



## FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION

### Guidance on Indicator 2

With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the importance of the effective engagement of civil society organizations (CSOs) in development has become increasingly urgent. The existence of a vibrant civil society is part of SDG 16 on peaceful, just and inclusive societies. Furthermore, CSOs are expected to play a significant role in the SDGs, both in terms of implementation (SDG 17) and monitoring progress. For CSOs to be able to fulfil this momentous role, they require an environment that is conducive to their engagement.

Within the [Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation](#) (Global Partnership), commitments have been made to effectively engage with CSOs. Progress in the implementation of these commitments is assessed approximately every two years during the monitoring rounds of the Global Partnership through Indicator 2. This indicator uses a four-module framework to assess the extent to which governments contribute to an enabling environment for CSOs and the extent to which CSOs pursue development effectiveness and accountability in their own operations.

In 2016, the multi-stakeholder [Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment](#) (Task Team) conducted a [Stock-take of Indicator 2 monitoring](#) during the Global Partnership's 2015/2016 monitoring round in a select number of countries. The Stock-take found that one of the key challenges countries faced in the monitoring was insufficient awareness of Indicator 2. The Global Partnership's 2016 [Progress Report](#) meanwhile concluded that progress in creating an enabling environment is limited, and that there is significant room for improvement in progressing toward Indicator 2.

It is against this background – and with the belief that **Indicator 2 is highly relevant in today's** development landscape – that the Task Team is developing a *Guidance on Indicator 2* with the intent to further strengthen the indicator and ultimately help advance progress. It is offered as part of the Task Team's Global Partnership Initiative (GPI) entitled 'Advancing the CSO Enabling Environment & CSO Development Effectiveness'.

The Guidance seeks to broaden and deepen a common understanding of what is meant by Indicator 2. It provides an explanation of each of the four modules and collates good practice examples and a selection of tools, in order to offer practices that different stakeholders could **implement to realize Indicator 2's** CSO-related commitments.

The Guidance amongst others draws from research commissioned by the Task Team through its Secretariat at the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam (ISS-EUR), as well as from the experience and practice of Task Team participants and beyond.

The *Guidance on Indicator 2* will be ready in June and will be available [online and in published format](#).