

## Annex Four

### ANALYSIS OF CSO, GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNER RESPONSES FOR INDICATOR TWO

#### MODULE ONE: SPACE FOR CSO DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

##### Question 1: Consultations

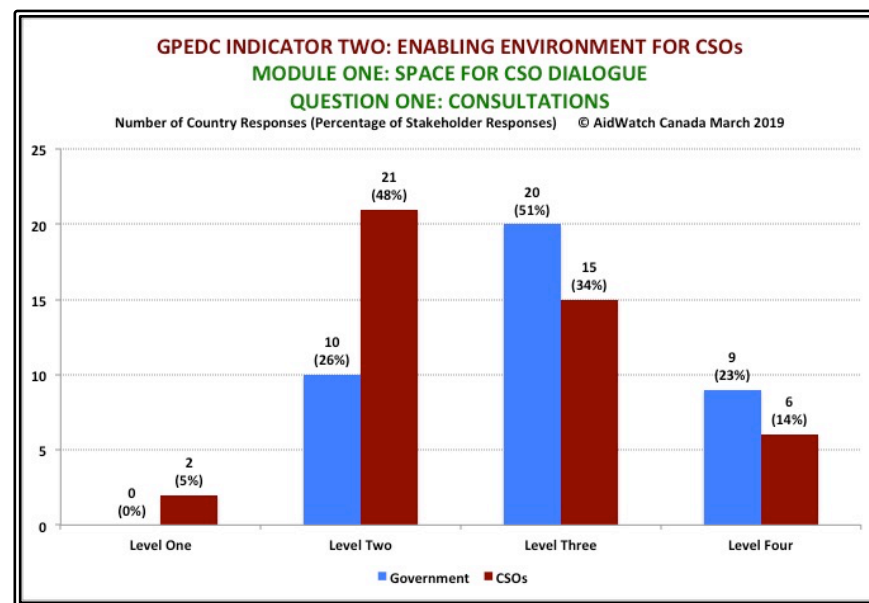
To what extent does the government consult CSOs in the design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies?

**Level 1: No consultations** in the past two years.

**Level 2: Occasional consultations**, but the **quality of consultation is not sufficient** (with reference to full diversity of participation, agreed content, format allowing dialogue).

**Level 3: Frequent consultations of mixed quality** (with reference to full diversity of participation, agreed content, format allowing dialogue).

**Level 4: Regular and institutionalised consultations of consistent good quality** (with reference to full inclusive participation, agreed content, adequate format allowing dialogue and feedback).



Number of Responding Countries:

Governments:	39
CSOs:	44

## Question 2: SDG Consultations

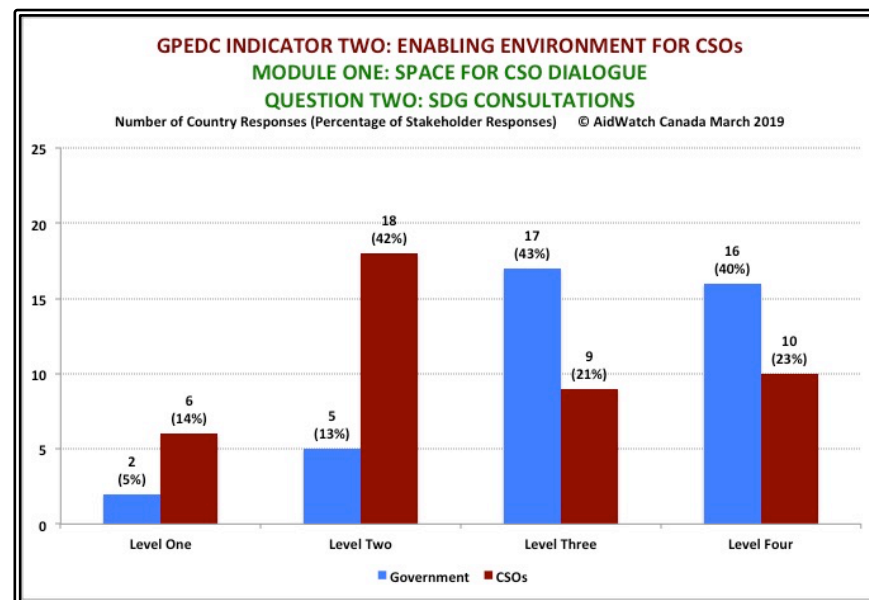
In the context of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to what extent does the government consult CSOs in the prioritisation, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs?

**Level 1:** A consultation around the SDGs has **not started** in the country yet.

**Level 2:** Some **selected CSOs** are occasionally being consulted around **SDG mainstreaming** or around SDG implementation and monitoring.

**Level 3:** A **diversity of CSOs** are being consulted in ad hoc processes around **SDG mainstreaming, implementation, and monitoring.**

**Level 4:** A **diversity of CSOs** is being formally consulted around **SDG mainstreaming, prioritisation, implementation, and regular SDG monitoring** as part of an **institutionalised process, consistent with good practices for consultations.**



Number of Responding Countries:

Governments: 40  
CSOs: 43

### Question 3: Access to Information

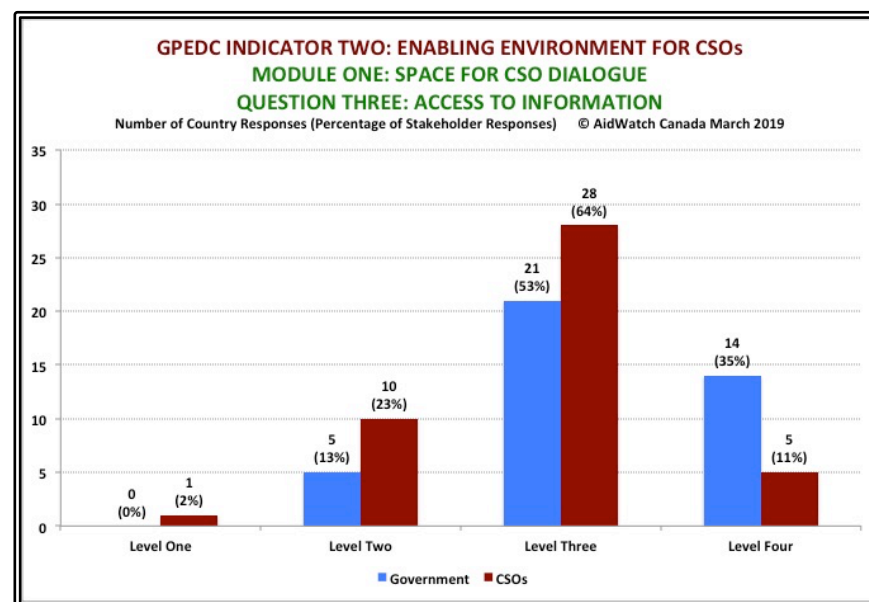
To what extent do CSOs have the right in law and in practice to access relevant government information for effective participation in consultations with the government?

