

CONCORD Webinar

Access to funding for CSOs in partner countries: *“Funding local women’s rights organisations for transformative change”*

Monday February 27th, 2023 (11:00am – 12:00pm)

[Link to register](#)

Background

The ongoing changes in EU international cooperation programmes have reduced the distribution and diversity of EU funding for civil society organisations. Despite civil society being recognised as a key actor in the EU’s international partnerships strategies, many CSOs have witnessed increasing difficulties in accessing EU external funds, a vital source of income for CSOs to reach the furthest behind and help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development.

CONCORD has been monitoring these trends and has on numerous occasions raised the issue of lack of transparency and meaningful engagement of civil society in the EU institutions’ partnership and development cooperation. Through evidence-based advocacy, including an upcoming position paper on CSO funding, we continue denouncing the **contradictions between the EU’s political discourse towards CSOs and the EU’s actual programming and funding decisions under the NDICI-GE** which increasingly leaves behind small and medium civil society actors, especially those based in EU partner countries.

One illustration of this, is the lack of EU funding that reaches women’s rights organisations, feminist movements and national, local and grassroots organisations working to advance gender equality (hereafter summarised as local women’s rights organisations). A recent independent [study](#) commissioned by DG INTPA, recognises this lack of sufficient funding and calls on the EU to "explore alternative inclusive and feminist funding modalities that shift money and decision-making power and foster partnerships with grassroots organisations"¹. However, we see that in practice, **the EU’s and Member States’ funding mechanisms do not adequately support local women’s rights organisations**. In a [new paper](#), CONCORD puts forward recommendations to both the EU and Member States to improve access to funding for local women’s rights organisations.

During the webinar, we will explore the main trends that CSOs are experiencing in terms of access to EU funding, underlying the existing challenges, and ways forward to promote civil society’s meaningful engagement in the designing, implementing and monitoring of EU-funded programs. **The focus of the webinar will be on funding for local women’s rights organisations, as an example of extremely limited access to EU funding for CSOs based in EU partner countries.**

Objectives

¹ European Commission [Infographic](#) (December 2022), Working better together with with CSOs to address gender inequality and champion women’s and girls’ voices and agency

The webinar will be **internal but open to all CONCORD members** (as well as members of members). We have three objectives:

- 1. Briefly presenting the main trends regarding local CSOs' access to EU funding:**
Members will learn about why it is important for the EU and Member States to increase the long-term, flexible, programme-based or core funding provided for CSOs in EU partner countries
- 2. Familiarising members with this new CONCORD paper on access to funding for local women's rights organisations:**
Members will learn about why it is important to focus on women's rights organisations in partner countries
- 3. Stimulate an exchange and explore cross-workstream synergies through a moderated discussion**

Format

Timing (1 hour)	Topic
11:00 – 11:05	- Welcome and introduction (moderator) <u>5 min</u>
11:05 – 11:10	- Introduction on the main trends of CSO's access to EU funding by Jan Liska <u>5 min</u>
11:10 – 11:30	- Presentation of CONCORD paper "Funding local women's rights organisations for transformative change: Recommendations to the EU and Member States" by Coralie Vos and Rebekka Blomqvist <u>20 min</u>
11:30 – 11:55	- Moderated discussion between participants <u>25 min</u>
11:55 – 12:00	- Wrap up <u>5 min</u>

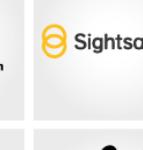
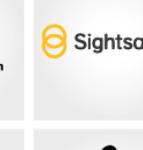
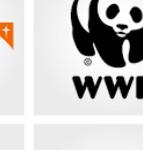
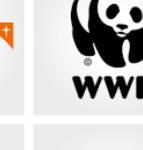
Speakers

- **Jan Liska** (Caritas Czech Republic, Institutional Funding Coordinator)
- **Coralie Vos** (CNCD-11.11.11, Research and Advocacy officer) and **Rebekka Blomqvist** (Political Advisor at Globalt Fokus)
- Moderated by **Louise Marty** (CONCORD Europe secretariat)

Relevant resources

- CONCORD Europe paper: [Funding local women's rights organisations for transformative change: Recommendations to the EU and Member States](#)
- CONCORD Europe [Guide to Global Europe Funding 2021-2027: For civil society organisations](#)
- CONCORD Europe [gender funding fact sheet](#)
- European Commission [infographic](#): Working better together with with CSOs to

- address gender inequality and champion women's and girls' voices and agency
- AWID analyses and reports: [Resourcing Feminist Movements](#)
 - OECD GenderNet report (2016): [Donor support to southern women's rights organisations](#)

NATIONAL PLATFORMS	 Global Responsibility Austrian Platform for Development and Humanitarian Aid	 BELGISCH PLATFORM PLATE-FORME BELGE CONCORD ACODEV 11.11.11 11.11.11 Logo-Redactie	 BPID Bulgarian Platform for International Development	 Platforma za mednarodno gradivsko sodelovanje Hrvatska Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity CROSOL	 CYINDEP Cypriot Island wide NGO Development Platform	 FORS	
	 GLOBAL FOCUS Dutch CSOs for Development Cooperation	 AKÜ	 fingo	 COORDINATION SUD	 VENRO ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AID NGOs	 Hellenic Platform for Development	 HAND
	 dóchas The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations	 Network of NGOs in Europe for Development & Emergency CONCORD ITALIA	 LAPAS Lithuanian Platform for Development Cooperation	 LITDEA Lithuanian Association of Non-Governmental Development Cooperation Organisations Platform	 Cercle de coopération des ONGS DU LUXEMBOURG	 SKOP Solidarjeta u Koperazzjoni	 PARTOS
	 ZAGRANICA	 ONGD PLATFORMA PORTUGUEZA	 FOND Fondation d'Organisation Representative pour l'Action de Solidarité	 Ambrella Platform for Development Organisations	 SLOGA Slovenian Global Action	 LA COORDINADORA DE ORGANIZACIONES PARA EL DESARROLLO	 CONCORD SWEDEN
	 bond	NETWORKS	 actalliance eu Solidarity Alliance	 actionaid	 ADRA	 Alliance 2015 Towards the eradication of poverty	 care
	 caritas europa		 cbm together we can do more	 ChildFund Alliance	 CIDSE together for global justice	 eucord European Union of Christian Organisations for Relief and Development	 GNDR Global Network of Christian Relief Organisations
	 humanity & inclusion	 IPPF International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network	 LIGHT FOR THE WORLD	 OXFAM International	 PLAN INTERNATIONAL	 Save the Children	 Sightsavers
	 solidar	 SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL	 Terre des Hommes International Federation	 wecf	 Wetlands INTERNATIONAL	 World Vision	 WWF
	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	 alda European Association for Local Democracy	 ea ea EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF ADULTS	 EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP FOR DEMOCRACY	 EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM	 INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE	 NRC NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL