Civil Society Involvement

This section is a follow-up on the questions we sent out last year and aims to monitor developments in the area of civil society involvement in the field of drug policy in the last 12 months.

1. Is there any structural [more or less permanent] information and exchange mechanism between policymakers and civil society organisations in the field of drug policy in your country? (this can include exchange on drug policy development and implementation)

1a. on the national level
   ( ) Yes
   ( ) No

→If yes, which one of the following levels?

☐ Information
This is a relatively low level of participation. It consists of a two-way mutual process between public authorities and CSOs of information provision and access to it.

☐ Consultation
Through this and ad hoc mechanism through which public authorities ask CSOs for their opinion on a specific policy topic or development.

☐ Dialogue
Dialogue entails a two-way communication mechanism built on mutual interests and potentially shared objectives to ensure a regular exchange of views.

☐ Partnership
This mechanism articulates shared responsibilities for each step of the policymaking process: agenda-setting, policy drafting and implementation of activities. As such, this structure of participation is the most comprehensive, and it is based on co-management.

→If no, why not? Could you explain shortly?


1b. on the municipal level
   ( ) Yes
   ( ) No

→If yes, which one of the following levels?

☐ Information
This is a relatively low level of participation. It consists of a two-way mutual process between public authorities and CSOs of information provision and access to it.

☐ Consultation
Through this and ad hoc mechanism through which public authorities ask CSOs for their opinion on a specific policy topic or development.

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Dialogue entails a two-way communication mechanism built on mutual interests and potentially shared objectives to ensure a regular exchange of views.

**Partnership**
This mechanism articulates shared responsibilities for each step of the policymaking process: agenda-setting, policy drafting and implementation of activities. As such, this structure of participation is the most comprehensive, and it is based on co-management.

→ **If no,** why not? Could you explain shortly?

2. *Is your organisation* involved in this kind of exchange?

2a. *On the National Level*

( ) Yes
( ) No

→ **If yes,** please describe shortly in which way. If not, please explain why not?

→ **If no,** which kind of civil society organisations are involved in these discussions? (think of treatment organisations, prevention-based organisations, abstinence-only organisations, local or national, etc.)

2b. *On the municipal Level?*

( ) Yes
( ) No

→ **If yes,** please describe shortly in which way. If not, please explain why not?

→ **If no,** which kind of civil society organisations are involved in these discussions? (think of treatment organisations, prevention-based organisations, abstinence-only organisations, local or national, etc.)
3. Is your organisation part of any kind of CS network or national platform (in the area of harm reduction, human rights, development aid) for exchange with other CSOs on the national and/or local level?

( ) Yes
( ) No

→If yes:

3a. Please describe shortly in which kind of network your organisation is involved:


3b. Can you shortly describe the main aim and purpose of the network?


4. Please indicate how the following statements apply to the situation in your country.

The exchange between government and CS aims to:

a. inform CS on new policy developments

( ) strongly agree  ( ) agree  ( ) undecided  ( ) disagree  ( ) strongly disagree

b. collect input and knowledge from CS and grassroot level to learn more about new developments, trends and problems

( ) strongly agree  ( ) agree  ( ) undecided  ( ) disagree  ( ) strongly disagree

c. share developments, trends and problems from the field and grass root level

( ) strongly agree  ( ) agree  ( ) undecided  ( ) disagree  ( ) strongly disagree
d. discuss which kind of drug policies are effective, beneficial or harmful

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e. develop new strategies and approaches

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f. improve the access to and the quality of services (health, social and drug-related services)

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5. How much do you agree with the following statements about the exchange between government and CS in your country?

a. It is organised in a **transparent** way (e.g. it is easy to follow the decision making process)

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b. It is organised in a **balanced** way (well represents different services, communities, worldviews)

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c. It is organised in a **timely** manner (e.g. CS is informed timely about any kind of new policy/development and the agenda of the meeting)

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d. Government officials are easily **approachable** for CSOs (e.g. they respond to emails/phone calls)

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e. Decision makers are represented in the appropriate level (e.g. those who make decisions are involved)

( ) strongly agree  ( ) agree  ( ) undecided  ( ) disagree  ( ) strongly disagree

f. The government is open to civil society initiatives (e.g. civil society initiatives are easily taken up by government)

( ) strongly agree  ( ) agree  ( ) undecided  ( ) disagree  ( ) strongly disagree

(5)

5. Is your organisation cooperating with and contributing to the national EMCDDA Reporting or other types of data reporting in your country?
   ( ) Yes
   ( ) No

→ If yes, could you briefly describe this cooperation?

→ If no, could you please describe why not?
6. Is there anything else concerning civil society involvement what you would like to share with us?