**Level 1:** No legal framework exists for access to information and CSOs have little or no access to information.

**Level 2:** Right to access may exist in law, but there are very significant limitations in the law and/or in its implementation, excluding CSO access to most relevant information in practice.

**Level 3:** Law exist, but CSOs have mixed experience in timely access to relevant and comprehensive information.

**Level 4:** CSOs have full access to relevant, comprehensive information, with sufficient time for CSOs to prepare related initiatives, including participation in consultations (2-4 weeks) – early draft of relevant documents, with the ability to request additional information if needed.



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CSOs: 44

## Question 4: Consultations Inform Government Policies / Programs

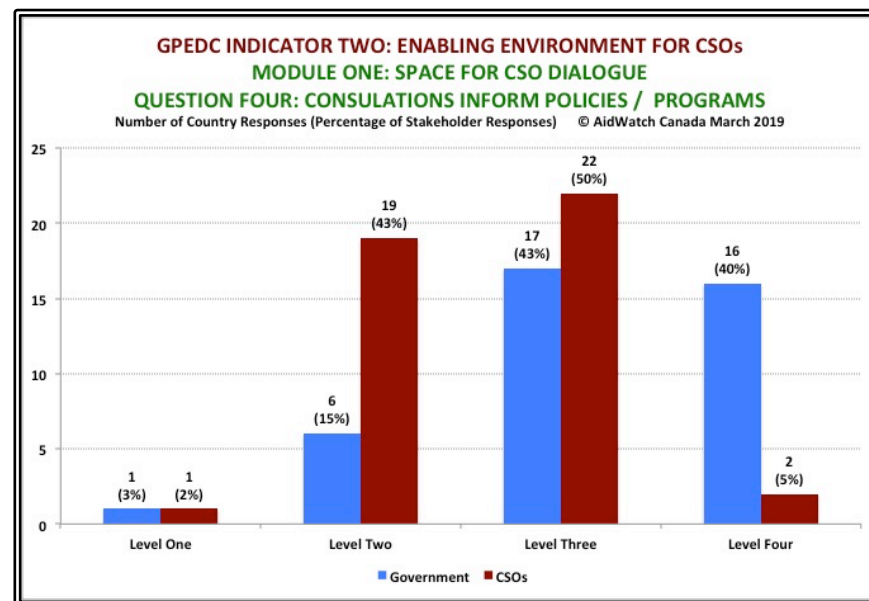
**Qg+1D. To what extent have the results of recent consultations with CSOs informed government design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies?**

**Level 1: No consultation** occurred in the past two years.

**Level 2: Indications that only minor comments** provided by CSOs through consultations at best are taken into account in the design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies.

**Level 3: Indications that advice and evidence** provided by CSOs through consultations is **occasionally taken into account** in the design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies.

**Level 4: Indications that advice and evidence** provided by CSOs through consultations is **consistently** taken into account and reflected in the design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies.



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CSOs:	44

## MODULE TWO: CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS – ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

### Question 1: Equitable Partnerships

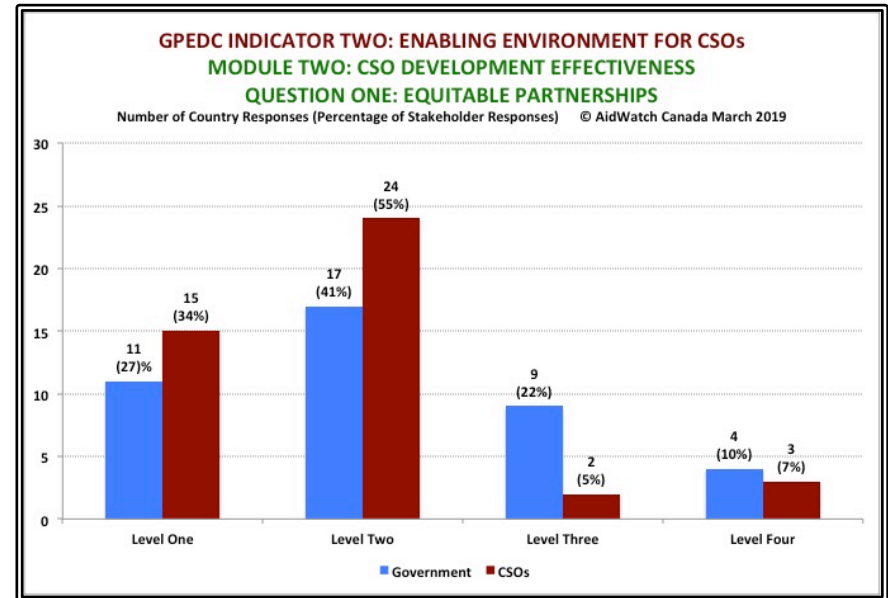
To what extent are partnerships equitable and based on mutual interest between financing CSOs and their CSO partners?

**Level 1:** Most domestic CSOs experience **short term, often one-off, project relationships**, which are sole expressions of the financing CSO programming interests.

**Level 2:** Most domestic CSOs experience **longer-term partnerships** with financing CSOs, **but still largely based on projects**, which are defined by the financing CSO.

