



**SOLOMON ISLANDS**

**EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRY ROADMAP FOR ENGAGEMENT  
WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY**

**2016 – 2017**

## TABLE OF CONTENT

	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1. Analysis of the state of civil society in Solomon Islands.....</b>	<b>1-8</b>
<b>2. Assessment of current EU engagement.....</b>	<b>8-11</b>
<b>3. Definition of priorities for engagement with civil society.....</b>	<b>11-12</b>
<b>4. Formulation of actions.....</b>	<b>12-13</b>
<b>5. A dashboard to keep track of performance.....</b>	<b>13-14</b>

# 1 ANALYSIS OF THE STATE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

## 1.1 ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

### Basic legal rights

Solomon Islands is a democratic country that allows groups to associate, assemble, and register as Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). For the sake of this report CSOs are defined as all non-state, not-for-profit, non-partisan and non-violent structures through which citizens organise to pursue shared objectives and ideas, whether political, cultural, social or economic. Operating from the local to the national, regional and global levels, they comprise urban and rural, formal and informal organisations including Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), faith-based organisations, foundations, research institutions, trade unions and employers' organisations, cooperatives, professional and business associations, and the not-for-profit media.

The supreme law of Solomon Islands is the Constitution, legislated in 1978. Although the Constitution makes no specific reference to NGOs, its provisions grant individuals the right to congregate for any purpose not prohibited by law. Sections 12 and 13 of the Constitution protect the freedom of expression, assembly, association and participation in public life.

The two most important pieces of legislation concerning registration for CSOs are the Cooperative Societies Act and the Charitable Trust Act adopted in 1953 and 1964 respectively. However, none have undergone major amendments since. There is indeed a need to revise the Charitable Trust Act in particular to allow changes that would create a more robust and enabling environment for CSOs.

Others include:

1. Church of Melanesia Trust Board Incorporated Act,
2. Church of the province of Melanesia (Solomon Islands) Property Act,
3. Solomon Islands National Sports Council Act,
4. Solomon Islands Red Cross Society Act, and
5. Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Act.

Currently, more than 100 CSOs exist in the country as diverse actors in many different sectors. The CSOs whom the Delegation worked with are registered NGOs under the Charitable Trusts Act as non-profit making organisations.

In order to be recognised and formally registered, CSOs must have a Constitution and members. It is not a requirement for CSOs to register as a charitable organisation with the government, but formal registration can be beneficial to credibility and property ownership as well as a prerequisite to access external funding.

The focus of CSOs in the Solomon Islands is centred on social development. CSOs range from NGOs, church-based organisations, special interest group, broad-based development organisations, trusts, and community-based organisations. Churches are traditionally active in education and training, medical and health services as well as youth issues and bear substantial influence to the communities. Other groups have their programmes focussing on human rights, ending domestic violence, gender equality, restoring and increasing community peace, HIV/AIDS prevention, and environmental and marine conservation.

NGOs in Solomon Islands comprise of both membership and non-membership organisations. Some organisations have juridical status, others operate informally. Several community-based organisations or associations, particularly in rural areas, currently operate successfully without formally being legal entities.

### **Organisational and financial sustainability**

CSOs depend entirely on donors funding for their operations and business continuity and is proved to be a challenge. Membership-based CSOs are mandated to collect fees and donations as the normal way of getting income under the Charitable Trusts Act. However, often fees collected are usually insufficient to meet operational costs. Hence, CSOs seek other alternates of getting additional funds.

Although, there is no legal restriction for CSOs to access foreign or domestic funding, key challenges are limited availability of funds, administrative and management capacity, leading to financial risks and low quality implementation and reporting. A longer-term strategy is even harder to construe in this context, as this normally leads to a patchy array of short-term activities for most CSOs, based on temporary opportunities or real urgencies.

