



Enabling environment for civil society

Definitions, issues and EU engagement

#GlobalPFD

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DEFINITIONS AND ISSUES



Policy Framework – the "roots"

- **EU** “to promote a conducive environment in partner countries”
- “To operate, CSOs need a functioning democratic legal and judicial system – giving them the **de jure and de facto** rights...”
- “primary responsibility ... lies with the **state**”
- “**CSOs** also have a role to play...”



Definition applied in the **Roadmaps**

1. Basic **legal rights**
2. Organisational and financial **sustainability**
3. **Participation** in public life



Monitoring, keeping track, analysing

- EU Country **Roadmaps** for Engagement with Civil Society
- Civil society **mappings**
- EU **Human Rights** Country Strategies
- **Political reporting**
- Etc.



Issues – challenges and opportunities

- Arbitrary **detentions**
- Restrictions on **freedom of expression**
- Ltd appreciation of **role, independence of CSOs**
- Byzantine, costly **registration processes**
- Limitations on **access to foreign funding**
- Transparency of **financing and tax schemes**
- **Local** level entry points for participation
- Transparent multi-stakeholder approaches for **social service delivery** under state resp.
- **Compacts** for dialogue and cooperation



EU ENGAGEMENT



Strategic framework at **country level**

- EU Country **Roadmaps** for Engagement with Civil Society
- EU **Human Rights** Country Strategies
- Various **geographical** policies



Engaging with **authorities**, leveraging expertise

- **EU demarches and statements**
- **Political** dialogue
- **Facilitating/ convening** multi-stakeholder dialogue
- **Leveraging** international expertise
- **Developing** capacity



Supporting **civil society**

- **Consulting, dialoguing** with civil society
- Expressing support – **being present**
- Capacity development for **evidence based advocacy**
- Strengthening **platforms, coalitions and alliances**
- Support for **human rights defenders**



Guidance and **inspiration**

- **Case studies** on Capacity4Dev
- Promoting **civil society participation** in policy and budget processes
- **Budget support** guidelines
- EU Human Rights **Guidelines**