**Level 3:** Most domestic CSOs have **long-term programmatic partnerships** with financing CSOs (3 to 5 years), which are **based on discussions** between the funded CSO and the financing CSO. The interests of the financial CSO define the elements of the partnerships relationship.

**Level 4:** Most domestic CSOs have **long-term partnership relationships (5 to 10 years)** that are the **results of deliberate negotiations and shared programming interests and solidarity** between the funded CSO and the financing CSO.



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## Question 2: CSO Initiated Coordination

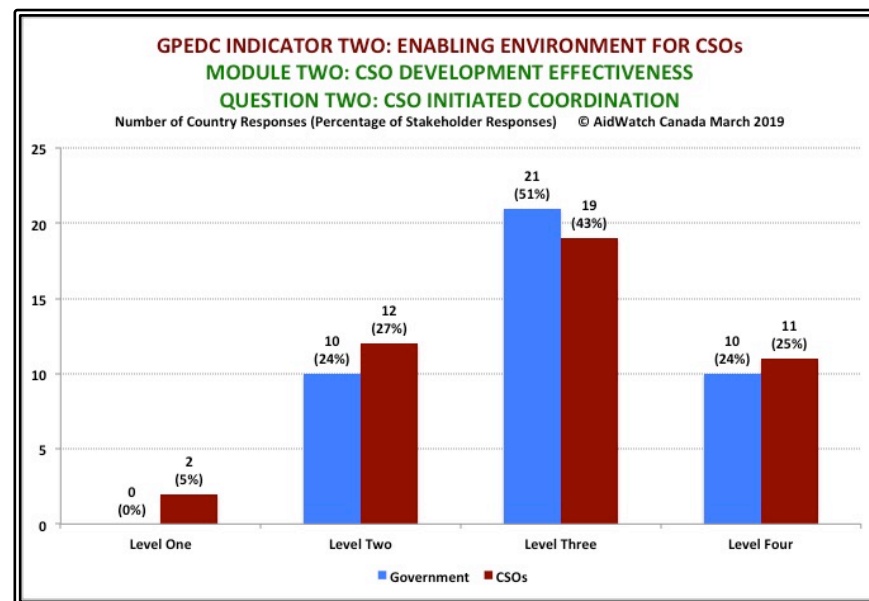
To what extent do CSOs participate in CSO-initiated co-ordination, including mechanisms (e.g. platforms, networks, associations) that facilitate CSOs engagement in policy dialogue and/or co-ordination among CSOs at national or sectoral level?

**Level 1: No national platforms.** CSO co-ordination mechanisms are largely ad hoc and have short-term project oriented goals.

**Level 2: Weak CSO co-ordination.** CSO co-ordination mechanisms exist in a few sectors, but are mainly sustained by the interests of development partners or national governments in these sectors.

**Level 3: Not one** inclusive, representative CSO-initiated platform, but different CSO-initiated co-ordination mechanisms exist at both sector level and national levels and are sustained by the interests of domestic CSOs to improve their development effectiveness.

**Level 4: Major national CSO-initiated platform.** Inclusive national and sectoral CSO-initiated platforms co-ordinate many areas of CSO development and emergency responses and enable more effective CSO engagements in both national sectoral programming and national policy dialogue.



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### Question 3: Human Rights Based Approaches

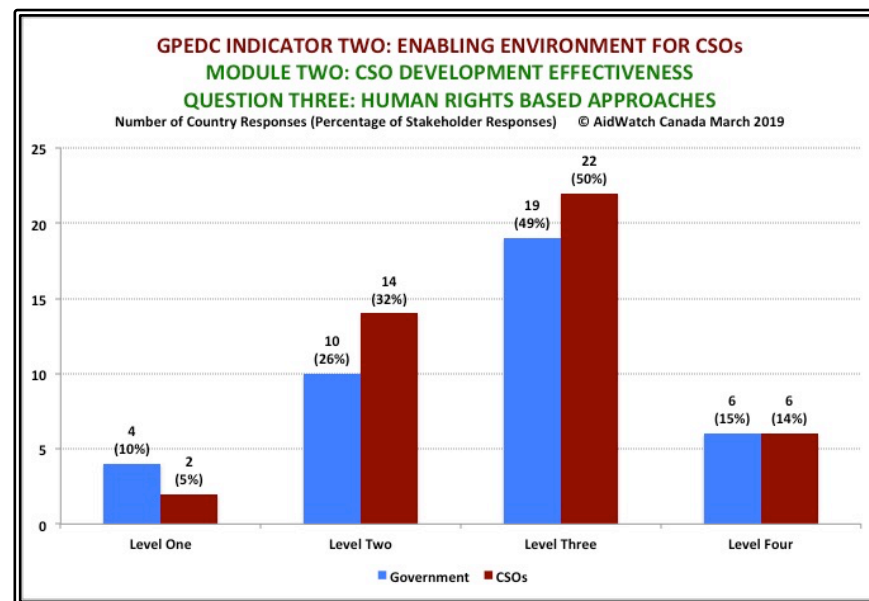
To what extent are CSOs implementing their development work guided by international human rights standards and principles? (e.g. human rights based approaches)

**Level 1:** CSOs in the country generally **do not have explicit policies and programs aligned to international human rights standards and principles**, which guide their own development practices and internal practices.

**Level 2:** CSOs in the country generally have **policies and programs guided by international human rights standards and principles**, but **the evidence of consistent external and internal practice is minimal** and only among a few large CSOs.

**Level 3:** CSOs generally have **policies and programs guided by international human rights standards and principles**, and there are significant efforts among some to ensure **that these policies guide actual CSO external and internal practices**.

**Level 4:** CSOs generally have **policies and programs guided by international human rights standards and principles**, and there is evidence that most work in ways that **institutionalise these policies to guide actual CSO external and internal practices**.



