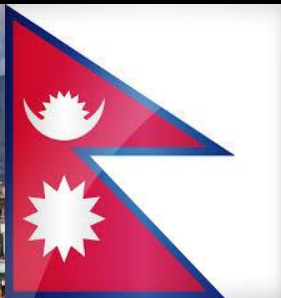


# EU-Civil Society Roadmap Nepal





# The Committment



COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION



## Council conclusions on The roots of Democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations

*3191st FOREIGN AFFAIRS Development Council meeting  
Luxembourg, 15 October 2012*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

1. An empowered civil society, in all its diversity, represents a crucial and integral component of any democracy and constitutes an asset in itself. Civil society actors can foster pluralism and contribute to more effective policies, equitable development and inclusive growth. Civil society organisations (CSOs) have the capacity to empower, represent, defend and reach out to vulnerable and socially excluded groups, including minorities. They can also foster economic and human development, as well as social cohesion and innovation. Moreover, CSOs often engage in initiatives to advance participatory democracy for transparent, accountable and legitimate governance, also in fragile situations.
2. Synergies between States and CSOs can help address poverty, support equality, social inclusion and sustainable development. These synergies are key elements in reinforcing democratic governance. The EU recognises the significance of constructive relations between States and CSOs and will further promote them.
3. CSOs are now recognised as autonomous development actors in their own right. Governments in several partner countries have strengthened their engagement with CSOs. Nonetheless, in other partner countries, dialogue with CSOs is still limited and the space for civil society engagement remains narrow or is, in some cases, shrinking. In addition, some CSOs are challenged in terms of representation, transparency, internal governance and capacity. They may depend on international donors and, due to the economic and financial crisis, they increasingly have to compete over resources. Connecting CSOs with new forms of citizens' engagement as well as social movement marks yet another key dynamic in this process, as reflected, for example, in the Arab Spring.

## P R E S S

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# Civil *who?*

Non-violent

Non-partisan

Accountable

Transparent

Equal Rights

Human Dignity

Social Progress

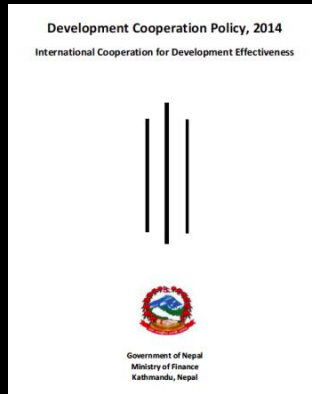
Peace



“all non-state and not-for-profit structures through which people organise to pursue shared objectives”



# Focus Areas



Enabling Environment



Capacity



Inclusion



Access to Support





# The Roadmap Idea

Analysis



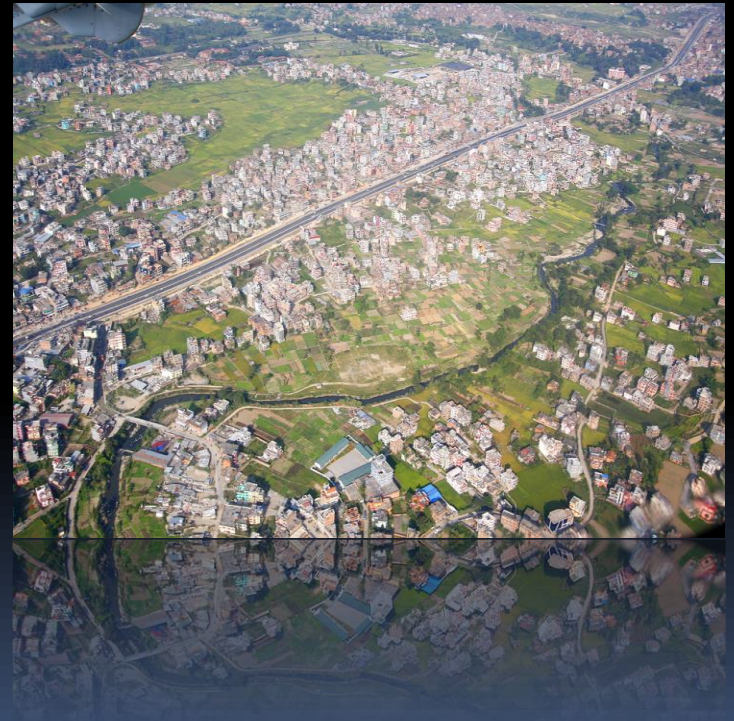
Assessment of EU Support



Actions



Tracking





# Roadmap Process in

## Nepal

Today's Workshop

Sharing of results & launch of  
Online Survey

Draft Roadmap Validation  
Workshop

Finalisation & signature





# Focus Groups



1. Enabling Environment



3. Inclusion

2. Capacity Development

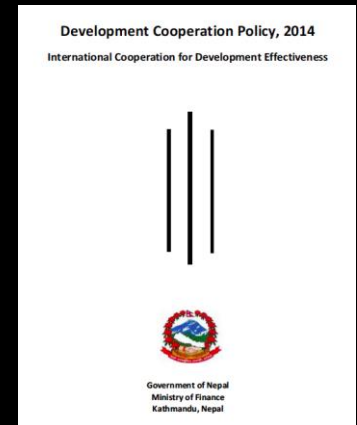


4. Access to Support



# 1. Enabling Environment

- NGO formation?
- **Operation?**
- Freedom of speech?
- **Access to information?**
- Protection?
- **Freedom to raise funds?**
- Support from Government – funding, tax breaks for donations



In theory (laws, policies, rules) and in practice – what actually happens on the ground.





# 2. Capacity Development

- Leadership?
- Management?
- Technical skills, e.g. research, lobbying & communication, fund-raising, project management?
- Knowledge – e.g. local laws, rights, international commitments, experiences of other countries?
- Transparency?
- Accountability?
- Coordination & establishment of networks?





# 3. Inclusion



- In Government policy planning?
- In Government legal and budget planning?
- In Government implementation?
- In Donors' aid planning?
- In Donors' aid delivery?
- In Donor and Government-Donor coordination?
- In other relevant decision-making structures?
- Access to relevant information, documents and data?

In theory and in practice. When you are consulted, are recommendations made taken on board? Do you get feedback on this?



# 4. Access to Support

- Ease of knowing about donor support opportunities?
- Ease of applying for support?
- Donor coordination in offering support?





# Focus Groups



1. Enabling Environment



3. Inclusion

2. Capacity Development



4. Access to Support

# EU-Civil Society Roadmap Nepal