The EU and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) are major donors to CSOs in Solomon Islands. However, there are handful of other donors, international organisations and regional organisations such as the United Nations Agencies, USA Consular, New Zealand, and Secretariat of the Pacific Community financing some key activities within the CSO network. DFAT has also recently reduced its funding allocation to CSOs. Nonetheless, few Australian based CSOs present in the country are much better compared to local CSOs in terms of financial capacity, administration and credibility in performing their roles as CSOs. EU's engagement with CSOs began in 2008 through the project 'Support to Non State Actors' under the 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF), coordinated by the National Authorising Officer Support Unit. From 2009, the Delegation has been launching local Calls for Proposals (CfP) under Non – State Actors and Local Authorities (NSA-LA) and European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) funding instruments. In 2012, a CfP was launched under Instrument for Stability (IFS) – Peace Building Partnership funding. IFS was later phased out to give more focus on EIDHR and NSA-LA which are more relevant for the country.

In general, the government supports CSOs but in a very limited way. Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs give small grants to the main CSO interlocutors such as the Development Services Exchange (DSE), an NGO umbrella body and Solomon Islands National Council of Women (SINCW) representing the Womens' organisations and networks. Grants are disbursed only on adhoc basis following approved requests and upon receiving reports. The Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SICCI) recently attracted government support through the Prime Minister's Award in recognition of their constant efforts and advocacy profile in enhancing and promoting the development of the private sector in the country. Prime Ministers Award is an annual business excellence award to outstanding members of the private sector. Despite being non-profit oriented, CSOs are subject to Customs & Excise Act, Goods Tax Act, Income Tax Act, Sales Tax, and Stamp Duty Tax in their financial operation. There is a provision under the tax laws for non-profit organisations to obtain tax waivers on goods. In general, many CSOs deem to be disadvantaged by the current tax system.

There is need for CSOs to have strategic business plan and to look at innovative ways of broadening their funding sources and mobilising their resources. CSOs should be encouraged in their sectors to

form alliances and strengthen their links with external organisations for funding and capacity development.

### **Participation in public life**

The government is open to CSO involvement in national and sectoral policies formulation through consultations and workshops. However, CSOs are often unable to make a marking impact in this process given their weak capacity and skills. Moreover, rural and provincial CSOs often do not get the same opportunities as capital-based ones.

The key CSO interlocutors for the government and EU engagement are the umbrella organisations namely DSE, SINCW, SICCI, Transparency International Solomon Islands (TSI), SI Christian Association and other smaller groups for instance those for environment, education and human rights. EU normally holds bilateral consultations with partner organisations for ongoing projects. At key times, including in the run-up to political dialogues, EU also consults organisations to get feedbacks on development and priority issues from NGO perspective.

DSE, as an NGO umbrella organisation, has the mandate to facilitate networking and coordination amongst the civil society. Experience in working with DSE has shown that it could do better and serve its members if there is internal capacity, financial sustainability and focus efforts only on key strategic objectives.

There is no regulatory framework or platform which can facilitate result oriented multi-stakeholder dialogue and enable effective networking and coordination between the civil society, the state and donors. A memorandum of understanding drafted by DSE was rejected by the cabinet in 2012. In 2014, the government mentioned the development of a new CSO Bill but there have been no updates on that since.

Overall, there is free flow and easy access of information from the CSOs for the media, and the public, noting that more than 80% of the country's population is rural and has limited sources of information, i.e. usually radio and telephone. Printed press has more limited coverage and information technology is lagging well behind in most areas of the country. On the other hand, most information of public interest can be made available to the public upon endorsement by government authorities for instance government budget and audit reports. To an extent, information regarding governance issues such as leaders' misconduct and corruption are often treated confidentially, away from public scrutiny.

## **1.2 PARTICIPATION AND ROLES**

### (1). Participation in public policy formulation

CSOs are represented and participate in policy formulation and reform processes on a sectoral basis or through umbrella bodies. For instance, NGOs are most often represented by DSE. For women-related issues, the government and donors engage with SINCW and for private sector the focal organisation is SICCI. The level and quality of CSO participation can be questioned given limited capacity and credibility. CSOs rarely contribute meaningfully to decision making, although their advocacy contributes. CSOs are also excluded from the budgeting process, which raised questions on transparency by advocating CSOs, such as Transparency International Solomon Islands.

As watchdogs, CSOs most often use media to signal issues to the government on areas to improve and strengthen. Media is influential at local and national level, can set the agenda for discussion and

stimulate action from government. Media is a valuable means of maintaining debates, forcing research to be undertaken in policy discussions, increasing awareness and understanding of issues. There is potential for the media to expand its role as a convenient and highly efficient disseminator of information.

