programme Officer/ Civil Society</p> <p>2.4: EU Programme Officer/ Civil Society and CSOs</p>



	study, hot topic, assessment) to promote peer-to-peer learning and useful debate 2.5 Through trainings, strengthen the technical and organization capacities of local CSOs engaged in promoting sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building linked to the Commission related priorities (green deal, and governance, peace and security).	2.5: Calls for proposals/direct grants, CSO-LA and EIDHR allocations, cooperation support facility
3. Support civil society efforts to promote social accountability as a way to improve the quality and effectiveness of public policies and promote good management of public resources	<p>3.1. Maintain regular consultations and/or meetings with CSOs, including the media, with paramount governance functions of overseeing and monitoring state authorities, demanding government accountability, contesting abuse of power, and bargaining on behalf of specific groups of citizens in order to inform and support EU dialogue and decision-making.</p> <p>3.2. Promote tripartite dialogue between EU, the Government and CSOs active in social auditing by strengthening the involvement of relevant civil society actors, using EU leverage to include the key civil society actors in dialogue between EU and the government on PFMO and other relevant areas.</p> <p>3.3. Support capacity building trainings and events for CSOs engaged in social audit efforts.</p> <p>3.4 Promote civil society participation in EU development policy processes to guarantee inclusive, effective, accountable and transparent development policies.</p>	<p>3.1: EU staff (political and cooperation sections), PFMO programme/Camoes, and EIDHR allocations</p> <p>3.2: EU staff (political and cooperation sections), PFMO/Camoes</p> <p>3.3: Oversight component of the PFMO programme/Camoes, calls for proposals/direct grants, CSO-LA and EIDHR allocations, cooperation support facility</p> <p>3.4: EU staff (political and cooperation sections), PFMO/Camoes</p>

PART III– FOLLOW-UP OF THE RM

OBJECTIVES FOR EU ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs	OUTCOME INDICATORS	TARGET	BASELINE INFORMATION (if available)	SOURCES OF INFORMATION & MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Establish closer partnerships between the EU, CSOs and the Government to promote an improved enabling	1.1 Number of initiatives supported by the EU (EUD and MS) promoting the enabling environment and participation of	<p>1.1. At least three EU CSO dialogues per year</p> <p>1.1 CSOs participate in the EU policy dialogue</p> <p>1.1 CSOs</p>		<p>Agenda/communication of dialogues, steering committees.</p> <p>Reviewed CSO mapping reports and products.</p> <p>EU/CSO's joint statements.</p> <p>EU projects/programmes reports.</p>



environment and participation for CSOs in Timor-Leste	CSOs 1.2 Level of adherence by the authorities to international standards and conventions in relation to fundamental rights and freedoms of expression/assembly/association, in aspect particularly related to Civil Society	participate in the sectors steering committees 1.1 2020 CSO mapping reviewed by 2024 1.2 Timor-Leste ratifies the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	CSO mapping review done in 2020 Timor-Les has not yet ratified the CRPD (2020)	Reference in Media (formal and informal) to EU initiatives with civil society. SDG reports. International conventions ratification reports.
Support civil society efforts to promote sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building	2.1 Number of initiatives supported by the EU (EUD and MS) promoting sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building	2.1 At least 6 CSO projects supported by EU (EUD and MS) promoting sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, and peace building 2.1 At least 1 CSO project supported by EUD to support the implementation of the Timor-Leste Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence 2.1. At least three EU CSO dialogues per year which include peer-to-peer learning 2.1 At least one EU CSO dialogue focused on gender equality/women's rights and empowerment	13 CSO projects in 2020 2 CSO projects on gender equality in 2020	EU projects/programmes reports, EIDHR and CSO-LA allocations. Agenda/communication of dialogues. EU/CSO's joint statements. Reference in Media (formal and informal) to EU initiatives with civil society. Training evaluations/reports.



		<p>per year</p> <p>2.1 At least one joint statement issued by the EU (EUD and MS) and/or CSOs on gender equality/women's rights and empowerment</p> <p>2.1 Local CSOs benefit from trainings and other initiatives to develop their technical and organizational capacities</p> <p>2.1 One training organised per year</p> <p>2.2 Calls for proposals with international CSOs as lead applicants have a local CSO as co-applicant and always at least one financial support to third parties</p>		
<p>Support civil society efforts to promote social accountability as a way to improve the quality and effectiveness of public policies and promote good management of public resources</p>	<p>2.2 Number of international and local CSOs (as lead and co-applicant, financial support to third parties) supported by the EU, promoting human rights, peace culture and gender equality</p> <p>3.1 Number of EU-funded initiatives having as a goal the capacity development and/or actual implication of civil society actors in monitoring public service, both at local and national levels</p> <p>3.2 Number of CSOs, who benefit from EU (EUD, MS) support through grants or</p>	<p>3.1. At least one project implemented</p> <p>3.2 Local CSOs benefit from trainings and other initiatives to develop their</p>	<p>PFMO project (2020)</p> <p>CSO training assessment and mapping review (2020)</p>	<p>EU project/programmes project reports.</p> <p>PFMO and CSO-LA project reports.</p> <p>Training evaluations.</p> <p>Reference in Media (formal and informal) to EU-funded initiatives with civil society and social accountability.</p> <p>2023 CSO mapping review report.</p>



