EVALUATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES (2023)

Evaluation criteria

- Relevance: optimising co-operation activities' opportunities
- Efficiency: fairness and transparency towards inclusion and diversity
- Effectiveness: bringing co-operation activities closer to citizens
- Coherence: Council of Europe uniqueness with civil society and authorities

Methodology



150 documents reviewed



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86 interviews involving 120 stakeholders



797 (44%)

responses to 3 surveys



Strengths and wavs to improve

- The Council of Europe successfully manages politically sensitive relationships such as between CSOs and 1 authorities
 - Civil society participation in co-operation activities improves project results and reinforces CSOs' influence over authorities regarding human rights
- 3 Greater potential links at organisational level with local CSOs not fully taken advantage of
- 4 More depth and breadth to civil society participation in co-operation activities desirable

include a section on civil society participation in co-operation activities in the civil society policy being developed

meet regularly with other international organisations and donors to exchange good practices on civil society participation



communicate with CSOs on a regular basis on how they can be involved in Council of Europe work beyond projects

integrate participation goals and indicators into individual project and programme design and includé a section on civil society in annual reports



To further optimise the civil society participation in co-operation activities, Council of Europe should:

develop the stakeholder module of the PMM IT tool to track participating CSOs

develop measures to increase synergies among CSOs in countries and prioritise working with CSOs collectively





build project staff capacity to engage CSOs in co-operation activities to connect to the overall work of the Organisation

include resources for different forms of support to civil society in all country and thematic action plans and programmes

explore alternative procedures that better enable a wider range of participation, particularly CSOs in precarious situations

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