Evidence and credibility are key ingredients of successful policy dialogues. Alliance with communities, factual information, to convince case, strategic alliance with national stakeholders and networks also plays a crucial role in meaningful engagement in policy development process. Key to successful policy dialogue engagement are networking and working in coalitions. It enhances the power and authority of CSOs.

### (2). Transparency and accountability.

CSOs need to be more transparent and open about their work and allow for scrutiny by all stakeholders including government. The lack of transparency and accountability by a section of CSOs has had a negative impact on CSOs capacity to influence policy dialogue.

Within CSOs and between CSOs & Government, there is no legal framework in place to ensure transparency & accountability such as scrutiny of NGO affairs, accounts & audit reports. In addition, there is little coordination in terms of donor funding, therefore in some cases development goals of NGOs do not always conform to government or national goals.

In terms of transparency, accountability and good governance advocacy, TSI is a key player. Forum Solomon Islands International (FSII), a social media pressure group is also a significant group in the area which normally draws attention and support from citizens particularly on political issues in the country. In principle, there is room for improvement and better collaboration amongst the CSOs advocating in this area to be able to increase impact.

### (3). Service delivery

In a country with weak central capacities and huge distances (both physically and figuratively) between rural provinces and Honiara, CSOs have been widely acknowledged for their special roles and performance as community service providers complementing and jointly implementing development actions in different sectors with donors and government. Development partners, international organisations and government must therefore identify and recognise the unique role of CSOs in a structured and permanent manner to foster effective partnership in development. Having a clear sectoral mapping of CSOs is crucial to avoid duplication and conflict undermining each other roles. Currently, as there is no proper sectoral mapping, service delivery including implementation of actions by CSOs, government and local authorities sometimes overlap.

During the ethnic tension, the government utilised the Solomon Islands Red Cross (SIRC) mainly to deliver basic services such as food and medical supplies to affected communities. They were recognised and authorised together with church organisations as channels through which peace makers are brought to parties involved in the tension. NGOs like Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA), OXFAM and World Vision are also instrumental in delivering humanitarian support on the aftermath of natural disasters.

Given the capability of CSOs in service delivery, there is also a need for better coordination and network amongst CSOs according to their sectors.

#### (4). Inclusive and sustainable growth

This is an important area to be mainstreamed in the entire EU programmes more so under CSO-LA and EIDHR funding. A number of local and international NGOs have advocated for this in the country and it has been reflected in the National Development Strategy (NDS). Inclusivity is the norm in theory but in practice this remains a challenge in policy development and implementation, particularly in remote communities. A complicated status quo, particularly on land management, also complicates the management of forestry and agricultural resources as customary land-owners are free to exploit lands across the country irrespective of laws and government positions. This has, for instance, led to unsustainable logging and difficulties in promoting investment.

In the upcoming Call for Proposals, the Delegation will ensure that priorities for groups such as youth, disabled, minorities, children, girls, women, and advocacy including promotion of dialogue for better governance and innovative ways of using skills and resources are taken into account in the guidelines.

#### (5). Conflict prevention peace building and state building

Solomon Islands experienced a period of civil unrest and instability ("the tensions" 1998-2003), generating a breakdown in service delivery, law and order. The post conflict period (2003 onward) witnessed an increased number of international NGOs operating in the country through partnership and established local offices. This also led to the establishment of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) in July 2003. The Government established an independent Solomon Islands Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) by the TRC Act passed by the National Parliament in August 2008. The TRC began operations on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and concluded with the presentation of its 5-volume report to the Prime Minister on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012. EU also contributed financially to the TRC through Instrument for Stability (IFS) – Peace Building Partnership funding. The TRC facilitated healing and recovery process to victims and perpetrators. Church organisations and faith-based organisations such as the Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA) together with the government are the key players in this area. Additionally, during the height of the ethnic tension, EU also provided support to DSE and UNDP through signed Work Programmes under Support to Peace Process Programme. The assistance was instrumental for DSE who collaborated with other local NGOs such as SIDT in the peace building exercise.

