

Individual Project

Interim Report

Contract number: 2514-01/2017

CONSORTIUM „POLICY DIALOGUE“:

Contract partner in Austria	Local project partners
<p>Name: Arbeitsgemeinschaft – Policy Dialogue;</p> <p>HORIZONT3000, SOS-Kinderdorf Österreich, Österreichisches Rotes Kreuz, Österreichische Caritaszentrale, CARE Österreich</p> <p>Lead Organisation: HORIZONT3000</p>	<p>Name:</p> <p>GROOTS Kenya, DESECE, SOS Children's Villages of Tanzania Trust, SOS Children's Villages of Uganda Trust, MIONET, CARE International in Uganda, WORUDET, Kenya Red Cross Society, Rwanda Red Cross Society</p>

Project title: S-17-2017 – Strengthening Capacities of CSOs engaging in Policy Dialogue – Part 2

1. Brief description of project progress

Objective and expected results achieved

The specific objective of the present project is: “further strengthening capacities of CSOs engaging in Policy Dialogue”.

Until the end of 2018, all 9 local partner organisations broadened their influence in relevant political spaces in different ways and on different levels in order to influence local or national legal or policy documents. This was achieved, first and foremost, by deepening and strengthening relevant linkages and taking a lead regarding policy processes in their areas of work. Since the beginning of project start all partners gathered new experiences in engaging on the different policy stages, many of them by venturing to a new stage for the first time. In total, all 4 stages were worked on through the project: 7 partner organizations engaged in Agenda Setting, 7 in Policy Formation, 3 in Policy Implementation and 1 in Policy Review.

Additionally, partnerships within and beyond the consortium project were strengthened in a meaningful way: In 2018, 5 cross-learning activities were realized within the consortium partners and 1 to an organization outside the project, carried out by 7 partner organizations through mentoring visits and exposure visits. 7 partner organizations strengthened networks and partnerships with other stakeholders for their PD initiative. In the year 2018, 3 organizations finalized a strategy for policy dialogue engagement, 4 are still in the process to do so.

Staff from 9 organizations (24 persons, 10 men and 14 women) benefited directly from a training on Research and Documentation, M&E and Resource Mobilization for Policy Dialogue. All of them decided on actions to be taken based on the learnings and were motivated to multiply the new knowledge within their teams. Some of them already started to work on a resource mobilization plan and an M&E framework for PD. Increased capacities of key staff, their project teams and organizations and the testing of new methods and approaches are increasing the effectiveness of their PD engagement within this project and beyond.

The Learning Video and other products of the pilot phase were shared via blogs and events with other CSOs, networks and platforms. Additionally, a first draft of the PD Manual was developed by a working group through the preparation, implementation and follow-up of a write-shop.

Impact for target groups/beneficiaries

The Small Action Fund (SAF) initiatives, implemented by partner organizations under this project are focusing on a variety of topics and regions such as: preventing child marriages and pregnancies in Karangura, Uganda; budget allocations for most vulnerable children in 6 regions in Tanzania; disaster risk management in Marsabit, Kalifi and Lamu, Kenya; the Red Cross Act in Rwanda, prevention of GBV and land tenure security for women and girls in Northern Uganda, just and fair trade for women farmers in Nakuru and Nyandarua, Kenya; good governance and rule of law in Bungoma, Kenya.

In the year 2018, partner organizations have reached a series of achievements within these areas, while reaching a total direct target group of **4.936 persons (2.401 women and 2.553 men)** since mid-2017, plus **more than 17.000 persons** reached through mass sensitization activities and media engagement. The envisioned change in policy frameworks, to be reached until the end of 2019, will benefit potentially up to more than 2 Million persons indirectly. See Annex IV for a detailed description of objectives, planned activities and direct and indirect beneficiaries; and chapter 3 and 5 for the level of achievements and involved activities concerning the SAF initiatives per organization.

Activities carried out and steering measures

- Implementing the 2nd collective training workshop with partner organizations and following-up on the application of learnings
- Carrying out 6 Cross-Learning Activities between 7 partners
- Providing Small Action Funds to partner organizations in order to implement Policy Dialogue Initiatives related to their field of work.