	trainings, working on social audit/social accountability at national sectoral or local level (through public hearings, budget processes or other forms of consultative/monitoring processes)	capacities in social audit 3.2 CSOs more engaged in social accountability		
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PART IV - ANNEXES & REFERENCES

ANNEX 1: THE PROCESS

How were MS/EU+ present in the country involved in the drafting of the RM?	Discussion started with Portugal and France by the end of 2020 and beginning of 2021, and emails exchanged, to discuss the roadmap review, its process and draft, and to validate its final document in March 2021.
What mechanisms are set up to ensure the involvement of MS/EU+ in the implementation and follow up of the RM?	Portugal and France are always informed about the EUD work with civil society, among others: CSO updated lists, list CSO EU funded projects, new calls for proposals/info sessions, reports/studies/events, press releases, including invitation to CSO events, launchings and dialogues. At least 2 meetings per year are done with MS to update on the EUD work with civil society and try to coordinate efforts.
What consultations with CSOs were organised? What type of actors were involved? What mechanisms, if any, were used to ensure the inclusiveness of the process?	<p>Dialogue can be organised in many different ways. When it comes to CSO consultations (beyond information sharing) for this Roadmap update, the EUD used a combination of events, written contributions, and digital tools (online surveys).</p> <p>In 2020-2021 the EUD implemented a questionnaire survey, interviews, CSO mapping review, email/documents exchanges with written contributions shared, and face-to-face discussions, through the EUD CSO dialogue, to consult CSOs and inform the roadmap update, its process and agreed strategy and action plan for 2021-2023 (April 2021). The CSO group participating is a targeted, inclusive and wide group: CSOs working with youth, women, people with disability, farmers, LGBTI, children, advocacy, research, faith-based organizations, youth and culture groups. When new CSOs show interest in participate in the EUD dialogues, they are welcomed.</p>



What mechanisms, are set up to continue the dialogue with CSOs? What mechanisms, if any, will be used to ensure the inclusiveness of the dialogue?	The EUD plans to continue with structured CSO dialogues at least 3 times a year, with the targeted, inclusive and wide group of CSOs. The idea is to start from what is known and progressively build the case for a wider spectrum of actors to engage with.
How is the RM integrated /coordinated with the JP process?	N/A
How does the RM relate to other country processes including human rights and democracy country strategies, the gender action plan, etc.?	This Roadmap is relevant and aligned to the Timor-Leste National Action Plan on Gender-based Violence 2017-2021, the Timor-Leste's Roadmap for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and Timor-Leste Strategic Development plan 2011-2030 as it will involve strengthening civil society but also reinforcing and widening partnerships and solidarity across civil society, and government.

ANNEX 2: RELEVANT REFERENCES AND SOURCES TO DEEPEN THE UNDERSTANDING ON THE STATE OF CS AND EU ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

- EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society in Timor-Leste 2018-2020.
- Dimensions of civic space in Timor-Leste, Southeast Asia Civil Society Scoping Study, The Asia Foundation, (November 2019).
- Program of the IV Constitutional Government (2007-2012), Timor-Leste.
- Program of the Eighth Constitutional Government (2018-2023), Timor-Leste.
- Understanding Violence against Women and Children in Timor-Leste: Findings from the *Nabilan* Baseline Study, Main Report prepared by The Equality Institute on behalf of The Asia Foundation (2016), funded by the Australian Government.
- Civil Society Organisations Mapping Timor-Leste, Final Report, November 2020, Operational Support Facility for the Implementation of the Civil Society and Local Authorities (CSO/LA), Thematic Programme.
- Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society Organisations in Timor-Leste, Inception Report, March 2020, FWC SIEA 2018 - LOT 3: Human Rights, Democracy and Peace.
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- USAID/Timor-Leste NGO Advocacy for Good Governance, RFP No.: 72047220R00001 (2019).
- Timor-Leste National Action Plan on Gender-based Violence 2017-2021.
- Timor-Leste's Roadmap for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.
- After Cotonou: Towards a new agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific states. Briefing: International Agreements in Progress. European Parliament. January 2021.
- Timor-Leste Strategic Development plan 2011-2030.
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