Between 2013 and 2015, the Delegation implemented a Grant Contract signed with British Council and Solomon Islands Planned Parent Association (SIPPA) under IFS financing. The objective of the Call for Proposals at that time was to support local actors' initiatives and capacity for the prevention of conflicts and consolidation of peace, enhancing the role that local actors play in tackling tensions and in creating the right conditions for recovery in Solomon Islands. In this case it was targeted on Violence against women to enable peace in the home and community.

IFS was phased out as the country progressively regained peace and stability. Bringing peace at home and society in terms of addressing gender based violence and protection of children rights, disabled's rights are considered relevant for EIDHR and CSO-LA funding instruments.

### **1.3 CAPACITY**

The main constraints of CSOs whether formal or informal in Solomon Islands are financial capacity, financial sustainability and technical skills. It is noted that dialogue with government is constrained

due to several reasons some of which include CSO low level of technical capacity to advocate and influence, credibility of CSOs and most of all, a structured platform to enable dialogue is missing.

The geographical setting of the country also hampered effective engagement with the provincial communities. It is costly and time consuming to travel to the provinces as Solomon Islands is made of 9 provinces. Services such as transport and communication are either unreliable or costly. Unforeseen circumstances such as natural disasters can also affect activities because Solomon Island is susceptible to natural disasters.

- **Legitimacy, credibility and internal governance**

The legitimacy, credibility and internal governance of CSOs vary. The smaller and less formal CSOs are run by one or two people, therefore, more vulnerable and unsustainable. Some CSOs are active only when there is opportunity. Larger CSOs have bigger staffing and mostly headed by board of directors who perform advisory and oversight roles. Internal governance of most CSOs is generally weak therefore it contributes to lack of credibility. Most formal organisations lack internal systems to ensure standard work ethics, transparency and accountability. DSE the umbrella NGOs should lead by example by allowing others to assess its credibility and internal governance for improvements. DSE through an independent consultant was able to undertake few workshops attended by most NGOs to evaluate its performance over the last five years. This was useful in the development of its strategic plan for the next five years.

- **Programme and project management**

In Solomon Islands only the urban based NGOs are able to access funds from government, international organisations and donors whilst rural based CSOs are highly dependent on their networks to reach them. Of all the urban based NGOs, about 30% of them have the opportunity to access funds through donors due to factors relating to capacity, criteria and their core business different from priorities of the donors.

Local NGOs who received funding from donors normally are weak in their financial management, and administration. Those who signed contracts with the Delegation found themselves at the end having to reimburse EU. Regular meetings and trainings have been useful for CSOs in better understanding the conditions and procedures. More training sessions during start -up phase and regular trainings are recommended for the future to reduce likelihood of financial risks.

Beneficiaries should be encouraged to establish link with CSOs doing similar activities, and build synergies particularly with government for better impact and sustainability of programmes in the country.

### **Research and advocacy**

Research and advocacy capacity of CSOs in Solomon Islands is also weak with the exception of few such as TSI, Coalition for Education Solomon Islands (COESI) and the Australian NGOs. TSI for instance has the potential to undertake research and advocacy because it has the support of other national integrity institutions such as the Ombudsman, Leadership Commission and Officer of the Auditor General and is supported also by its Headquarter

Transparency International in Berlin. Likewise, COESI has good relationship with the Ministry of Education with the objective of achieving better education in the country.

- **Organisation, coordination and collaboration**

DSE is the umbrella NGO and has the mandate to coordinate and network with the members and into their thematic sectors. DSE has a Strategic Plan to engage with members, government and donors. DSE is able to coordinate and collaborate well with urban based NGOs only. The network to provincial actors need to be strengthened, it remains a challenge for DSE. DSE has been criticised for not performing its role as umbrella body, this is because DSE has to do other things besides its mandate by engaging in implementation of projects simply as one way of fundraising to keep the organisation going. In this case, DSE as an umbrella organisation should attract regular grant especially from government if possible or a long term agreement for its operational costs, so that DSE can concentrate fulfilling its mandate to the CSO family.

