

ENHANCING CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

ANNEX 1: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2006 - 2009

Short term / 2006-2007	Mid-term / 2008-2009	Long-term / 2010-onwards
Modalities of Civil Society input at governance level		
Improve GCSF (cycle), among others in terms of representation, continuous engagement and impact (E.g. involvement of UNEP experts and policy makers). Reform regional meetings (representation, continuous engagement, etc)	Improve relationship between with governments and CSOs in partnership with SGB and CPR. Develop new ways of interaction between governments and CSOs. Reform the GMEF	Analyze rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council (including current interpretation) and have it amended per Governing Council Decision 22/18 of 7 February 2003
Strategic accreditation campaigns (targeting major groups, regions and CSOs engaged in UNEP programme of work)	Increase clarity and flexibility of accreditation practices (selection criteria, rights and duties of accredited CSOs, relation with the programmatic level)	
Strengthening governance at various levels (E.g. Regional level)		
Civil Society engagement in policy and programme design and implementation		
Understand the needs of UNEP and CS in regards to partnerships. Mapping of the work done by UNEP with CSOs and of UNEP needs, by analyzing the 2004 task group survey and through internal consultation ¹ and desk study.	Organize ad hoc roundtables on specific issues at programme level to share knowledge and develop collaborations	Coordinate with secretariats of conventions
Set up an advisory group (to advise also at the programme level)	Develop Global Policy Networks	
Systematically integrate CS expertise in policy (E.g. background documents for the	Complement the substantive work of UNEP on specific thematic areas (E.g.	

¹ Consultation can be designed to reach important objectives such as a) raising the status of civil society in the institution, b) promoting more effective and qualitative engagement and c) helping raising funds for the work with civil society.

CPR) and programme design and implementation	energy, water) with a major groups' and socio-economical angle (knowledge of the major groups, their agenda, views, needs, dynamics, perspectives etc.), to improve the quality of the policies and programmes developed (integrated approach). Capacity building within the branch, including through training and by working with external partners	
Analyze engagement with other major groups	Engage with other major groups (E.g. develop an indigenous peoples' programme, promoting full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at the policy and programmatic levels; local authorities). Facilitate exchange between different major groups (E.g. business and industry and trade unions).	
Strengthening institutional relations through information management and a decentralized approach		
Maintain and develop further the website	Develop a UNEP communication strategy towards the civil society	Develop our publication portfolio, in regards to complementing the work of UNEP on specific sectors by a cross-sectoral approach (E.g. gender and energy, youth and mobility, indigenous peoples and chemicals, etc)
Harmonize UNEP databases. Upgrade the on-line CS directory, to give access to each regional office and division, to accredited and partner CSOs	Develop new web pages as we engage with other major groups	Develop new communication tools (E.g. on-line discussion forum)
Revitalize the inter-divisional civil society task group		Create CS posts in each (out posted) office (See infra)
Human and financial resources		
E-pas to include CS task group performance		Create CS posts in each regional office and division, with reporting mechanisms to DPDL (based on RONA's experience)
Increase the number of professional staff		

<p>within MGSB (from 5 to 8) to perform new activities foreseen in the implementation plan (Ex: communication, developing various forms of consultation, improving coordination and developing synergies at the programmatic level, developing a cross-sectoral approach at programmatic level)</p>		
<p>Develop a fundraising strategy (E.g. programmes for long-term support rather than <i>ad hoc</i> or project approach)</p>	<p>Have the GCSF cycle funded totally with EF resources</p>	<p>Have divisions and regional offices allocate resources for CSO engagement in their own budgets, including provision for adequate staffing</p>

ANNEX 2: ASSESSMENT OF THE 2003 STRATEGY PAPER

Foreseen activities (2003-2006)	Assessment (2006)
Modalities of Civil Society input at governance and policy levels	
Global Civil Society Forum yearly cycle	Positive. Increasing attendance at the GCSF and interaction at the GC/GMEF. Regular in-house evaluations carried out and build upon. Room for improvement in terms of representation, continuous engagement, interpretation and amendment of rule 69, interaction with governments and impact at GC/GMEF
Yearly regional consultation meetings, as part of the Global Civil Society Forum yearly cycle	Positive. Room for improvement in terms of representation and continuous engagement
Civil Society liaison with the CPR	Negative. Accredited CSOs may only submit written comments to the CPR. Limited participation from CS due to limited visibility and impact and short timing for providing input
Revise accreditation criteria to assist UNEP to identify NGOs with capacity and areas of technical expertise that can be valuable for programme implementation as well. (including for ECOSOC accredited CSOs)	Medium. Criteria have not been revised but accreditation has progressed significantly as a result of more targeted pro-active campaigns
CS views taken into account when UNEP is formulating policies or drafting background papers for the CPR / GC / GMEF	Negative. Limited engagement (<i>ad hoc</i>). Limited coordination within UNEP
<i>Ad hoc</i> CS meetings	Positive. Women's consultative forum, WAVE (2004) and Trade Union Assembly on labour and the environment (2006)
Engaging further specific major groups	Positive. Two professional staff dedicated solely to gender and indigenous issues and development of a labour and the environment programme on going
Institutional support to multi-stakeholder dialogue	Medium. Increased multi-stakeholder dialogue at the GC. No other mechanism developed further such as global policy networks (GPNs) or a civil society advisory group to the ED (See infra)
Capacity-building	Positive. Capacity-building sessions are now integral part of the GCSF yearly cycle and are being developed further

Support CSOs in acquiring additional funding	Negative. This practice has been marginal. Room for improvement
Civil Society Advisory Group to the Executive Director	Negative. This initiative has not been launched
Civil Society engagement in programme design and implementation	
Inter-divisional civil society task group, representing the various UNEP divisions and regional offices	Negative. The task group created in 2002 has disappeared and needs to be revitalized. No coordination amongst different parts of UNEP, hence limited synergies
Amendment of programme manual to provide detailed guidance on modalities of CSOs in programme/project design, implementation and monitoring	Medium. The 2005 project manual (133 pp.) documents well the gender dimension. However, it has only a half page section on stakeholders' analysis. Indigenous issues are only mentioned once (through the gender perspective) and limited guidelines are available in regards to social and cultural impact assessments.
Strengthening mediation between the private sector and other CSOs	Medium. Mainly through the GCSF. Other initiatives to be launched
Capacity-building	Medium. Specific programme of capacity-building are targeting some major groups and stakeholders but many are left out.
Monitoring and evaluation of CS engagement	Medium. An internal survey has been carried out in 2004. Various exercises have been initiated in 2006. Little reporting to the GC.
Strengthening institutional relations through information management and a decentralized approach	
Communication strategy	Negative. Strategy not formalized. <i>Ad hoc</i> approach
CS directory (database) accessible on-line.	Negative. High costs of maintenance (hence being restructured by MGSB). Other databases created within UNEP without consultation of the CS task group.
Publication "Natural allies - UNEP and Civil Society"	Positive. Publication in 3 languages launched in 2004, widely distributed and still used as a reference guidebook
Development of a website	Positive. Web pages for specific major groups to be further developed
Email engagement with CS	Medium. Not frequent enough
Newsletters	Medium. In some regions only and divisions. None by the MGSB. Need for improved coordination

Yearly regional consultation meetings, as part of the Global Civil Society Forum yearly cycle	Positive. Room for improvement in terms of representation and continuous engagement
Part time CS special advisor hosted in RONA	Positive. Practice to generalize
Financial and human resources	
Underpin adequate means for effective implementation of the strategy	Negative. The team grew by 1.5 professional officers (one full time and one half time) only and the funds allocated to CS engagement have decreased through time.