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## Question 4: CSO Accountability Mechanisms

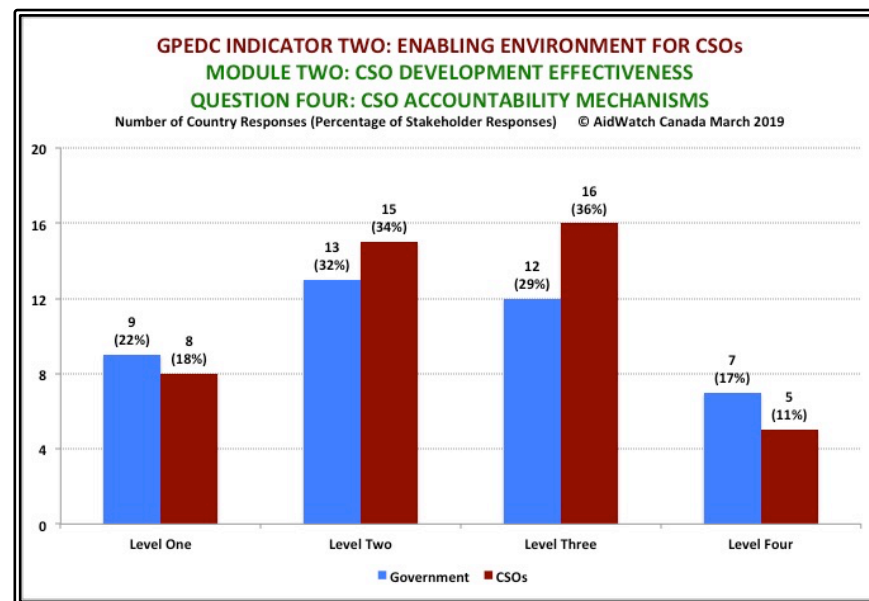
To what extent are CSOs aligning with CSO-led accountability mechanisms to address CSOs' transparency and multiple accountabilities?

**Level 1:** There is **no CSO-initiated and generally agreed code of conduct or accountability mechanism** at country level, with **very minimal transparency**.

**Level 2:** **CSO accountability mechanisms are under discussion** through a representative CSO platform. Individual CSOs maintain accountability and **basic transparency** through their own efforts and through their linkages with global CSO networks and International NGOs codes and mechanisms.

**Level 3:** Broadly representative **CSO-initiated standards/codes exist for accountability and transparency through mechanisms** with CSO platforms, but **no formal procedures to certify adherence** or develop new capacities consistent with the standard. CSOs generally have **organizational information** available on their web site.

**Level 4:** There are CSO-initiated and managed **accountability mechanisms**, guided by standards and codes of conduct, through representative platforms. A **majority of the domestic CSOs are associated** to these platforms, which actively certify good practices within the CSO community. CSO transparency is achieved through their web site and a **government country level information platform**.



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## MODULE THREE: OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH CSOs

### Question 1: Development Partners Consulting with CSOs

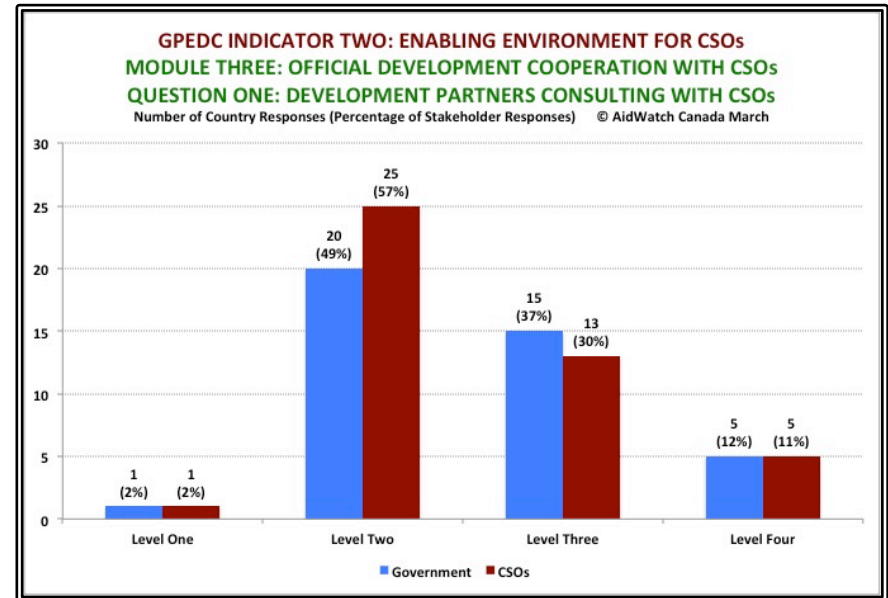
To what extent do development partners consult CSOs in the design, implementation and monitoring of their development co-operation policies and programmes?

**Level 1: No opportunities** for CSOs in this country to engage with development partners in the past two years.

**Level 2:** Consultations with CSOs in this country are **occasional and limited** to some individual development partners and **selected** CSOs and focus only on the **implementation of donor programs**.

**Level 3:** Consultations with a diversity of CSOs in this country are **frequent and co-ordinated** among development partners, focusing not only on the implementation of donor programmes. However, the agenda is largely set by the development partners.

**Level 4:** Consultations with a diversity of CSOs in this country are **regular, institutionalised and co-ordinated** among development partners, focusing not only on the implementation of policies and programs, but also on determining development partner's priorities.



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## Question 2: Promoting an Enabling Environment for CSOs

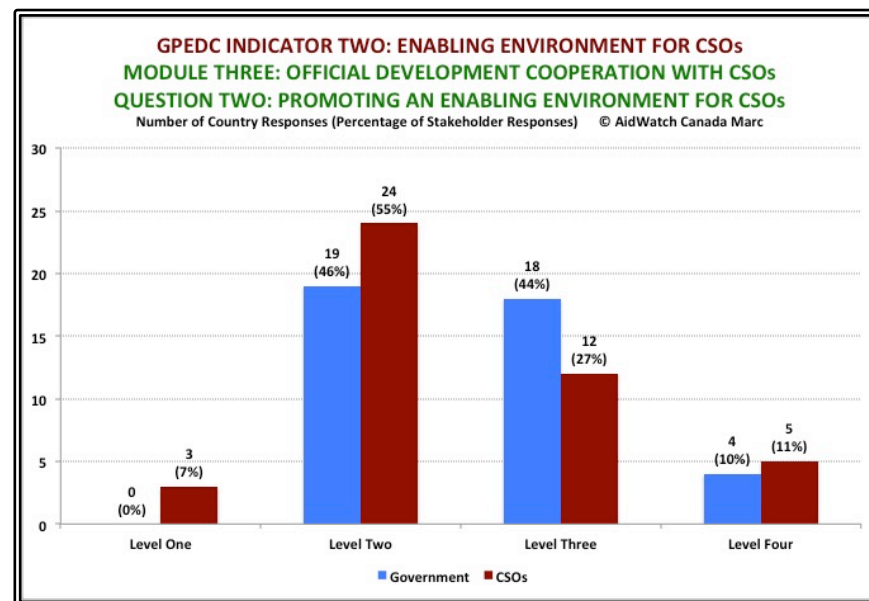
To what extent is the promotion of an **enabling environment** for CSOs (e.g. political, financial, legal and policy aspects) an agenda item in development partners' policy dialogue with the government?