Two other NGOs who are representative of women and private sector are SINCW and SICCI, they are better compared to DSE because they received grant from the government, hence able to fulfil their role or coordination and collaboration with members, however more work needs to be done.

The absence of a national framework of platform is an obstacle to effective organisation, coordination and collaboration amongst the CSOs. This is an area which the Delegation is keen to see therefore, would find ways to create taking advantage of the existing network and partnership with CSOs.

## **2. ASSESSMENT OF EU CURRENT ENGAGEMENT**

### **2.1 STRUCTURED EU DIALOGUE WITH CIVIL SOCIETY**

CSOs and EU dialogue has been organised on ad hoc basis, with regular correspondence and meetings for follow up purposes, project monitoring purposes and to deal with contractual issues. On several occasions prior to political dialogue with the government and missions from Headquarters, umbrella organisations (DSE, SICCI and SINCW) and TSI are routinely consulted in advance for feedback on development cooperation, social and other matters. In order to evolve this relation into a structured dialogue, it is a prerequisite for the country to have national framework of platform where structured dialogue can take place, currently this is missing in the country. In this context, in line with its existing partnership and results of upcoming Call for Proposals, the EU Delegation proposes to take the lead in creating such space for regular, structured dialogue between key stakeholders and CSOs, progressively leading to strategic engagement on pertinent issues and possibly to more effective delivery of services.

So far EU has committed approximately EUR 3.5m through more than twenty Grant Contracts with local and International NGOs. Eight CfP have been launched since 2009. Signed Grant Contracts addressed priority issues ranging from women's empowerment, NGO institutional capacity, awareness, governance, conservation of natural resources, elections and protection of children rights. The EU Delegation has already established a longstanding partnership and network with several organisations, demonstrated by the level of participation and presence at EU info day events. On this basis, the Delegation is well placed to take on the lead and establish a structured dialogue and coordination platform for CSOs, ideally also attended by other key stakeholders including relevant development partners and Government. Below is a list of local NGOs, Regional and International Organisations that

have worked with EU under thematic budget lines (IFS, EIDHR and CSO-LA) during the last 5-6 years. It must be noted that some organisations received funding more than once.

1. Development Services Exchange
2. Live and Learn Environmental Education
3. Solomon Islands National Council of Women
4. Solo Enviro Beautification
5. Transparency Solomon Islands
6. Church of Melanesia Trust Board through Christian Care Centre
7. Solomon Islands Christian Association Federation of Women
8. Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industries
9. Solomon Islands National Union of Workers
10. Solomon Islands Planned Parent Association
11. Natural Resources Development Fund
12. Uruhitani Tribe Coffee Association
13. Solomon Islands Red Cross
14. French Red Cross
15. Solomon Islands Development Trust
16. British Council
17. UN Women
18. Secretariat of the Pacific Community
19. Save the Children(Denmark and Australia)
20. Homes of Peace and Empowerment

## **2.2 POLICY DIALOGUE FOR AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT**

The Constitution grants individual or groups the freedom to express, assemble and associate. This permits an individual or groups to assemble, associate with others on common interests, to form and operate their core activities. Therefore, there is freedom and space for CSOs in Solomon Islands.

Regarding policy dialogue and effective engagement, one of the obstacles on enabling environment is the absence of framework to legitimise, facilitate partnership and engagement between CSOs, government and donors. The CSO environment is so diverse and dialogues are often carried out on ad hoc basis. The easiest way for CSOs to dialogue is through sectors, however a more structured platform is considered necessary. There are many reforms that need to be done in the country including political, electoral, public financial management and Charitable Trust Acts which requires constructive dialogue not only within government but also from CSOs.

## **2.3 MAINSTREAMING CIVIL SOCIETY**

The EU Delegation fully consulted relevant CSOs during the design and programme identification of current focal sectors, which are Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (RWASH) with allocation and Rural Development Programme (RDP). The modalities of these programmes are through budget support for Rural WASH and RDP will be implemented through an Administrative Agreement with World Bank. A stakeholder group is in place for the Rural WASH Programme which meets on quarterly basis. CSOs have been identified as potential service providers for RWASH Programme whilst RDP funds will possibly trickle down to CSOs as well.

