FPI Results Framework - Indicator Methodology Note

1. Indicator Name and Code

Number of b) stakeholders engaging, cooperating or collaborating with others for the promotion or implementation of actions that are strategic for the EU

OPSYS Code: 10068787

2. Technical Details

Unit of measure: Number of stakeholders.

Type of indicator: Quantitative; Actual (ex-post); Cumulative (not annual).

<u>Level of measurement:</u> This is an **Outcome** indicator. It would logically be associated with an outcome such as "Increased institutional cooperation in support of policy priorities of common interest".

<u>Disaggregation</u>: Disaggregation can be mandatory or optional (i.e. where relevant / possible).

Mandatory:

- **By Gender-sensitiveness:** [actions promoted] include gender equality objectives; [actions promoted] don't include gender equality objectives
- By Type of policies, practices and processes supported: Interfaith dialogue; Basic service and related awareness; Combating misinformation/disinformation; Promotion of Human Rights and Combating GBV; Governance and planning processes; Monitoring of policies and accountability; Mine action; Combating radicalisation; Protection; Emergency preparedness and response; OECD Due Diligence Guidance; Conflict prevention and peace building; Kimberly process; Crisis management; Cultural diplomacy; Promoting the external dimension of EU policies; Integrated border security management; Transitional Justice; Antitorture; Media freedom; Trade; People-to-people diplomacy; Electoral assistance; Regional partnerships; Other challenges of global concern; Related to the Europe 2020 Strategy; Recommendations from regional; Integrating the nexus between Demobilisation and reintegration; Cybercrime; Cybersecurity; Maritime security; Addressing CBRN risk mitigation; Disarmament; Others.
- By Target Group: Security/Armed Forces personnel; Electoral Body; Human Rights duty bearers; Government staff at the central level; Government staff at the local level; Civil Society; Ex-combatants; Media; Host-communities; Communities; Youth groups/members; Religious groups/members; Ethnic/language group members; Human Rights defenders; International bodies / mechanism; Women Organisation; Parliamentary Member; Judiciary Member; Professional Body; Researchers; Academy; Non-EU company; EU company; Migrants/IDPs/Refugees; Media target audience; Political Parties; Others

Optional:

By Country.

3. Description

This indicator captures meaningful <u>institutional-level</u> engagement in the promotion or implementation of actions that are strategic for the EU. "Stakeholders" are defined here as <u>institutions or organisations</u> rather than individuals (as opposed to the FPI indicator 10068786, which must be used for counting "individuals"). These may include, but are not limited to, government bodies (central and local), CSOs, research institutions, international organisations, media organisations, private sector entities, and networks or platforms. The indicator reflects progress in building partnerships, fostering coordination, and mobilising collective efforts around strategic goals supported by the intervention.

4. Calculation of Values and Example

The value of the indicator is calculated by counting <u>number of institutional stakeholders</u> that engage, cooperate or collaborate with others for the promotion or implementation of actions that are strategic for the EU.

Technical definitions:

Engage: Taking part in an activity or initiative proactively. The mere participation in EU funded activities may not qualify in this case as the stakeholders are expected to be agents of change and not just observers or passive participants.

Cooperate: Working jointly with other stakeholders (institutions) towards a shared goal, e.g. sharing information.

Collaborate: Participating in a structured, ongoing partnership with shared responsibilities and decision-making, e.g. co-developing a policy recommendation paper or managing a joint operation funded or not by the EU (but connected to the concerned EU intervention).

Promotion: Raising awareness, advocating for, or communicating about an initiative.

Implementation: Carrying out concrete actions that put plans or policies into effect.

Actions strategic for the EU: Activities aligned with EU foreign policy priorities, values, or thematic objectives, e.g.: peacebuilding, democracy, human rights, climate, or digital governance, as well as "priority files" for the external dimension of internal policies (i.e., trade, value chains).

Counting Guidance:

- **Institutional nature:** Only stakeholders (entities) with a formal organisational identity are to be counted, as opposed to individuals (for which FPI indicator 10068786 must be used).
- **Minimum threshold for engagement and interaction:** Only include stakeholders (institutions) that have verifiably engaged, cooperated or collaborated in a meaningful way. There should be interaction or coordination with at least one additional stakeholder/institution (this excludes isolated or independent actions).
- **Type of activities:** The activity must clearly align with an EU strategic objective and include a component of interaction with others. The gender-sensitiveness disaggregation is mandatory. The category "include gender equality objectives" applies when there is evidence that the objectives of the activities supported include gender equality explicitly. Otherwise, if not, or if not known, "don't include gender equality objectives" should apply.
- Proof of participation: Participation must be documented, e.g. signed agreements, deliverables, reports.
- Avoid double counting: Do not count the same stakeholder / institution more than once within the lifetime of the intervention, even across different activities of the same EU intervention. Likewise, avoid counting again the same stakeholder / institution in different reporting periods (e.g.: in year 1 and again in year 2).

Quality Control Checklist:

- 1. Is it clear that only "institutions" (and not individuals) are included / counted?
- 2. Is there documented evidence of stakeholder's active participation, e.g. output contribution?
- 3. Is the engagement clearly linked to the promotion or implementation of an EU strategic action?
- 4. Does the activity involve interaction with others (not isolated efforts)?
- 5. Has the stakeholder been counted only once per reporting cycle / not again in the next reporting cycle?
- 6. Have all mandatory and optional disaggregation categories been reported?
- 7. Is the role of EU/FPI support in enabling the engagement clearly traceable?

Example:

An EU/FPI multi country intervention promoted institutional cooperation on transparency and accountability. During year Y, 35 institutions engaged in strategic joint actions: In Country A, five national audit offices and four civil society organisations co-produced a cross-border anti-corruption report; In Country B, eight local media outlets and three research institutes launched a campaign on public budget transparency; In Country C, seven human rights organisations and eight local public entities jointly implemented a monitoring mechanism for electoral processes, promoting the political rights of women, youth and minorities . The reported value for year Y would be 35 (institutional stakeholders engaged), disaggregated as follows: By Country: Country A (9), Country B (11), Country C (15); By Type of policy/practice/process supported: Governance and planning process (9), Monitoring of policies and accountability (8), Electoral assistance (11); By Target Group: Government staff at the central level (5), Civil Society (4), Media (8), Researchers (3), Human Rights defenders

(7), Government staff at the local level (8). There is no risk of double counting because the report includes one initiative only by country. By gender-sensitiveness: include gender equality objectives (15), don't include gender equality objectives (20).

5. Data Sources

Reported values should derive primarily from the internal monitoring systems of EU-funded interventions. Data must be collected and reported by the implementing partner and verified by the OM. <u>Examples of data sources:</u> internal monitoring system of the IP based on reports of attendance records, signed agreements / MoUs, deliverables, etc. External monitoring and evaluation reports.

6. Other Uses / Potential Issues

This indicator may support reporting in results dashboards and annual activity reports. It contributes to assessing stakeholder (as per "institutions") mobilisation and alignment with EU foreign policy goals. It may also inform communication strategies and monitoring of gender-sensitive approaches across FPI interventions.

Potential issues: Risk of double-counting across activities and difficulty in assessing depth of engagement; risk of counting / including individuals instead of institutions.