**Level 1:** Development partners **don't include an enabling environment agenda** as an item in their policy dialogue with the government.

**Level 2:** Some development partners **occasionally include some elements of the enabling environment agenda** as an item in their policy dialogue with the government, particularly **if CSOs lobby on specific issues**.

**Level 3:** Most development partners **include the enabling environment agenda** as an item in their policy dialogue with the government, make remedial proposals but often based on specific issues, and **not in a systematic way** with follow up.

**Level 4:** Most development partners **systematically include the enabling environment agenda**, with remedial proposals in their policy dialogue with the government, and engage with domestic CSOs in monitoring the enabling environment and following up their dialogue with government.



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CSOs: 44

### Question 3: Enabling Financial Support for CSOs

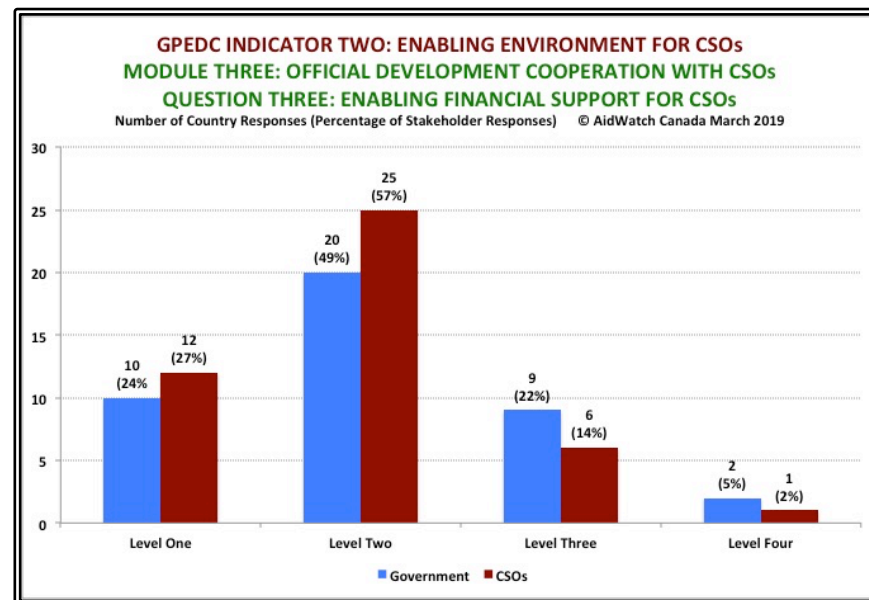
To what extent is **development partner financial support** maximising sustainable engagement of CSOs in all aspects of development?

**Level 1:** Development partner funding tends to focus on implementing the development partners' own **programming priorities** through unpredictable calls for proposals and funding opportunities, with very limited transparency and/or possibility to influence **for CSOs in partner countries**.

**Level 2:** Development partner funding mechanisms are **predictable and transparent**, but mainly focused on implementing **the development partners' own programming priorities**. Some limited possibility to influence for **CSOs in partner countries**.

**Level 3:** Development partner funding mechanisms are part of a comprehensive policy in support of CSOs. These mechanisms are **predictable, transparent**, and include mechanisms for **support for CSO-defined initiatives and partnerships**. Opportunities exist for CSOs from partner countries to influence development partners' funding priorities and mechanisms.

**Level 4:** Development partner CSO policies set out funding policies and mechanisms that have a major emphasis on **support for CSO-defined initiatives**, on financing a **diversity of CSOs** including those in partner countries, and on **tailoring funds and access requirements to a pluralistic civil society**. Effective mechanisms exist for CSOs to influence development partners' funding priorities and mechanisms.



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## Question 4: Transparency in Development Partners' Support for CSOs

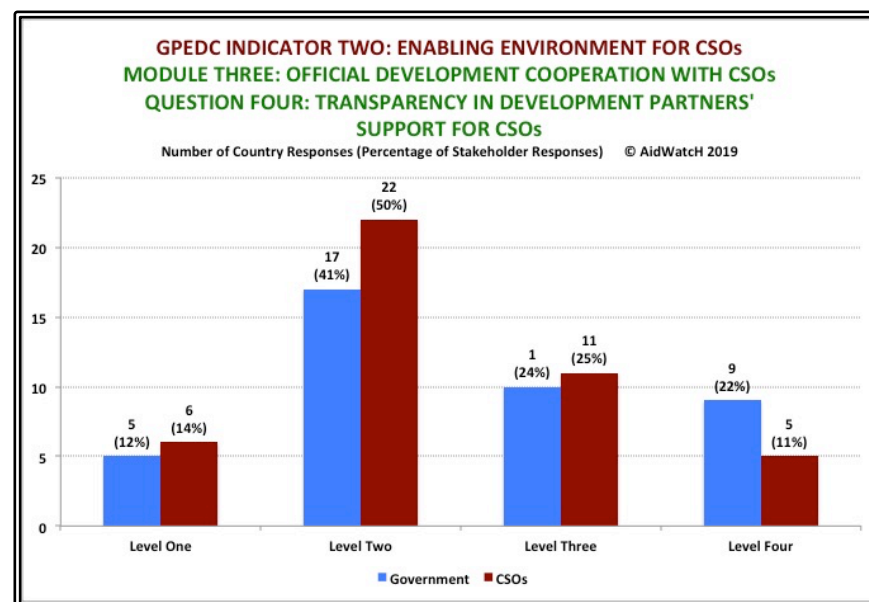
To what extent do development partners make available information about their CSO support to the public, including to the government?