EU Delegation aims to continue engaging with CSOs through its budget line instruments of CSO-LA and EIDHR financial allocations for 2015 – 2017. The preferred modality remains through launching

competitive Calls for Proposals and both local CSOs and International Organisations are eligible to submit applications.

## **2.4 COORDINATION**

The UK, through a High Commission is the only Member State resident in the country. The EU Delegation has consulted regularly on issues of common interest, which include protection of human rights, empowering women, the fight against gender-based violence and the strengthening of private sector. In one of the EU funded project with British Council which ended in February 2015, excellent collaboration between EU Delegation and the British High Commission was evident

Coordination by EU Delegation with CSOs implementing EU funded projects is notable, however there is room for improvement, particularly for synergies and added value and effective engagement to avoid risks.

There is also good coordination between development partners and between development partners and Government, notably through regular meetings across several sectors. On the other hand, the absence of a framework for engagement with CSOs in the country, combined with the level of reliance on CSOs for service delivery, hampers effective coordination with the CSOs. Donors Political Dialogues with the government are organised annually and proved to be useful for better cooperation and partnership in development.

## **2.5 LESSONS LEARNT**

With expired and ongoing contracts signed with CSOs, the EU Delegation had learnt several lessons.

1. Early and continuous training on EU procedures and conditions with regular follow ups are essential for better financial and operational management.
2. Regular meetings and updates are essential in order to monitor, earlier identification of problems and be able to deal with the problems in time.
3. The experience with many small contracts was a challenge, as a result there was lack of focus and follow up and weak assessment of the impacts due to work load. Signing of contract with minimum value of €300,000 has been the recommendation and the Delegation has started doing this in few recent CfP, in line with DEVCO simplification measures.
4. NGOs experienced challenges particularly in co-financing EU funded projects. There is need for better understanding and how NGOs can better co-finance EU funded projects by having a business plan. It is also important to follow up and ensure NGOs have reached their co-financing percentage earlier during implementation and not at the end of the project only to realise after expenditure verification a high recovery order which is a burden for NGOs, even paralysing their existing limited financial capacity.
5. Doing hands-on tasks with CSOs on preparation of reports and addendums proved to be helpful in speeding up the process.
6. Support Service to CSOs through provision of experts or Technical Assistance has been highly recommended by CSOs. Locally, we provided an expert once under CSO-LA allocation for 2012.

7. With regards to better implementation, management and capacity, EU encourages partnership between local CSOs and International Organisations. Through observation on existing partnership, International Organisations seem to have more control and ownership over projects. Furthermore, they have better capacity in financing and reporting.

### **3. PRIORITIES**

The purpose of the Roadmap is to analyse the civil society situation in the country and set out development priorities and actions for the Delegation covering policy dialogue support. The overall objective is to develop a strategic framework for better coordination, engagement and cooperation with the Member State present in the country that is UK, CSOs and relevant actors across sectors, with a view to improving the impact, predictability and visibility of both EU and CSO actions as a whole. In line with the 2012 Communication “The Roots of Democracy and sustainable development: Europe’s Engagement with Civil Society in External Relations”, the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy for 2015 – 2019 and EU Gender Action Plan 2, the following 3 main priority objectives have been selected.

Priority objective 1. To promote conducive environment for CSOs in partner country

Priority objective 2. To promote meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies

Priority objective 3. To increase local CSOs capacity to perform their roles as independent actors more effectively and to increase their financial sustainability

#### **EU Delegation Call for Proposals**

Total allocations for Solomon Islands under CSO-LA and EIDHR financial instruments to be committed for the period 2014 – 2017 is € 2.7m (CSO-LA €1.5m and EIDHR €1.2m). The Delegation committed €600,000 under EIDHR allocation in 2014, therefore balance is €600,000. Total available funds to be committed in 2017 is €2.1m.

The Delegation planned to launch a combined Restricted CfP in the first half of 2017 and that finalisation of guidelines for the CfP is expected by early 2017. Note that the ongoing DEVCO regionalisation process in the Pacific could affect those timelines. It is proposed for the CfP to be done in lots for CSO-LA and EIDHR aiming for complementarity in working to achieving the above 3 priority objectives. The expected priorities to target in the upcoming CfP in accordance with the delivery mechanisms of CSO-LA and EIDHR Programmes are outlined below.

- Addressing key human rights issues such as empowering CSOs to promote women in leadership, decision making, gender-based violence and economic empowerment, social inclusion, protection of children's rights, rights of minorities, rights of people living with disability (human rights defenders).
- Enhancing CSOs contribution in policy dialogue participation, implementation and monitoring of key national policies and strategies especially in the area of governance, democracy, education and sustainable social economic development including reforms.
- Promoting the establishment of a structured dialogue between CSOs, government and development partners to enable effective participatory partnership in development process.

- Institutional strengthening and capacity building of CSOs to perform their roles effectively, particularly in checks and balances and advocacy.
- Supporting Civic Education and youth development programmes.

#### 4. ACTION TABLE

<b>Priority 1: To promote conducive environment for CSOs in partner country</b>
Indicator: (I) Four new Grant Contracts with partnership signed following Call for Proposals to improve CSOs capacity in implementing above priorities.  (II) Atleast two additional initiatives undertaken using existing cooperation to enhance CSOs enabling environment
Actions:
Analysis: studies, mapping and research( Call for Proposals Guidelines)
Policy dialogue, consultation and facilitation of relevant and common interest issues
Funding through CfP – Grant Contracts
Monitoring programmes and organise regular trainings on EU Procedures for CSOs
<b>Priority 2: To Promote meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies more effectively</b>
Indicator: (I) Quarterly meetings and consultations held with CSOs (both EU funded and non EU funded) to dialogue on specific identified topics relevant to EU focal sectors, CSO-LA and EIDHR. Establishment of dialogue platform by December 2017  (II) Two additional initiatives using existing Grant Contracts and partnerships
Actions:
Analysis, studies, mapping and research, identification of relevant issues and needs for meetings and consultations
To undertake quarterly meetings (policy dialogue, consultation, training facilitation).  Produce outcome to CSOs and stakeholders(line ministries and media)
Funding through CfP – Grant Contracts
<b>Priority 3: To increase local CSOs capacity to perform their roles as independent actors more effectively and to increase their financial sustainability</b>

Indicator: (I) Four new Grant Contracts signed with CSOs ( and their partners) in 2017, regular follow up and support measures provided when necessary  (II) At least two additional initiatives undertaken using existing cooperation to enhance CSOs enabling environment
Actions:
Analysis: studies, mapping and research
Policy dialogue, consultation, facilitation and trainings on EU Procedures
Funding: Funding through CfP – Grant Contracts

## 5 DASHBOARDS

<b>Country: Solomon Islands</b>		
<b>Process</b>		
<b>Area</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
Involvement of Member States in Roadmap elaboration	Member States present in the country are actively involved in the elaboration of the Roadmap	June 2016
Consultation with local civil society	The Roadmap has been prepared on the basis of consultations with a broad range of local CSOs respecting principles of access to information, sufficient advance notice and clear provisions for feedback and follow -up	2 consultations held between February and June 2016. More to come.
Joint actions	Member States present in the country are actively involved in the implementation of the Roadmap priorities	At least 3 meetings and updates with British High Commissioner by December 2017
<b>Outcome</b>		
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Achievement</b>

Priority 1: To promote conducive environment for CSOs in partner country	No. of initiatives taken to improve CSOs enabling environment	2-4 Grant Contracts signed (with partnership) in 2017, monitor implementation and provide support. Two initiatives undertaken through ongoing programmes and Grant Contracts
Priority 2: To Promote meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies more effectively	No. of consultations and dialogue held with CSOS and participation of CSOs in EU Meetings	Quarterly consultations held with CSOs and stakeholders through ongoing programmes and contracts resulting in agreement of a structured dialogue and framework established by December 2017.  Two additional initiatives using existing Grant Contracts and partnerships
Priority 3: To increase local CSOs capacity to perform their roles as independent actors more effectively and to increase their financial sustainability	No. of contracts signed with CSOs and support measures provided	Four new Grant Contracts signed (with partnership) in 2017, regular follow up and support measures provided when necessary.