**Level 1:** Most development partners **do not make available** information about their support to CSOs.

**Level 2:** Some development partners make available **aggregate information** on their support to CSOs at the country level.

**Level 3:** Most development partners make available **aggregate information** on their support to CSOs at the country level.

**Level 4:** Most development partners make available **detailed information** (sectors, programmes, objectives, financing, results) on their support to CSOs, with appropriate safeguards.



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## MODULE 4: LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

### Question 1A: Freedom of Assembly in Law and in Practice

With respect to the rights to freedoms of assembly and expression, to what extent does the legal and regulatory framework enable CSOs to exercise these rights in law and in practice?

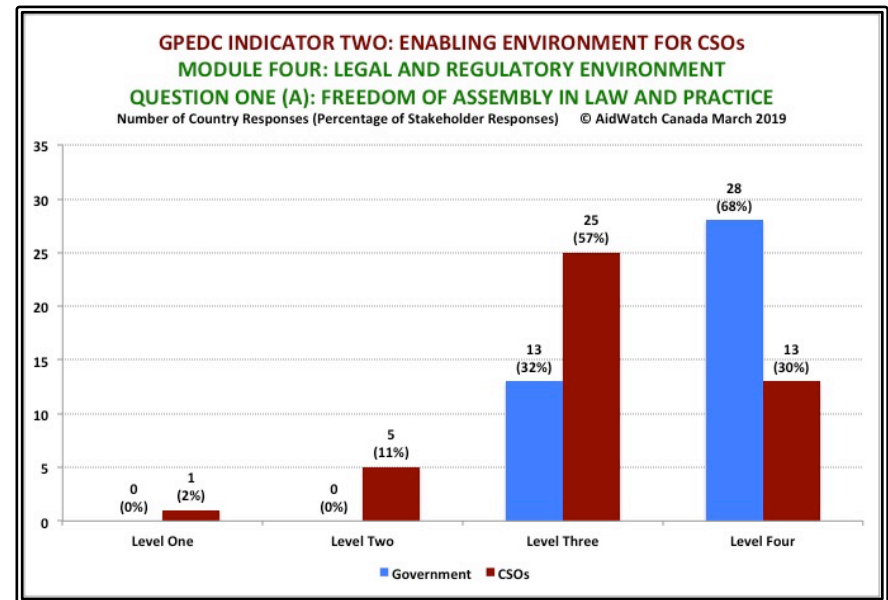
#### Freedom of Assembly

**Level 1: Most peaceful assemblies are prohibited in law or practice.**  
Any formation of assemblies is swiftly dissolved with force.

**Level 2: Many peaceful assemblies are prohibited in law or practice.**  
There are severe restrictions on assemblies, which can take place only in government-designated areas.

**Level 3: Most peaceful assemblies are allowed in law and practice,**  
although **some issues or groups may be subject to discriminatory decision-making.**

**Level 4: Law and practice clearly recognise the right to peaceful assembly and most peaceful assemblies are allowed in practice,**  
regardless of the issue being raised or the groups participating.



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## Question 1B: Freedom of Expression in Law and in Practice

With respect to the rights to freedoms of assembly and expression, to what extent does the legal and regulatory framework enable CSOs to exercise these rights in law and in practice?

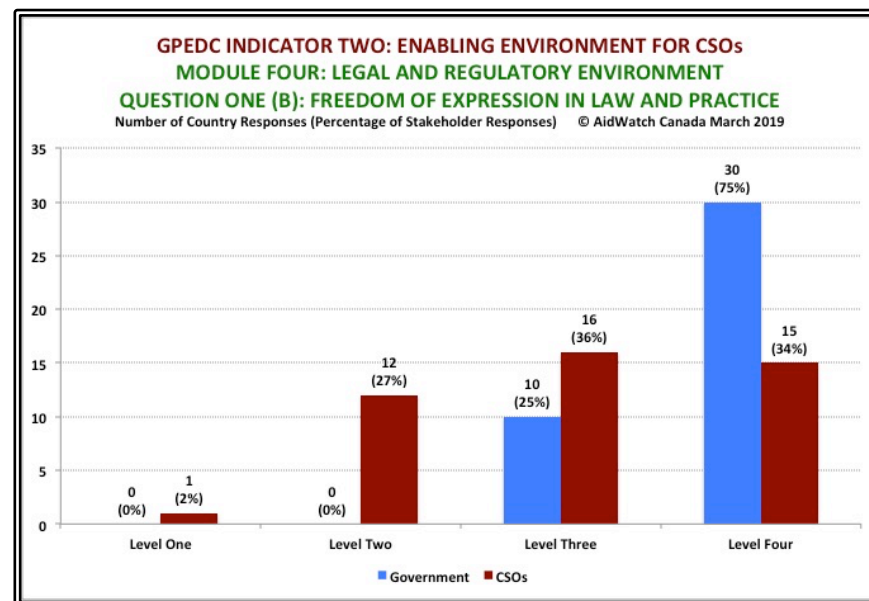
### Freedom of Expression

**Level 1: Expression by CSOs and their members, as well as news and internet media, is fully controlled by government.** CSO staff and journalists are often threatened, arbitrarily arrested, attacked, abducted, tortured, or killed for exercising their freedom of expression. Government apparatus conducts mass illegal surveillance and interception of communications.

**Level 2: Expression by CSOs and their members is extensively controlled by the government, but some alternative media exist.** Arbitrary arrests, threats and other actions against non-state actors are sometimes investigated. Laws and/or practice provide few effective safeguards against arbitrary surveillance.

**Level 3: Expression by CSOs and their members is mostly free of control by the government, with some instance of government interference** (including news and internet media). **Threats and arbitrary actions against CSOs, human rights defenders and journalists are often investigated.** Government apparatus conducts legal surveillance and interception of communications, but may also conduct illegal or questionable interceptions.

**Level 4: Expression by CSOs is generally free of control by the government.** CSOs, human rights defenders and journalists are rarely threatened or physically attacked; and the government apparatus generally conducts only legal surveillance and interception of communications and collection of personal data.



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Governments:	40
CSOs:	44

## Question 2: An Enabling Legal and Regulatory Framework

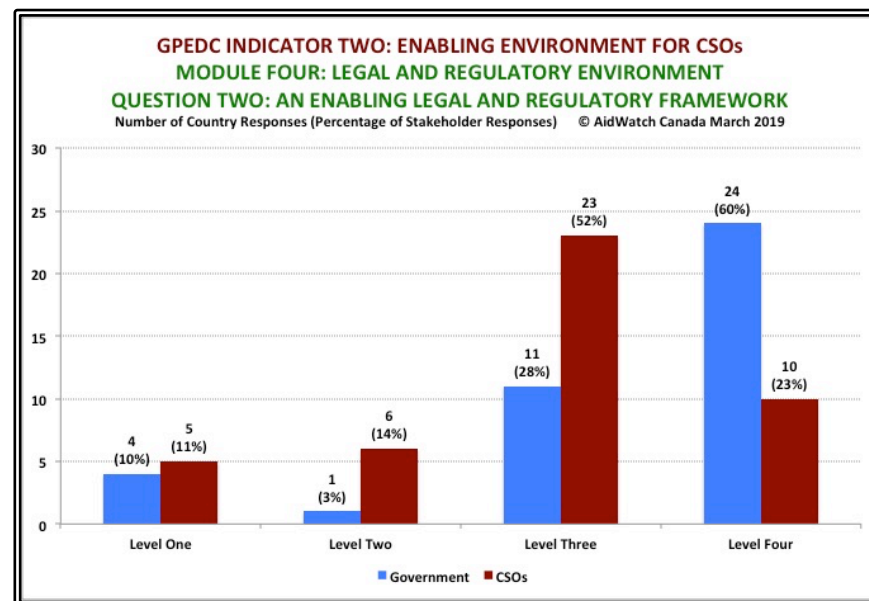
With respect to the freedom of association, to what extent does the legal and regulatory framework enable in law and practice CSO formation, registration and operation?

**Level 1: Registration is mandatory, difficult, lengthy, costly and required periodically.** The CSO law contains vague prohibitions.

**Level 2: Registration is voluntary but remains a difficult process, especially for advocacy-oriented groups.** Law and practice mainly hinder the activities of advocacy-oriented CSOs, but not service or development organisations working without foreign funding.

**Level 3: Registration is voluntary, and moderately demanding.** With a few exceptions, law and practice do not hinder the activities of CSOs.

**Level 4: Registration is a voluntary, simple, fair and efficient procedure.** Law and practice actively promotes the activities of CSOs, including advocacy and human rights groups.



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CSOs:	44

### Question 3: Protection for CSOs working with marginalized populations

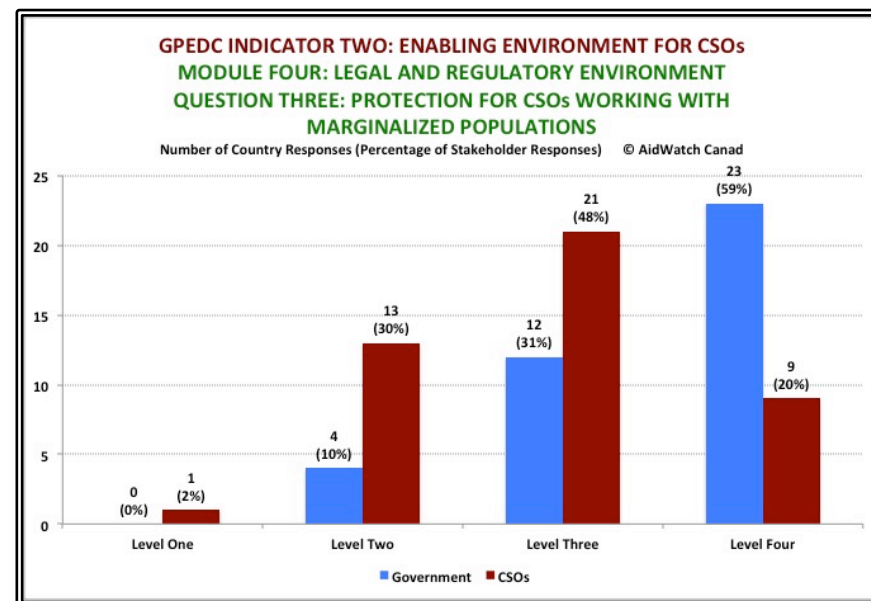
To what extent are CSOs working with marginalised populations and at-risk groups effectively protected from discrimination?

**Level 1:** CSOs working with marginalised populations and at risk groups have no legal protections in practice and **often experience severe discrimination** and/or **harassment** from public authorities.

**Level 2:** CSOs working with marginalised populations and at risk groups have some legal protection, but these are **applied inconsistently, with few if any administrative or juridical recourses**.

**Level 3:** There is **minimal discrimination and harassment in practice**, but public authorities **may scrutinise activities or harass specific organisations**.

**Level 4:** Laws, regulations and policies **effectively safeguard CSOs working with marginalized populations** and discriminatory actions are an exception.



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#### Question 4: Access to Resources for Domestic CSOs

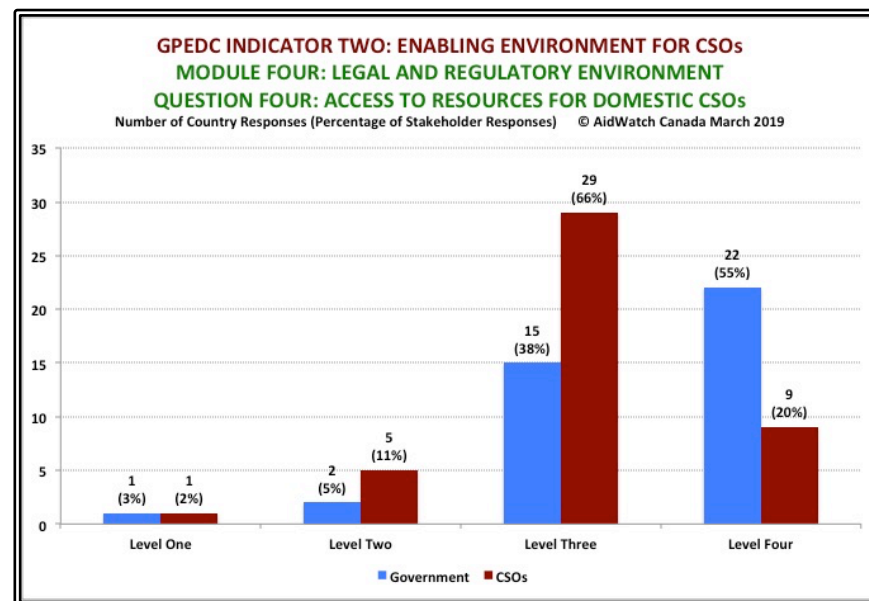
To what extent does the legal and regulatory environment facilitate access to resources for domestic CSOs?

**Level 1:** Access to national and international resources is **highly restricted**.

**Level 2:** Access to either national or international resources is **possible**, but is subjected to **government restrictions**.

**Level 3:** CSOs **can access** national and international resources **but some formal and informal limitations** exist.

**Level 4:** CSOs **can access** national and international resources **with few or no restrictions**.



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## **Indicator Two Definitions**

**(Developed by the Joint Support Team for GPEDC)**

### **Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)**

CSOs can be defined to include all non-market and non-state organisations outside of the family in which people organise themselves to pursue shared interests in the public domain. They cover a range of organisations that includes membership-based CSOs, cause-based CSOs and service-delivery CSOs.

### **Consultation**

Consultation is a process through which subjects or topics of interest are discussed within or across constituency groups. Consultations are more formal and interactive than dialogue. The objective of a consultation is to seek information, advice and opinion. In any consultative process, the convener is not only gathering input, but sharing information as well. The organizer seeks to identify and clarify interests at stake, with the ultimate aim of developing a well-informed strategy or project that has a good chance of being supported and implemented. Providing and sharing information is seen as the foundation of an effective consultation process.

### **CSO accountability mechanisms**

CSOs are accountable in many ways and at different levels to their constituencies, to their governance structures, to their programming counterparts and to government regulatory bodies. In many countries accountability of CSOs is also guided by CSO initiated and agreed codes of conduct and standards, which are the foundation of CSO accountability mechanisms. These standards cover best practice in governance, CSO transparency, human rights with respect to staffing, financing and programming practices.

### **CSO enabling environment**

The political, financial, legal and policy context that affects how CSOs carry out their work.

### **Development partners financial support to CSOs**

Development partners' financing modalities should be embedded in an overarching policy for support to CSOs as development actors in their own right, as first acknowledged in the Accra Agenda for Action. This recognition implies that the scope and roles for CSOs in development are distinct from government and official development partners, and CSOs should be supported based on CSO proposals derived from their own objectives and partnerships, and not by objectives defined through the priorities of a given development partner.

Good practice in funding CSOs therefore suggests an increased use of modalities that strengthen CSO ownership, independence and flexibility to be responsive to community priorities, such as core or institutional funding and co-financing mechanisms. Strengthened dialogue with CSOs, especially in partner countries, allows for increased transparency and possibilities for CSOs to influence development cooperation, including development partners' civil society support. Improved coordination, simplification and harmonization of funding requirements between development partners are also part of good practice contributing to reduced transaction costs and increased access for a diversity of CSOs.

### **Equitable CSOs partnerships**

Equitable CSO partnerships, in all their diversity, are expressions of social solidarity through long term collaborations based on shared values and mutually agreed goals. Such partnerships are rooted in trust, respect and leadership of partner country CSOs. They require deliberate efforts to counter-balance power inequalities between financing CSOs and partner country counterparts, the realities of gender inequities and women's exclusion, and sometimes-large disparities in capacity. Equitable partnerships are characterized by negotiated programming and shared responsibilities, mutual decision-making and accountability, and processes for addressing any potential conflict. Programming priorities are derived from implementing partners' goals and priorities.

### **Freedom of assembly**

Freedom of assembly is the individual right to come together and collectively express, promote, pursue and defend common interests. The right to freedom of association is recognized as a human right, a political freedom and a civil liberty.

### **Freedom of association**

Freedom of association is the right to associate with others to form bodies in which to pursue common objectives collectively.

### **Freedom of expression**

It is the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers

### **Financing CSOs**

Financing CSOs are a type of CSO that provides funding to other CSOs for the implementation of development programmes. An example of financing CSOs is international NGOs providing financial resources to domestic CSOs

**Government-owned civil society organisations**

A government-owned CSO is a civil society organization created or sponsored by a government to pursue its political interests or promote its international or geopolitical interests at home or abroad.

**Human rights-based approach (HRBA)**

A human rights-based approach is a conceptual framework for the process of human development that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to promoting and protecting human rights. It seeks to analyse inequalities, which lie at the heart of development problems and redress discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that impede development progress. (UN HRBA portal). It does this by integrating human rights norms and principles into every area of development co-operation, including the process itself, and in every thematic area of work. This helps to promote the sustainability of development work, empowering people themselves - especially the most marginalized - to participate in policy formulation and hold accountable those who have a duty to act.

**Marginalised populations**

Marginalised populations frequently experience different forms of marginalisation, vulnerability or discrimination. This might include trade unions, women's rights organisations, organisations of particular ethnic groups, human rights organisations, and organisations of indigenous peoples, religious minorities, environment or land rights organizations, LGBT organisations, or organisations of people with disabilities.

**Multi-stakeholder dialogue**

A policy process or development initiative that brings together two or more stakeholder groups (government, development partners, CSOs, private sector, etc.) on the basis of equality among the stakeholders.